

# THE FAINT FUZZY

*The Official Newsletter of the West Kentucky Amateur Astronomers  
October 2004*

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## **UPCOMING MEETING:**

The star party is almost here! It starts this Saturday October 9<sup>th</sup> and continues through October 16<sup>th</sup> at Pennyriple State Forest. As a result there will be no regular meeting in October. The next meeting will be Saturday November 13 at 7 p.m. at Golden Pond Observatory. Come at 6 p.m. for our annual chili supper. Club members please bring soft drinks, crackers, side dishes, desserts, or other items to complement the chili. As always visitors are welcome to attend both the chili supper and the meeting! If the sky is clear, we will view after the meeting.

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## **LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:**

About 18 people attended the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting including some visitors from Muhlenberg County.

**Star Party:** We discussed several star party details. See the separate star party section for specifics.

**New Tables:** The "new" tables are here. Thanks to Warren Wepking's VFW Post for contributing them to the club.

**Request for Equipment:** Warren received an e-mail requesting donations of old telescopes and associated equipment for use in South and Central America. [Contact Warren](#) if you are interested.

**Viewing:** We weren't able to view after the meeting due to cloudy skies.

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## **15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TWIN LAKES STAR PARTY:**

The star party starts Saturday at Pennyriple State Forest. See [www.wkaa.net](http://www.wkaa.net) for the schedule of events, list of door prizes, and other star party info. The details below were discussed at the last club meeting.

**Registration:** We have received registrations from several first timers and from some people who are coming back after laying out a few years. We will be providing registration packets containing any T-shirts ordered, a red light pen, and Pennyriple info. [Contact David Paessler](#) if you can help stuff registration packets.

**Facilities:** Pennyriple has a new forester and ranger who are being very supportive. The ranger has agreed to bush hog the observing field and to help finish mow it. He has also agreed to fix the ruts in the field. And the parking lot has been repaired and looks good! Club member Bob Vickers suggested marking the turn off the paved road with a small "TLSP" sign to help attendees find the field. Remember to come out Saturday morning October 9<sup>th</sup> if you can to help get the building ready. [Contact Ross](#) if you can help.

**Door Prizes:** In addition to several door prizes donated by vendors, we now also have a handmade binocular mount donated by club member Charles Funk.

**Talks:** In addition to the presentations by Jay McNeil and Rolondo Chavez, Tim Camden and Pat Peak will also be giving informal talks.

**Miscellaneous:** We will be providing breakfast & snack foods again this year. If anyone would like to contribute either food or funds to this effort, we would appreciate it.

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## **NEW MEMBERS:**

Welcome to new member Larry Drown from Benton, KY!

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**ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE (AL) AWARDS:**

Tim Camden's Double Star Certificate is still pending. Mike Cohen will be presented with his Planetary Certificate and his Master Observer Certificate at the star party. Only 30 people in the *entire* Astronomical League have completed their Master Observer Certificate! Mike will make the *second* WKAA member in this elite group. Congratulations, Mike! The [WKAA website](#) lists club members who have earned observing club certificates and provides links to the Astronomical League website. [Contact David Paessler](#) if you have any questions.

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**EVENTS AND 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. [Contact Vince Medlock](#) in order to make arrangements.

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**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

**Balance (10/3/04):** \$2338.54

**Star Party:** We are in the middle of the annual star party bills and revenue. We have 25 single and 12 family registrations and commitments to buy 63 TLSP T-shirts. Financially, the star party is shaping up to be another success (we don't lose our shirt!) this year. We will have about 50 TLSP light pens for sale at \$3 each.

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**CLUB OFFICERS LIST:**

President, Warren Wepking - Cadiz, KY 270-924-5574 [wwwepking@aol.com](mailto:wwwepking@aol.com)

Vice President, Vince Medlock - Murray, KY [vince.medlock@murraystate.edu](mailto:vince.medlock@murraystate.edu)

Treasurer/Astronomical League Coordinator, David Paessler - Kevil, KY 270-488-3784 [dcpaessler@comcast.net](mailto:dcpaessler@comcast.net)

Secretary, Dale & Carol Baltimore -Paducah, KY 270-554-6603 [w.daleb@comcast.net](mailto:w.daleb@comcast.net)

Star Party Chairman, Ross Workman - Dawson Springs, KY 270-797-8959 [planetman@vci.net](mailto:planetman@vci.net)

Website, John McCubbin - Hopkinsville, KY [john@ccdz.net](mailto:john@ccdz.net) and John Holland - Hopkinsville, KY [vojohn@wkaa.net](mailto:vojohn@wkaa.net)

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Clear skies,

Dale & Carol Baltimore