

Hi Russ,

Mike Klosterman here...we spoke a few weeks back and you lent me a set of your LOA-21 3D eyepieces to try at the Star Party I attended (Staunton River Star Party). I had also ordered the additional spacer for my Binotron27 with my Dob. Unfortunately the spacer arrived the day after I left for the Star Party (I left on 19 Oct) so I was only able to reach focus at medium and high powers. However here are a few objects and response from me and others:

M17 Swan nebula. Since it was at med. power it filled the eyepieces but was an incredible view as it seemed to be oriented with its head pointed toward the observer. Tried with OIII filter to bring out some detail. The next object was a mind blower for 4 other observers plus myself--M13 Glob in Hercules. Again tried it at medium power and was perfectly framed. It was incredible! Really spherical looking and used it at "far" setting so other field stars appeared in front. Had so much depth to it. I think we all must have looked at it for about 10 mins before moving on. Next up was the ET Cluster which far exceeded my expectations! What was unique about this object was that with it aligned East to West in the eyepiece and the LOA eyepiece with the Near setting (I think), the Northern side of ET's body was close and parts of the southern side as kind of ruffled with some stars near and some far. Kind of like he was wearing a wrinkled shirt! Another mind blow was NGC 663. Since this cluster has a kind of hollow center 'void' and a wreath of stars around it. It looked just like we were driving a spaceship down a worm hole! Hollywood special effects couldn't have done this good. The field was so deep I felt like I was falling. Others expressed this view as well! We saw a number of other objects until my secondary became so fogged up due to a power issue with my scope that we had to call it a night. In the end even though I was unable to try low power mode, these eyepieces were a real hit. I believe at a public outreach event we can gain some additional budding astronomers to our ranks with memorable views such as this. Keep up the incredible engineering (also art) that is moving this hobby to new dimensions (literally).

Regards

Mike Klosterman

Culpeper, Va