

Kitt Peak Nightly Observing Program

Splendors of the Universe on YOUR Night!

Many pictures are links to larger versions.

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Almach (γ Andromedae) appears as a golden and blue double star in small telescopes. The blue star itself is actually three stars, too close together to see as individuals, making Almach a four-star system. It is about 350 light-years away, and orbits with a period of several thousand years.



M42: The Great Orion Nebula. This is a region of star formation about 1,300 ly away. It is roughly 30 ly across and contains enough material to make 2,000 stars the size of our sun.



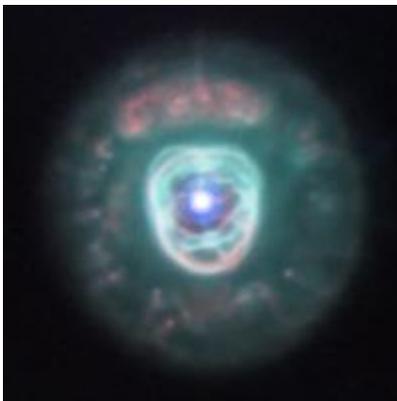
M31: The Andromeda Galaxy, our nearest major galactic neighbor. It is a spiral galaxy, lies 2,500,000 lightyears away and has a diameter of 220,000 lightyears. This galaxy contains as much material as 1.5 trillion suns.



Venus, the second planet, is the brightest natural object in the sky other than the Sun and Moon and is often erroneously called the “morning star” or “evening star.” It is completely wrapped in sulfuric acid clouds and its surface is hot enough to melt lead.



The same side of the **Moon** always faces Earth because the lunar periods of rotation and revolution are the same. The surface of the moon is covered with impact craters and lava-filled basins. The Moon is about a fourth of Earth's diameter and is about 30 Earth-diameters away.



NGC 2392: The "Eskimo Nebula." A round cloud of gas ejected by a dying star. Since this sort of object always appears round, William Herschel named them "planetary nebulae" (he discovered this one in 1787).

Lucas Snyder

Your Telescope Operator and Guide.
Thank you for joining me this evening!
See you soon!!

The web page for the program in which you just participated is at [Nightly Observing Program](#). Most of the above images were taken as part of the Overnight Telescope Observing Program. For more information on this unique experience please visit [Overnight Telescope Observing Program](#).

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