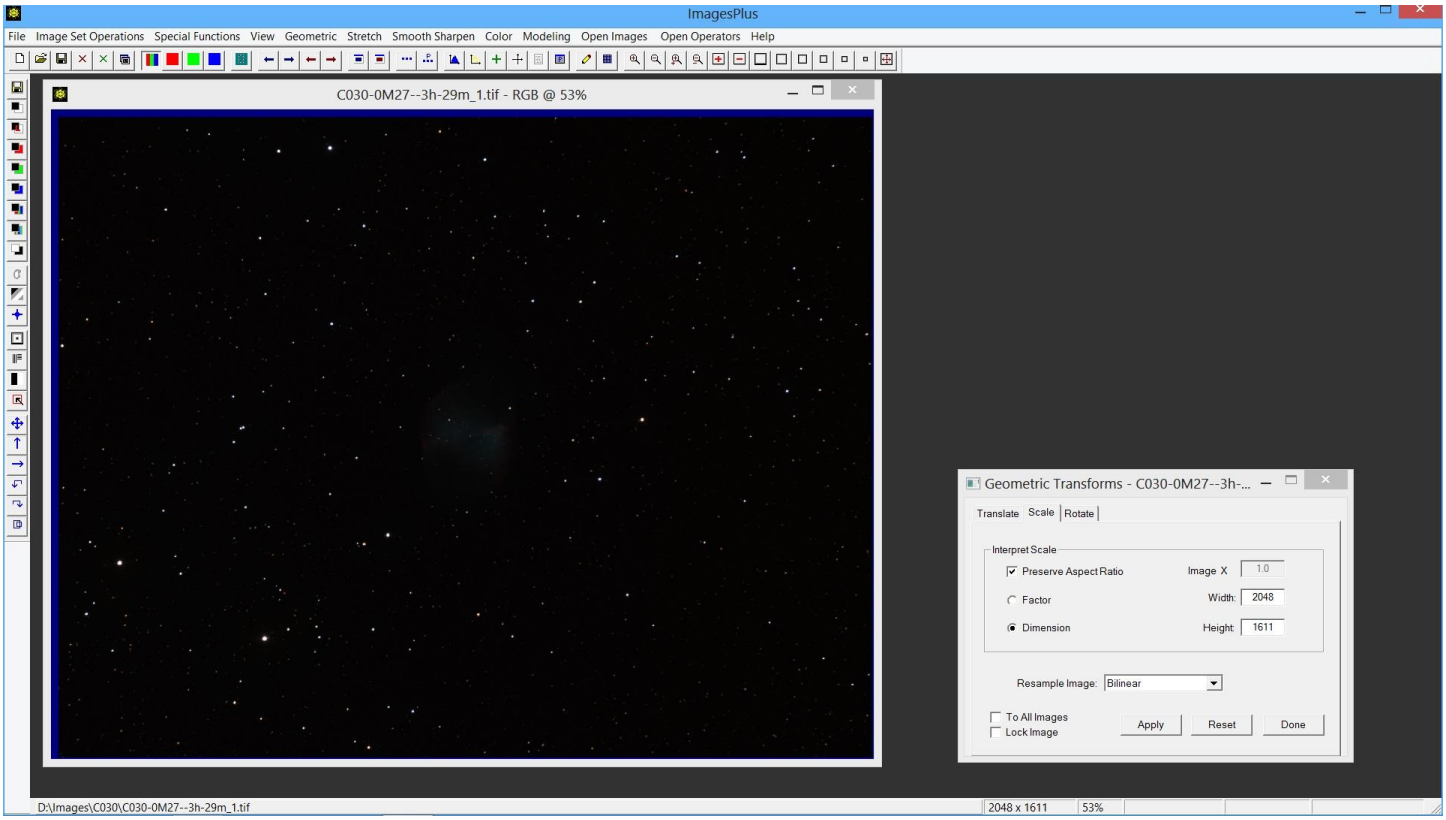
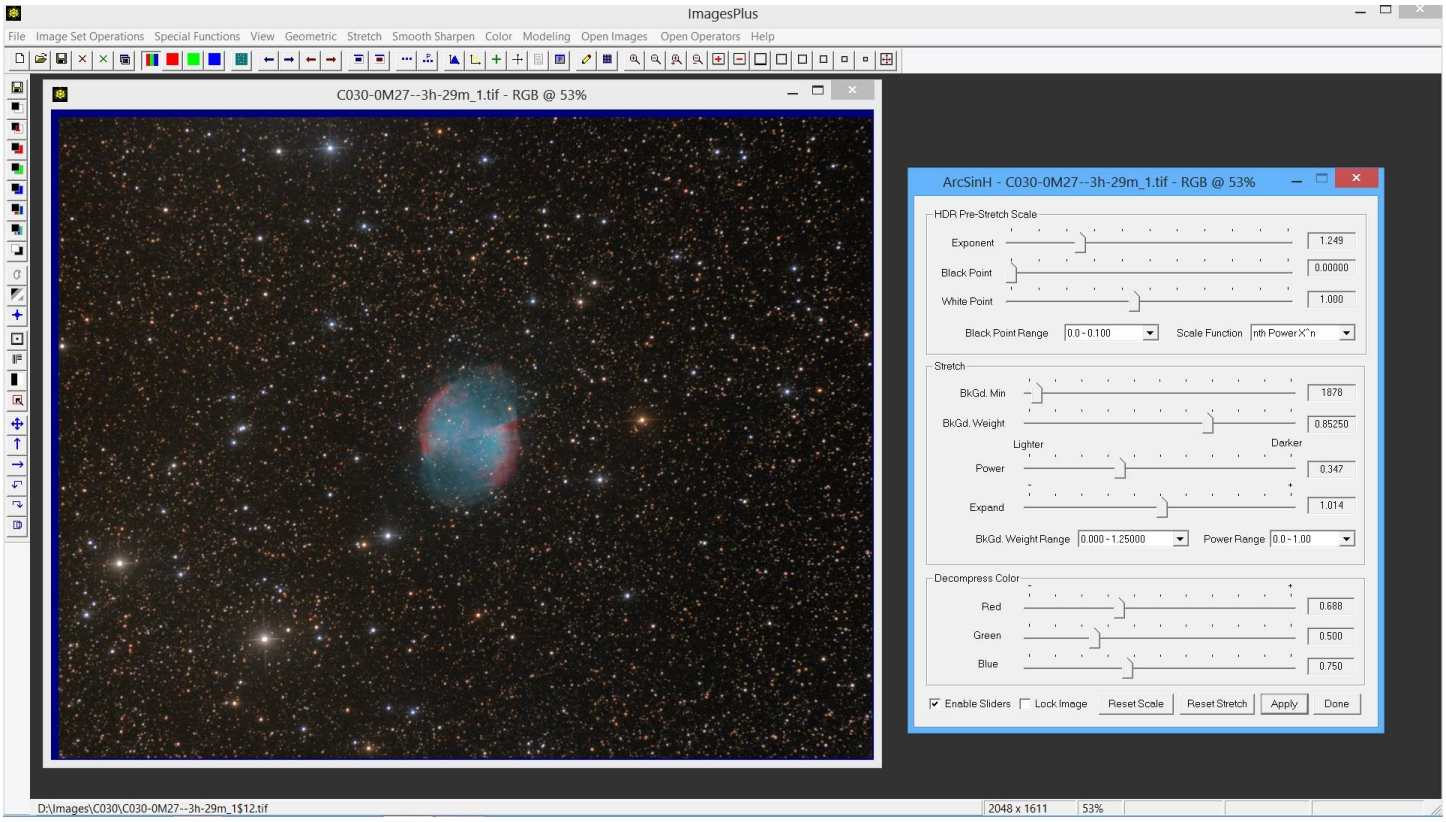
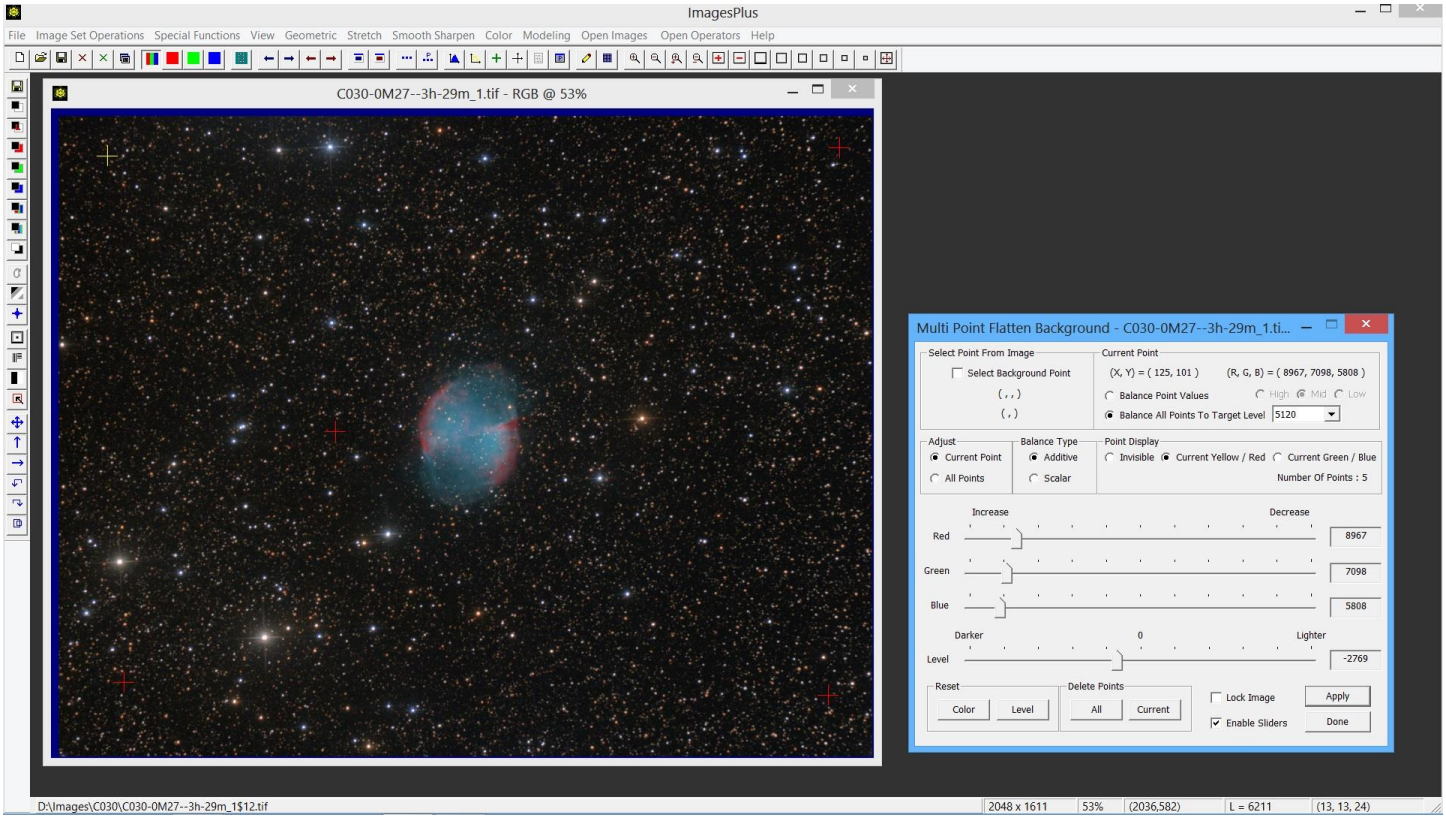
C030 M27 from the DSLR_ASTRO_IAMGE_PROCESS Yahoo Group. Data provided by Blair MacDonald.
