

THE FAINT FUZZY

The Official Newsletter of the West Kentucky Amateur Astronomers
February 2007

UPCOMING MEETING:

Our next meeting will be Saturday February 10th at 7 p.m. at Golden Pond Observatory. As always visitors are welcome to attend! If the sky is clear, we will view after the meeting.

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

Ten people attended the last meeting.

Website: There was a lot of discussion on moving the club website from its current host to GoDaddy.com. The quality of service from the current web host has declined significantly and the rates are expensive. The annual cost of our current service is \$200 while GoDaddy.com is \$75.

[Late breaking news: David Paessler & John McCubbin worked together with GoDaddy to ensure that our website would run on their servers and John got it migrated over this past Sunday. You can find it at the old address of <http://wkaa.net>. It was necessary to give up the weather & solar pages, but those are pretty minor sacrifices for reliable service. The picture gallery is not completely up yet, but David has been working on it. The site seems to be working really well.]

Membership Dues: Club membership fees are due at the March 17th meeting. They are \$25 for an individual or family membership plus \$5 for each additional family member who also wants to obtain an Astronomical League membership. If you have any questions contact David.

Amateur Astronomy Magazine: Dale Baltimore highly recommended this magazine and suggested that all club members order subscriptions. Bill Kassebaum said that he would bring a few to the next club meeting for members to look at.

Astronomy Day: This event is coming up in April. Jim & Sandy Phfistner reported that the Astronomical League is recommending that its affiliated clubs host two Astronomy Day events this year – in the spring and the fall. For now we plan to continue with just one event in the spring. We will discuss Astronomy Day activities in more detail at the next meeting.

Goodies: Thanks to both Bill Kassebaum & Sandy Phfistner for bringing cookies!

Viewing: We didn't get to observe. The sky was cloudy with possible sleet or snow forecasted. Maybe it will be clear at the next meeting???

UPCOMING EVENTS:

FYBO IV Winter Star Party: Brave the cold! Come to our winter star party February 16th & 17th at the Pennyrile Forest observing field. There will not be an organized schedule and there is *no* entry fee. This is simply an observing party. The only talks will be those we initiate while trying to stay warm! We will have access to the building for warming up, sleeping, and restroom facilities. Bring your own coffee pot, sleeping bag, cot, etc. The lodge will be open, but the showers at the campground will be closed. See "[FYBO 4" Winter Star Party](#) for more information.

Officer Elections: Elections will be held at the March 17th meeting. Are you well organized? Do you have new ideas? Then consider running for a club office! The positions are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Star Party Coordinator, and Assistant Star Party Coordinator.

Astronomy Day: Astronomy Day will be here before we know it! It is scheduled for April 21st at Golden Pond. LBL staff will conduct free planetarium shows. Club members will introduce the public to amateur astronomy via solar viewing, death-defying demonstrations, and astronomy-related activities and literature. Come and help if you can – we always have a great time! See the [Astronomy Day Events Schedule](#) for more information.

NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome to Ken and Sue Billings from Clarksville, TN!

ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE (AL) AWARDS:

There are no pending awards or submissions at this time. See www.astroleague.org for more information about observing clubs/awards. Also see wkaa.net for a list of club members who have completed awards. Contact David if you have any questions.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance (2/6/07): \$2958.08

Recent Expense: \$75.44 for annual web hosting

PUBLIC VIEWING:

Princeton & Caldwell County: The Princeton library and Caldwell County Elementary School have both contacted Ross Workman about doing sidewalk programs this spring. No dates have been set yet.

Paducah: David is working with the McCracken County Public Library to schedule a public viewing session for late February or early March.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES:

Loaner Scopes: The club has two Dobsonians (6" and 8") available for club members to borrow. Anyone who has been a club member for 6 months, completes a training/safety session, and signs a written agreement may borrow one of the scopes.

Library: The club has several books and magazines available for reference or check out. Take a look and see what we have at the next club meeting.

Magazine Discounts: Club members who subscribe to *Sky and Telescope* or *Astronomy* magazines through the club receive a discount! Annually you can save \$10 on *Sky and Tel* and \$9 on *Astronomy*. Turn in your renewals to David Paessler in order to receive the discount.

CLUB OFFICERS LIST:

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Clear skies,

Dale & Carol Baltimore