

The Lacaille Catalogue Imaging Project

By John Gill

After I completed the ASSA top 100 deep sky objects I was at a bit of a loss for my next project. I had read a short article on the life of the famous French astronomer Nicolas Louis de Lacaille and the work he did in South Africa in mapping out 15 of the 88 constellations and observing 10 000 stars with a small telescope. Auke Slotegraaf of the ASSA deep-sky section has a Lacaille Catalog published on the ASSA web-site, so I decided to tackle this project.

The catalog is not simply a few named objects, but an intriguing list of different and strange objects which require a little research and planning to observe and image.

All the images were captured from my backyard just outside of Durban, South Africa between April 2016 and August 2016. The images were captured with a Celestron 8" EdgeHD telescope on an AVX mount and a Canon 600D. I used a ZWO guidescope & camera and PHD autoguiding software. Most of the images were processed in PixInsight. The images were captured with "Darks, Flats & Bias" and various ISO's and exposure times.

Look up,

John

27 September 2016