ImagesPlus 6.0 workflow of C030-0M27-MLUnsold-V2.jpg



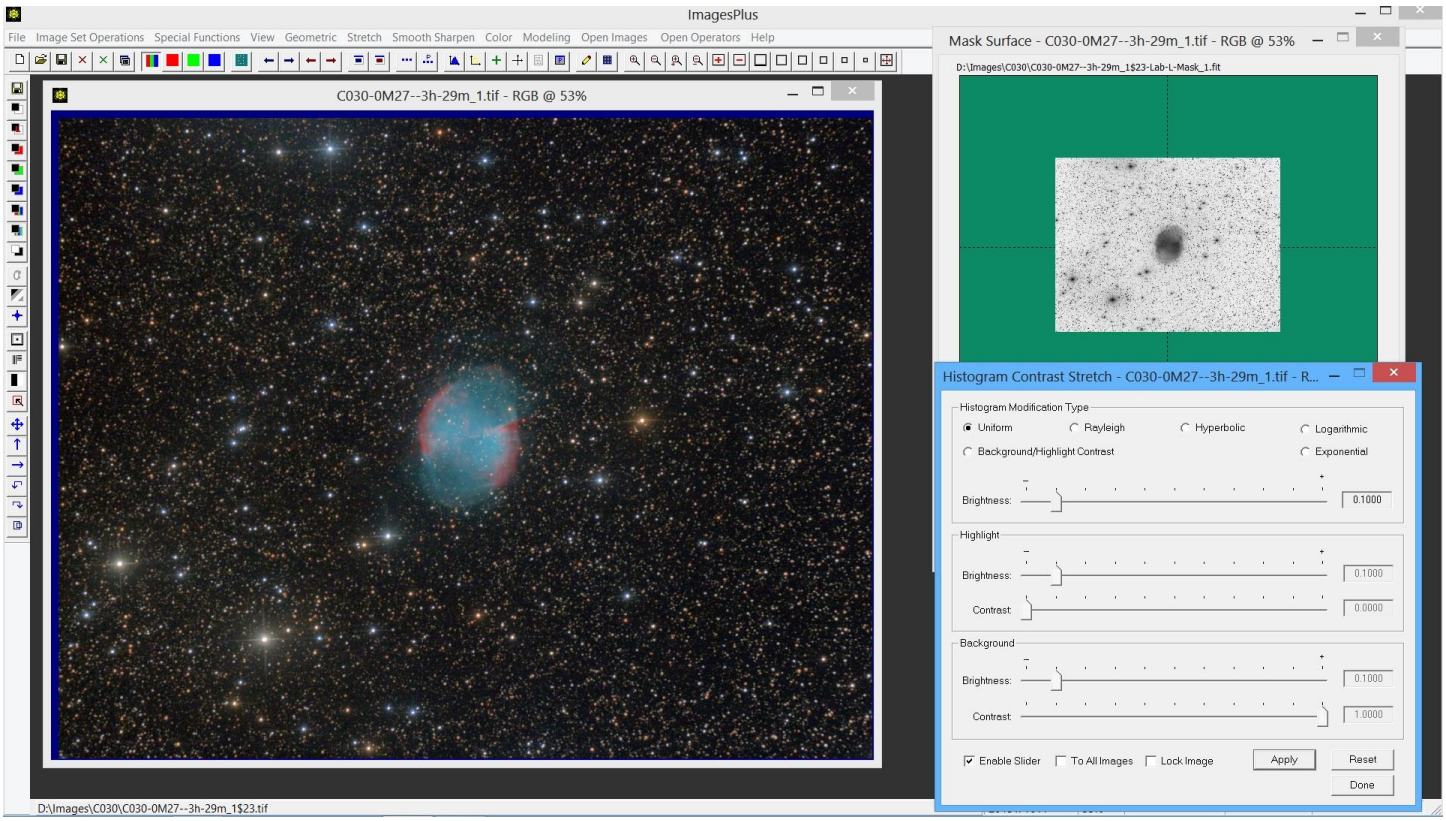
Step 1) Crop the edges of the image then scale to 2048 x 1611 using the Geometric Transform tool.



