

WKAA Newsletter January 2002

West Kentucky Amateur Astronomers

NEXT MEETING

The next club meeting will be this Saturday Jan 12 at 7:00 PM at the G.P. Observatory.

LAST MEETING

The December 2001 Club Meeting was held on the 15th. I was unable to attend, but Alan D, Warren W and David P were able to make it there. Also a couple of visitors were there, including Jeff Schuzer and his son Dexter from Hopkinsville, who are interested in joining the club and learning and growing with us. Jeff is contemplating whether to purchase a 12.5 in. or 15 in. Discovery Dob. Hmmmmm...That's a tuff one! ... How about both? He says they had a good time at the meeting, and can't wait to look through everyone else's scopes to help in his decision. We look forward to getting to know them as well. There was another visitor named Arnold, who Alan thinks attended the Star Party on Saturday.

The only issue discussed at the meeting was: It was agreed on by a majority of officers to give back the donation offered by Gay Luber from the LBL Association this summer. We are all very appreciative of the thought, recognition and offer given the club this year by the LBL, but helping with the public during the Summer Nights programs has been it's own reward. Again thanks to all who did help each Saturday night this past summer, and especially to David Paessler, who I believe did not miss a single session. I estimate between 300 and 500 visitors probably passed through the observatory this summer after watching the planetarium shows. I am told that they will be repeating the Summer Nights program in 2002, due to the success in 2001.

NOTEWORTHY EVENT

On Wed Feb. 20, 2002, Saturn will move behind the dark portion of a first quarter Moon. You will be able to see the ball and rings disappear behind seeming nothingness. I hope the weather will cooperate, because for residents in the eastern United States, the next favorably-placed nighttime occultation of Saturn won't happen again until 2037.

CLUBHOUSE NOTES

- ° Club membership now stands at 39.
- ° The clubhouse now has a new coffee maker and large coffee pot, both of which were donated.
- ° If anyone knows of someone who has an old kitchen wall cabinet they would like to get rid of, we could use one in the clubhouse above the main coffee table for storage.

Transparency,
John Holland
Secretary
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