

Fwd: [ORAS] SeeStar S30 observing - a trio of spring galaxies

1 message

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Subject:[ORAS] SeeStar S30 observing - a trio of spring galaxies

Resent-Date:Mon, 19 May 2025 10:06:29 -0700

Resent-From:lsmch@comcast.net

Date:Mon, 19 May 2025 13:06:17 -0400

From:Larry Mc via groups.io <lsmch@comcast.net@groups.io>

Reply-To:ORAS@groups.io

To:oras io group <ORAS@groups.io>, KiskiAstronomers@groups.io <KiskiAstronomers@groups.io>

hi all,

Was out last night testing the latest SeeStar firmware upgrade that came out a few days ago which allows the user to take flats for better internal smart processing. And more importantly the new 60 second exposure now available in EQ mode. 😊

Here's a pic of the little scope & tripod on the balcony off my sun-room:



I'm trying out a different tripod, smaller and lighter weight than the old LX200 field tripod that I've been using, and sturdier than several of my other camera tripods.

For those trying EQ Mode at home, it's important to be careful that your tripod doesn't tip over as the SeeStar doesn't quite balance over the tripod center.

So its recommended that you point one of the tripod legs north and adjust the wedge/mount so that the scope is over that leg. (I also added a small counter-weight underneath to help lower the center of gravity).

It was a little breezy and chilly out, and I was in a hurry, so I didn't 'zero-out' the polar alignment, but got both Alt/Az indicators under 1. (around .5)

I started off with the Leo Triplet, (M65, M66, and NGC3628) now past the meridian and heading westwards in our late spring sky.



(S30 in EQ Mode, 60 second exposures with the IR filter stacked for 25 minutes, then AI noise reduction applied in-app)

Then to complete my trio of testing, I observed M104 - the Sombrero Galaxy in Virgo, and NGC4565 - Needle Galaxy in Coma Berenices.



Seestar S30

79°W,40°N/2025-05-18 23:26

M 104

26min



Seestar S30

79°W,40°N/2025-05-18 23:58

NGC 4565

21min

(S30 in EQ Mode, 60 second exposures with the IR filter stacked for 26 & 21 minutes respectively, then AI noise reduction applied in-app)

Not bad, considering all the little solar patio lights around my observing spot.

All these galaxies would look much better in larger optics, but still the little SeeStar 30mm refractor does an amazing job

While EQ mode take a little more effort to setup and polar align than just 'plopping' down the S30 on its tiny Alt-Az tripod, its well worth the effort.

Larry

<https://www.stellar-journeys.org/>

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