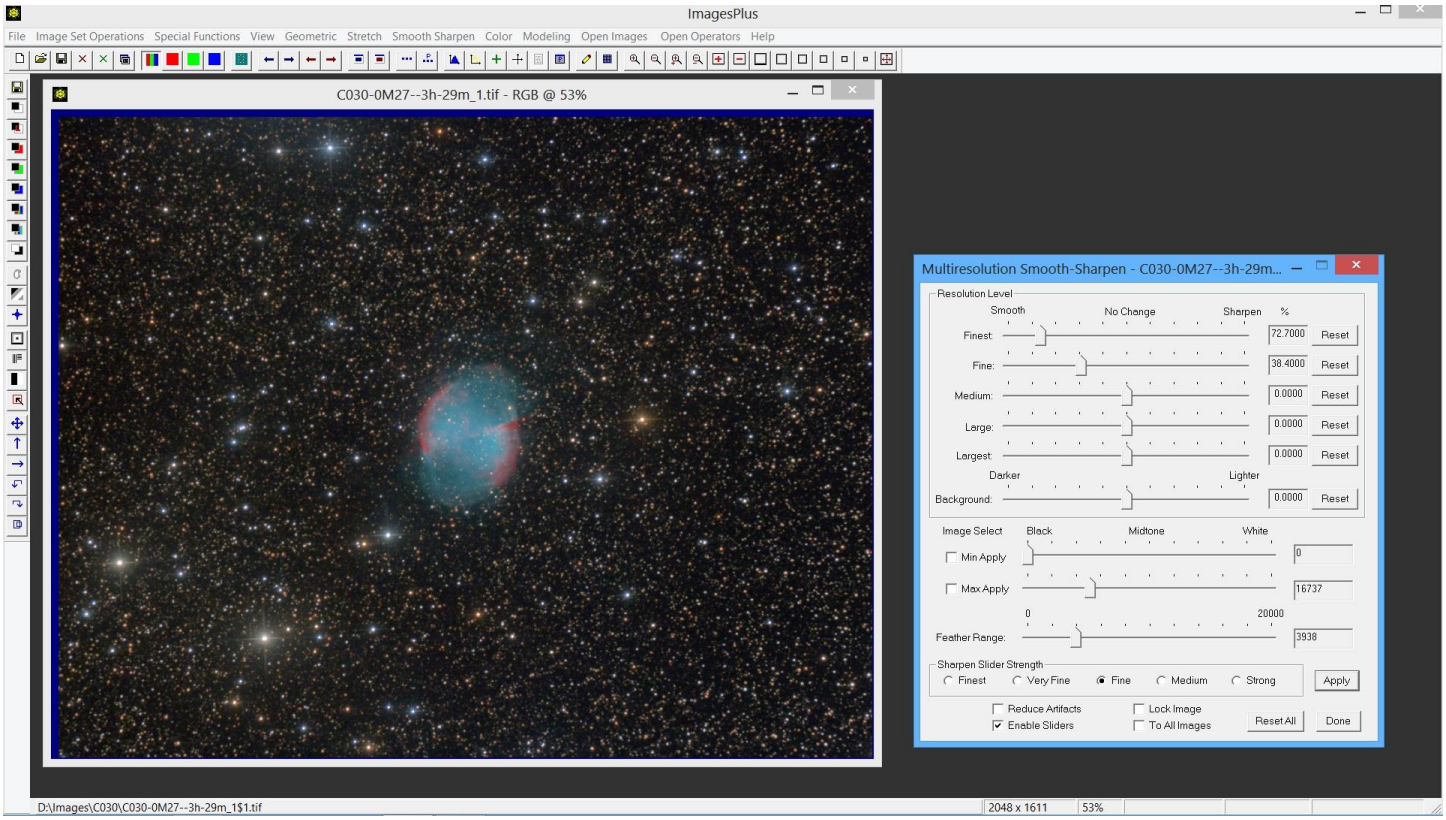
Step 2) ArcSinH is used for the initial brightness stretch.



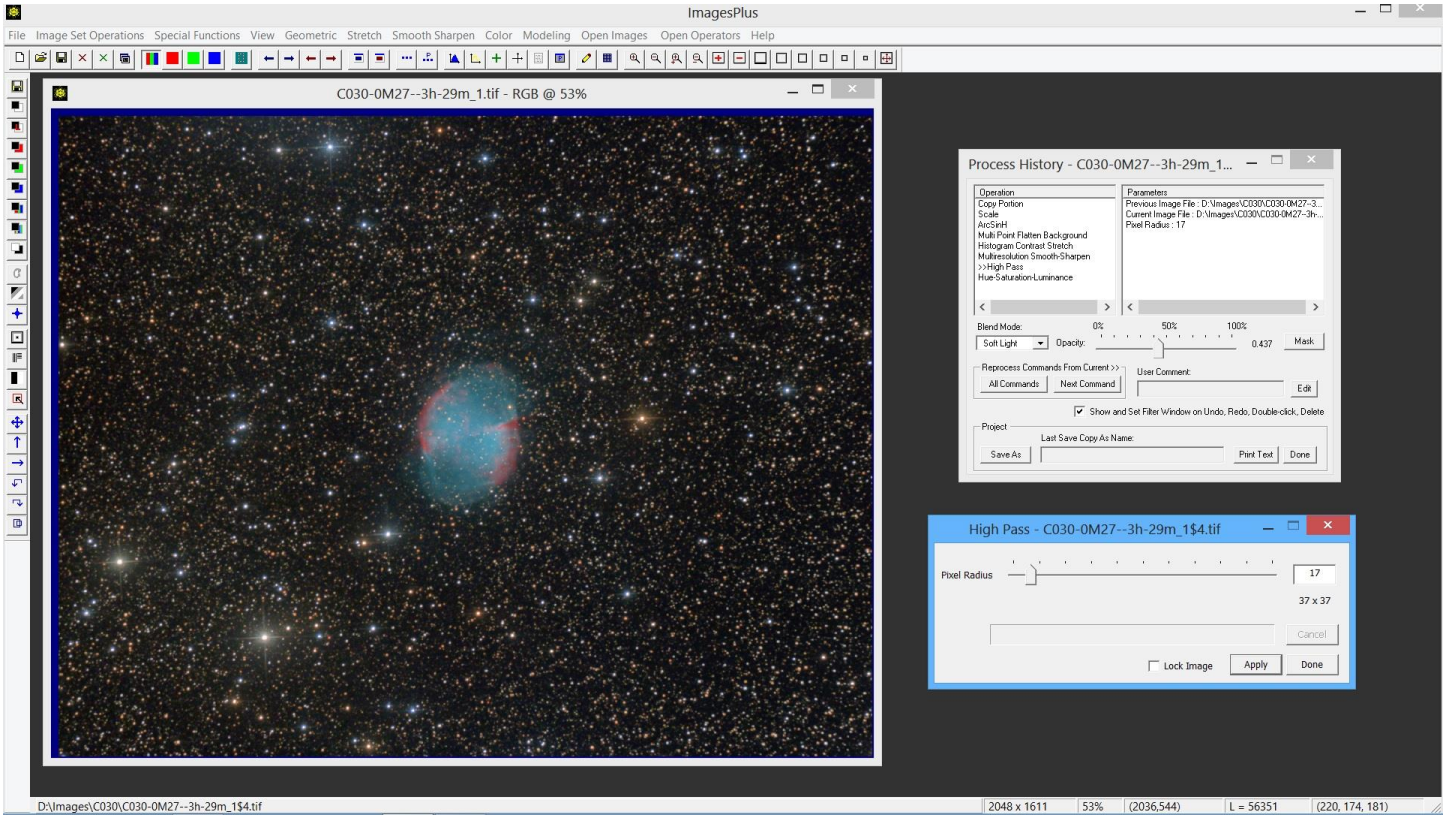
Step 3) Background is