
June 2003

THE FAINT FUZZY

The Official Newsletter of the Western Kentucky Amateur Astronomers

UPCOMING MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be this Saturday June 28 at 7 p.m. at Golden Pond Observatory. Visitors are welcome to attend!

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

The last meeting was held May 3. Approximately 17 people attended the meeting including new members, Kelly Rogers and his son Cody.

- Astronomical League Awards: David Paessler awarded Jeff Burton with the "Fuginot binoculars" traveling trophy for completing his Lunar club certificate. Ross Workman has also completed his Double Star certificate. See below for more information on AL awards.
 - Twin Lakes Star Party: We have received a suggestion for the T-shirt graphic design! Since this is the 14th anniversary of the star party, Warren Wepking suggested using M-14 (globular cluster) surrounded by the WKAA logo. Everyone seemed to like this idea, so Warren is going to find out if the vendor in Cadiz is able to reproduce M-14 on a T-shirt. Nothing on the T-shirts has been finalized yet, so if anyone still wants to suggest another vendor or idea for the graphic design, please bring information to the next meeting or contact one of the officers.
 - Miscellaneous Public Educational Activities: David Paessler reported that he, Tim Camden and John Workman set up their scopes for Space Day at the Challenger Learning Center in Paducah on May 1st. About 50 people were able to view Jupiter and Saturn between the cloud cover. David also set up a table with WKAA business cards, the *Good Neighbor Lighting* handout, and a club informational poster. By the time they quit viewing, all of the business cards and several of the handouts had been taken. David suggested making a more permanent club informational poster for use during the Summer Nights program at Golden Pond and other public educational activities. Following the meeting Carol agreed to make the poster.
 - Mid-South Star Gaze: John Holland, David Paessler, Jeff Burton, and Ross Workman all attended the Mid-South Star Gaze April 23-26 in French Camp, Mississippi. Jeff reported that viewing was OK for bright objects on Wednesday night, but on Thursday they - *and their scopes* - suffered a horrendous hail storm. Friday night was gorgeous - Jeff said that he logged 48 items and didn't stop viewing until 3:30 a.m. Unfortunately Saturday was overcast. Even with the bad weather it sounded like they all had a good time. See <http://wkaa.net/mssg03photos.html> for photos.
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EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES:

- Summer Nights: The *Summer Nights* program is now in full swing! *Every* Saturday night through August 30 the public has the opportunity to attend a show at Golden Pond Planetarium and then view through scopes set up by club members. Club members, don't forget to come out, set up your scope, and answer questions! This is a *great* way to introduce people to astronomy. The public seems to appreciate it *and* it is a lot of fun for club members. If you are not familiar with the program, check out the club website <http://www.wkaa.net> for more information.

- Astronomy Day: Astronomy Day was held Saturday, May 10th at Golden Pond. David Byrd, Astronomy Day coordinator, did an excellent job! Several members set up telescopes with sun filters. Quite a few folks viewed sunspots (between clouds) and many of them took observing literature. And of course they took advantage of the free planetarium shows. We also gained a new member!
 - For Sale: Orion 6" Dobsonian Scope with 2 eyepieces (25 mm & 12 mm), moonfilter, 6 x 30 finder scope, EZ Finder Reflex sight, *Where the Stars Are* software, instruction manual for scope. All for \$275. Contact John Workman at kayakquynky@cs.com if you are interested.
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ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE CERTIFICATES:

Certificates to award at the next meeting:

Tim Camden - Binocular Messier Club

Vince Medlock - Lunar Club

Certificates submitted, pending:

David Paessler - Herschel

NEW MEMBERS:

We would like to welcome four new members: Frank Hild, Charles Funk, David Riley, and Kelly Rogers. We hope to see you at the next meeting!

TREASURER'S REPORT:

•Current Funds (6/8/03):

Bank balance:	\$1685.94
Cash on hand:	38.00
Warm room fund:	60.00
Dues collected, not deposited	15.00
Grand total:	\$1798.94

•Expenses:

No expenses reported for this month.

Happy Viewing,

Dale & Carol Baltimore