

The Observer's Challenge Objects

Submitted by Larry McHenry, Pittsburgh, PA, USA. <http://stellar-journeys.org>

September: NGC 6751 – Planetary Nebula – Aquila; mag_v=11.9; Size = 26"
RA: 19h 06m; Dec: -06° 00'

NGC6751

The moderately bright planetary nebula NGC6751 is located in the summer constellation of Aquila - 'The Eagle'. The 12th magnitude planetary is about 6,500 light years distant, and spans a size of about three-quarters of a light year in diameter, and is estimated to be several thousand years old.

The nebula was discovered in July, 1863 by German astronomer Albert Marth in Malta using William Lassell's 48" f9 speculum metal mirror reflector. NGC6751 is known as the "Glowing Eye Nebula", (which it resembles in amateur telescopes), or as the "Dandelion Puffball Nebula" from its Hubble image.

Video-Capture/EAA:

Wide-field: on 09/26/2013, from the Black Forest Star Party at Cherry Springs, PA, using an 8" SCT optical tube @ f5 on a GEM mount, with a BW analog camera, 20 second unguided exposure.

Close-up: On 06/28/2022, 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, 180-second guided exposure, live-stacked for 15 minutes, image cropped.

Using EAA techniques, NGC6751 displays in a rich star-field as a small, colorful, eye-shaped oval, with a hint of the central star being visible.