flattened using 1 point in each corner and a point near M27.



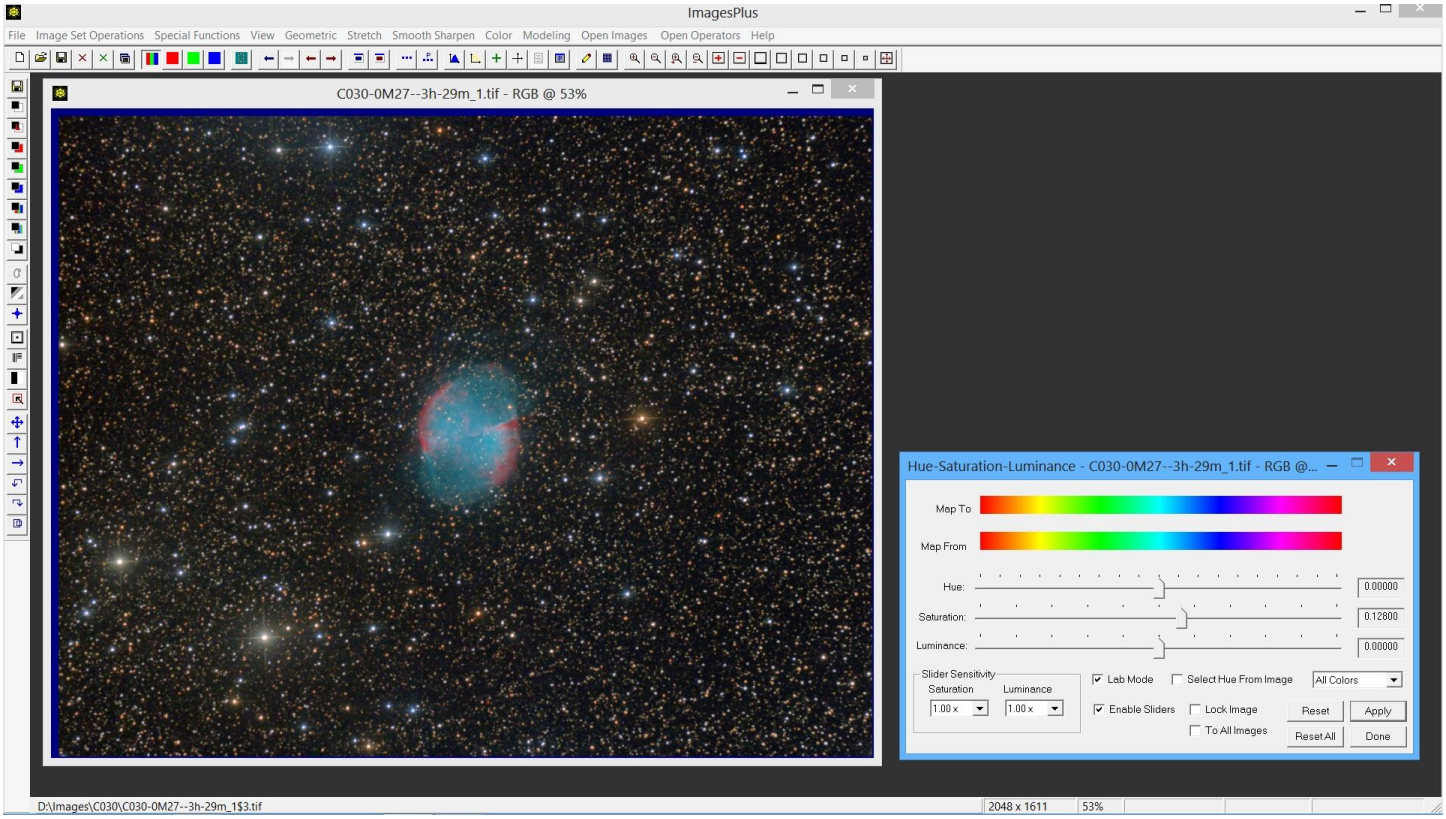
Step 4) Additional histogram contrast stretch with inverse luminance mask.



