

Date: 2006 June 05

Time: ~23.00 -> 02.00

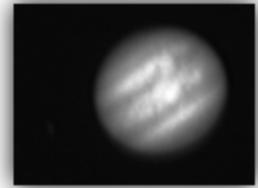
Location: Ekerö, Sweden

Temperature: 10°C.

Author: Jakob Sagatowski

Observation report #16

Summer is here, so at these high latitudes (59 ° North) it pretty much means that it is daylight pretty much all the time. However I know that it is possible to at least see the planets (but pretty much not much more) for two-three hours. So after setting up Leifs telescope we aimed it at Jupiter. The goal for the day (or night) was to get a good picture of Jupiter with the Toucam-camera. Well actually its not just one picture but several thousands of pictures (one movie) that are then stacked afterwards into one composite-image. At the beginning the seeing looked good, as did the image on the screen. But as we started to capture Jupiter it just got worse and worse. Even though we tried to re-focus and re-do everything again and again we just couldn't get a good image appearing on the screen. So we gave up our dreams of getting a good image of Jupiter for this. Instead I here have a picture taken on 4'th of May of both Jupiter and Saturn with the LX200GPS. It's absolutely not great when you compare with what other have accomplished, but it's still our best pictures of the planets.



Jupiter and Saturn

Captured with a Toucam Pro II and a LX200-GPS 12 inch SCT at a focal length of 3000mm.

After that I was pretty sad as I really wanted to get out **something** of this night, not just some shi**y blurry pictures of Jupiter! So I thought of an object that I and Leif had looked at an earlier time which was the Ring Nebula (M57). After some tough calibration (there were almost no visible stars!) we had M57 right on the CCD-chip, and we started to capture it. As it was now almost daylight we knew that we had only time for a short exposure (and the polar alignment was not perfect either, so it didn't matter). Even though this is not a super great image, I think it's still nice because it shows color! Yes, this is actually our first image that shows some sort of color. It shows a clear green color plus some red on the edges, so this was the first time we had an advantage of actually using a color-camera. Hooray for colors! ☺



M57

Captured with a DSI and a LX200-GPS 12 inch SCT. 8 minute exposure consisting of 15 sec subs