

# **WKAA Newsletter May 2002**

*West Kentucky Amateur Astronomers*

## **UPCOMING BOARD MEETING / REGULAR MEETING**

The first quarterly Board Meeting for club officers will be this Saturday May 11 at the G.P. Observatory at 6:00 pm. followed by the regular club meeting at 7:00, and as always, the general public is welcome to attend the regular meeting. A few sky highlights for the meeting night are: The separation of Venus & Mars will be less than 1°. These along with Saturn will be between the horns of Taurus, and Jupiter will appear to be used as a soccer ball between the Gemini twins.

## **LAST MEETING**

There was no formal April club meeting due to weather, and the absence of several officers attending the Mid-South Stargaze.

## **ASTRONOMY DAY**

Thanks to all who attended and helped with A-Day. Special Thanks to Gay Luber and the LBL association for opening up the Planetarium and facilities for our event, and to Don Partain and John Workman for their hard work keeping the Planetarium shows running. There was a constant flow of people in and out all day. We answered dozens of questions to the general public. Hopefully we sparked interests in Astronomy and got some beginners started off on the right foot with Ross' "Getting Started in Astronomy" talk. Although it was partly cloudy all day, several members setup scopes with filters for solar observing in back of the Visitor's Center and at the Observatory. Also the H-Alpha-filtered dome refractor was in use all day checking out solar flares during the non-cloudy periods. All in all It was a terrific day, and Astronomy and the club were well represented.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

We would like extend a welcome to our newest members; Kenny Quiram - Murray Ky, David Byrd - Hardin Ky, Dale & Carol Baltimore - Paducah Ky, Teresa Ingle - Cadiz Ky, Ricky & Traci Mason - Eddyville Ky, Brad Newcomb & Jane Viterisi - Paducah, Donald Simmons - Paducah, and Patti Taylor - South Fulton Tn.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

To Jeff Burton on earning his Binocular Messier Certificate from the Astronomical League. Several other members are working toward various certificates as well.

## **TREASURERS REPORT**

Activities since last report are: 3 member renewals, 8 new memberships, expenses of \$91.73, which leaves us with a balance of \$1,377.10 in Treasury funds.

## **NOTES**

- A) Several members still have not renewed their membership for 2002 yet. Please do so ASAP to maintain your benefits and voting rights.
- B) Sky & Telescope magazine discount subscriptions are under way. Contact David Paessler if you are a paid member and would like to subscribe.
- C) During Astronomy Day, Alan and Arnold attached the larger casters on the club's large Dob. Hopefully this will make it easier to navigate.
- D) There have been over 350 visits to our website since April 10.
- E) We have one speaker tentatively lined up for this year's Star Party. Details will be available after confirmation.

## **CLUB OFFICERS LIST**

President, Warren Wepking Cadiz, KY 270-924-5574  
Vice President, Alan Dudenhofer Paris, TN 731-642-5304

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Happy Skies,  
John Holland