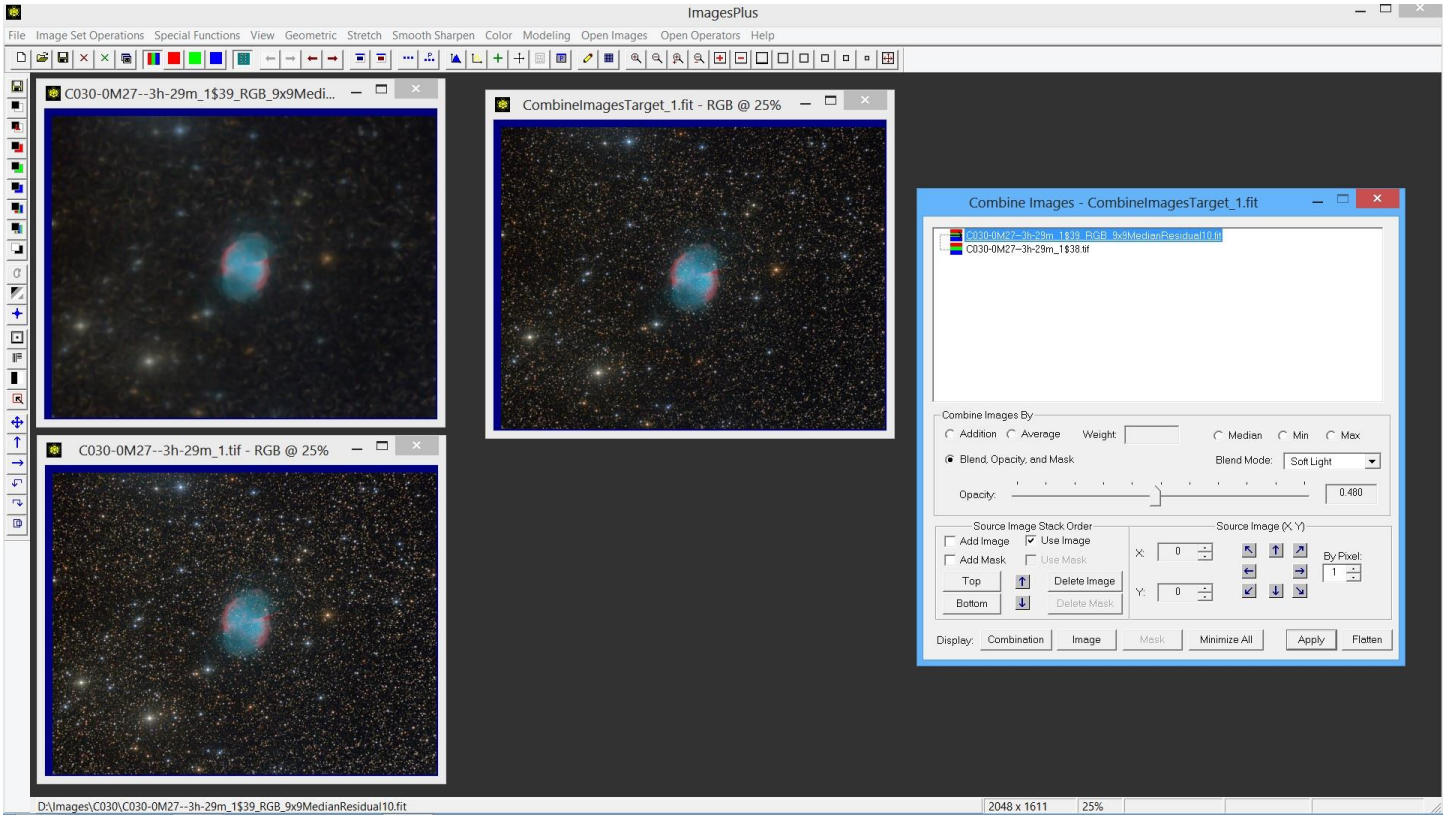
Step 5) Smooth the dark background.



