

THE FAINT FUZZY

*The Official Newsletter of the West Kentucky Amateur Astronomers
October 2005*

UPCOMING MEETING:

The 16th annual Twin Lakes Star Party starts Saturday! It will be held October 1st – 9th at Pennyrile State Park. You can start setting up on Friday September 30th since the field will be ready. We hope to see all of you there!

The next regular meeting will be Saturday November 5th at 7:00 pm at Golden Pond Observatory. Our annual chili supper will be held before the meeting at 6:00 pm.

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

About 17 people attended the August meeting, including 2 visitors from near Mayfield, Ky – Tony and Jeannie Moffat. Vince Medlock called the meeting to order about 7:15 pm.

Secretary's Report: Dale Baltimore reviewed the highlights of the last newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: David Paessler reported that we have 18 star party pre-registrations and 38 T-shirt orders.

Star Party: Ross Workman couldn't attend the meeting so David reported on star party progress. See the "Twin Lakes Star Party" section below for details of the discussion and also see wkaa.net for more information.

Chili Supper: Heather Sherbourne volunteered to coordinate the chili supper in November. Thanks Heather!

Viewing: We finally had a really clear meeting night – the Milky Way was beautiful! Nine people set up their scopes and several viewed until after midnight.

TWIN LAKES STAR PARTY

Pre-registration: David noted that pre-registrations are about 3 or 4 behind what they were at this time last year. This is probably due to the bad weather at the 2004 star party. However 4 folks from Wisconsin have already pre-registered!

On-site Registration: If you helped David with on-site registration last year, be ready! He would like your help again this year.

Field: The field has already been cut and bailed. We will clean the building on Saturday October 1st, the first official day of the star party. If you can help, please [contact Ross](#).

Porta-Potty Patrol: David reminded us that club members are responsible for keeping porta-potties supplied with toilet paper, trash cans emptied, etc. (Yes, we got a good laugh over this title at the meeting.)

ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE (AL) AWARDS:

We finally have an AL observing program submittal! David has submitted the Globular Cluster list and is awaiting his certificate. The [WKAA website](#) lists club members who have already earned observing club certificates and provides links to the Astronomical League website. [Contact David](#) if you have any questions.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance (9/24/05): \$2704.26 (including TLSP revenue to date)

PUBLIC EVENTS:

Dickson, TN: Bob Vickers is considering arranging a viewing session at the Renaissance Center Planetarium in Dickson. We will let you know details later.

Summer Nights: The 2005 Summer Nights program is complete! It went well again this year - large crowds attended and it was well-supported by club members. Heather Sherbourne thanked Jim and Sandy Phistner in particular for their diligence – they came to *most* of the sessions. Thanks to *all* of the club members who supported this effort!

OTHER EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Club Website: Check out the astronomy forum, photo gallery, and other useful info at www.wkaa.net. Perusing the website and conversing with fellow observers is a great way to spend those cloudy evenings. There has been more activity on the [forum](#) recently - if you haven't been there in a while, take a look.

Club Library: We currently have 18 books and 1 magazine in the library. If you would like to check something out, just remove the card from the book, complete the information, and leave the card in the "Checked Out Items" box. Also please consider donating or loaning books that you don't use frequently to the library.

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. Both scopes are currently available. [Contact Vince](#) in order to make arrangements.

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:

President, Vince Medlock – Murray, KY

Vice President, Bill Kassebaum – Paducah, KY/Key West, FL

Treasurer/Astronomical League Coordinator, David Paessler – Kevil, KY 270-488-3784

Secretary, Dale & Carol Baltimore – Paducah, KY 270-554-6603

Star Party Chairman, Ross Workman – Dawson Springs, KY 270-797-8959

Website, John McCubbin – Hopkinsville, KY and John Holland – Hopkinsville, KY

Clear skies,

Dale & Carol Baltimore