

## *The Observer's Challenge Objects*

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January: NGC 1245 – Open Cluster – Perseus; mag<sub>v</sub> = 8.4; Size = 10'  
RA: 03<sup>h</sup> 14<sup>m</sup> 48<sup>s</sup>; Dec: +47° 15' 11"

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Open Cluster **NGC1245** is located in the fall constellation of Perseus - 'The Hero'.

The cluster is about 9,800 light-years distant, and is about 27 light-years in size, and estimated to be about 1 billion years old.

NGC1245 was discovered on the night of December 11<sup>th</sup>, 1786 by William Herschel using his 20 ft reflector, (18.5" speculum-metal mirror), at his home in Slough, near Windsor Castle. Herschel described the object as: "*A beautiful compressed rich cluster of small and large stars. The stars arranged in lines like interwoven letters*".

### **Video-Capture/EAA:**

On 11/21/2022, from Calhoun County Park in West Virginia.

Using an 8" SCT optical tube @ f6.3 on a GEM mount, with a CMOS color camera and broadband filter, 15-second guided exposure, live-stacked for 5 minutes.



Using EAA techniques, the moderate rich 8th mag open star cluster NGC1245 is located next to 7.9 mag star SAO38671. The cluster's stars are all of similar brightness, with several star-chains visible.