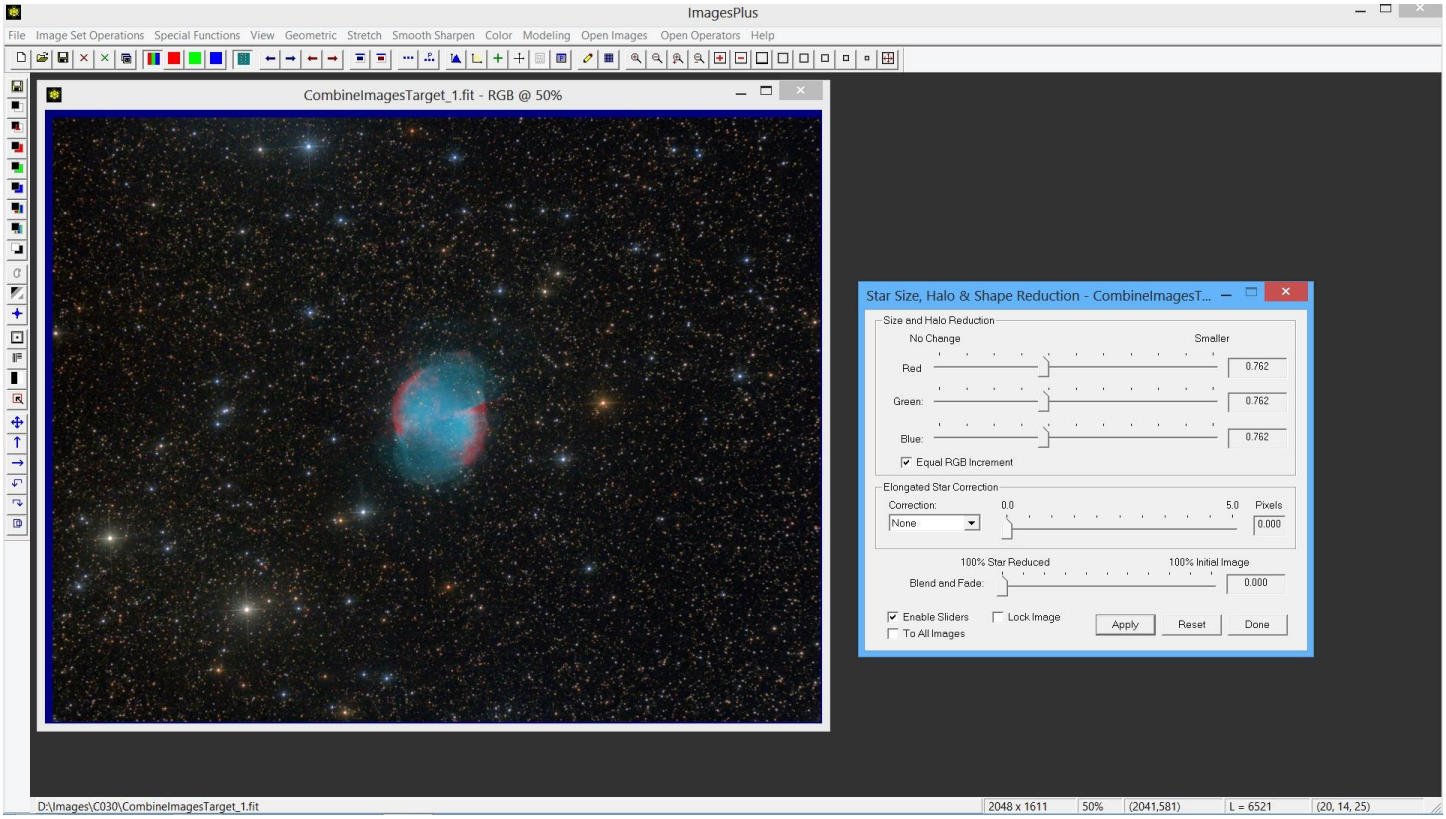
Step 6) High Pass contrast increase using Soft Light blend mode and opacity = 0.46.



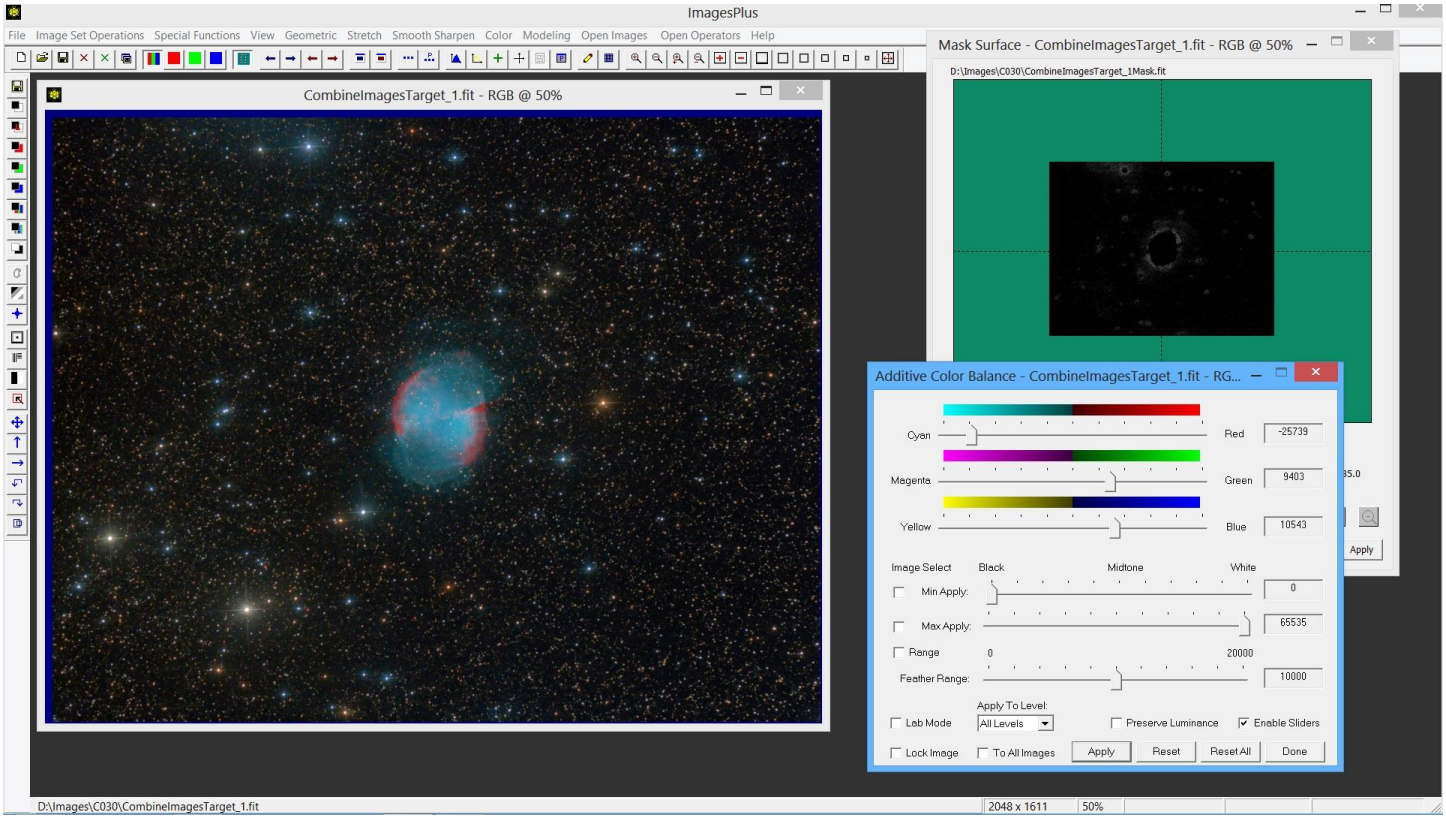
Step 7) Saturation increase in Lab color mode.



