

THE FAINT FUZZY September 2002

The Official Newsletter of the West Kentucky Amateur Astronomers

UPCOMING MONTHLY MEETING

The next meeting will be this Saturday September 7 at the G.P. Observatory at 7:00 PM. Since this is the last meeting before the Star Party, we need a few members to arrive early, maybe around 4-5 PM, to help with organization. Ross has purchased more poles and tarps for a light barrier between the field and Administration facility, and may need some help setting them up. The clubhouse will need some organizing and cleaning, and inventory of supplies will need to be taken. All members will need to look around the facilities and spot & report any needs or suggestions to an officer.

LAST MEETING

The last meeting was held on August 10 and we discussed the following:

* Details of the catered meal. * Solution to the light barrier, in which the club authorized Ross to spend whatever needed to fix it. * One individual sent an email to Warren asking us to post his astronomy website link on ours and vice-versa. * All 30 Summer Nights courtesy tickets have been given out. * There were not enough members wishing to participate in the subscription discount for Astronomy magazine.

STAR PARTY NOTES

1) There will be no October meeting as the SP will take its place. 2) Planning for the SP is on target and up to date. 3) Two people have volunteered for informal talks so far. 4) This meeting represents the last day to order tee shirts. Some extra shirts will be ordered to be sold during the SP. 5) The grounds permit from LBLA is taken care of, and we made Don Partain our official signer for the club for any future matters involving LBLA/Forestry Service. 6) The website Star Party pages have been updated including program schedule and speaker page. 7) Following past traditions, we will be giving each of our formal speakers a \$100 honorarium and a Saturday meal. 8) Ross has announced that he will be resigning as Star Party Chairman after this election year, so if you're interested in this position, please let an officer know.

AFTER THE MEETING, the skies were not looking good. Considerable cloudiness and wind looked like it would take its toll on the evening observing, however, not unlike the lakes area weather, it cleared up enough before 9:00 to allow the Summer Nights participants to enjoy the night sky with only a little haze. In fact, some of us stayed 'til after midnight.

SUMMER NIGHTS

Well, that wraps up another season for the Summer Nights program, and like last year, this was again a great success. Special thanks to all who helped with this program during the summer. There were so many participants this year that personally thanked us for taking the time to set up our equipment and show them a few objects. Most were fascinated at just seeing the Milky Way, a naked eye planet or satellite. If we have done nothing more than get several people started off on the right foot, our efforts have not been in vain. This has also been a great opportunity for several members to get more eyepiece time in under darker skies than they have at home.

NEW MEMBER

We want to extend a welcome to our newest member, Vince Medlock from Murray. Lacy Thomas is planning on joining us at the next meeting as well. He is already a member and has attended several of our Star parties, but just recently moved to our area from Maryland.

TREASURY REPORT AS OF 8-31-02

Checkbook balance -- -\$675.48
Cash on hand ----- \$ 95.00
Checks awaiting deposit \$245.00
Total funds ----- \$1015.48

This month expenses:
Star party expenses --- \$700.00
USPS Stamps ----- \$ 37.00

INFO NEEDED

By this coming meeting, anyone who can, please do a little research in your community or area to find out if there are any science / hobby shops or businesses selling any sort of astronomy / space / hobby related items. If you know of any within 100 miles or so, please get the contact info and let me know at the meeting or via email. Thanks.

CLUB OFFICERS LIST

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Happy Skies, John Holland