

The Observer's Challenge Objects

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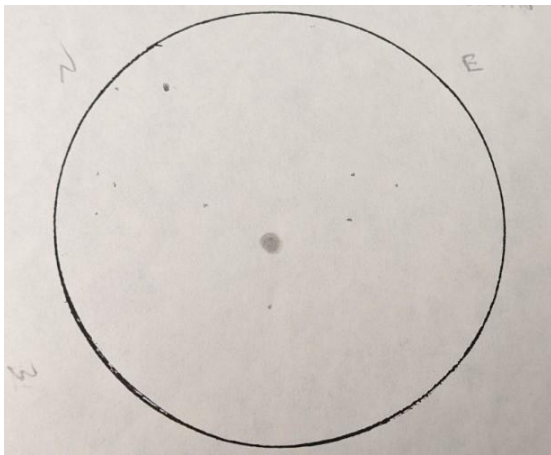
July: Turtle Nebula (NGC 6210) – Planetary Nebula – Hercules; mag, =8.8; Size = 20"×13"
RA: 16h 45m; Dec: +23° 48'

NGC6210

The planetary nebula NGC6210 (nicknamed the “Turtle Nebula”) is located in the summer constellation of Hercules - 'The Hero. The 9th magnitude planetary is about 6500 light years distant, and spans a size of about 1.5 light years. The ‘turtle’ shape of the nebula is due to several bipolar jets.

Visual Sketches:

07/17/1987 from a suburban backyard in Louisville, Ky. Using a 13.1" f4.5 Dob Reflector (Coulter blue-tube) 12.5mm eyepiece (91x). The nebula was bright, easy to find, bluish tinged oval.



Video-Capture/EAA:

05/30/2022: from the ORAS Observatory, PA, using an 8" SCT optical tube @ f6.3 on a GEM mount, with a CMOS color camera and narrowband filter @ 60-second guided exposure, live-stacked for 30 minutes. Using EAA techniques, NGC6210 displays as a fairly bright blue oval, with several extensions coming off of the sides, giving the object it's “turtle” nickname.