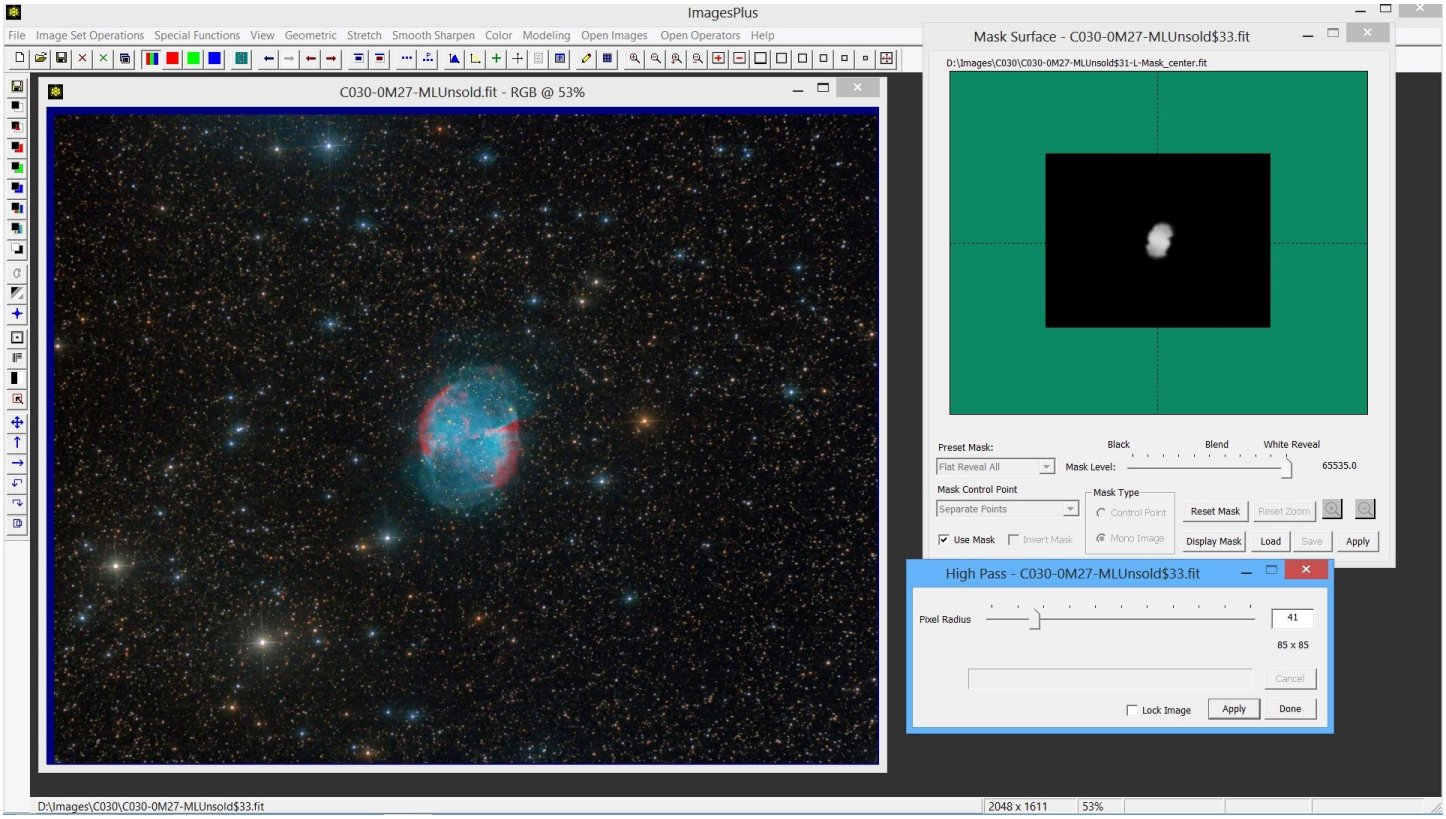
Step 8) A 9x9 median multi-scale decomposition is applied to the image after step 7 and the 9x9 median residual image is used as the top layer with soft light blend mode and 0.480 opacity to increase overall contrast. The result is the image at top center.



Step 9) Reduce star size a little more.



Step 10) Increase cyan in M27 and its faint outer area using a selective color mask.



Step 11) Increase contrast in just the core of M27 using two applications of High Pass with a selective color mask to isolate the blue core of M27.