

The Observer

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

Member of The Astronomical League

<http://sbvaa.org/>



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Since 1958

September, 2013

Meeting:

September 21, 2013

Location:

San Bernardino County
Museum, 7:00 p.m.
Redlands, CA. California
St. exit, I-10 Fwy.

Pre-meeting Dinner, 5:00
p.m.,

The Sizzler
1800 So. Waterman
Ave.
San Bernardino, CA

After the meeting telescopes
will be set up for viewing
and members will be
available to answer
questions. Bring your
telescope to observe with us.

*No telescope is too humble,
and beginners are always
made welcome!*

Program

Dinner & General Discussion at the Sizzler

New Meeting Location Found!

Good news regarding our finding a location for our monthly meetings. We have found a willing partner and all that is necessary is that we work out the details. The site is in Redlands, not too far from the Museum but without the mass of parking lot lights. Unfortunately there was not time to arrange everything before the September meeting. We hope that October will see us at our new location.

So... we will meet at the Sizzler shown in the sidebar for dinner, fellowship and general conversation.

Scopes will not be set up after the "meeting" since the Sizzler parking lot is not conducive for viewing.

"Keep the faith!"

SBVAA Officers

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sept. 21, Club meeting, Sizzler, San Bernardino

Oct 4, *Non-official* outreach, White Water Canyon

Oct. 5, Star party, Johnson Valley

Oct. 5, Outreach, Wildlands Cons., Oak Glen

Oct. 19, Club meeting, location TBD

October, Outreach at the Asistencia, TBD

Nov. 2, Star party, Johnson Valley

Nov. 16, Club meeting, location TBD

Why Outreaches?

The latest issue of "The Reflector" contains an article by David Manning entitled *My Journey Into Amateur Astronomy*. In it he captures the very soul of outreaches. "Outreaches are our way of sharing our love of our hobby with the public. We should all keep this important factor in our outreaches in focus. Our ultimate goal, as individuals and as a group, is to always remember that at some point, we were in the position of the individuals who are observing through our telescopes at these [events]. It should never be about the presenter, only about the seed that might be planted in the mind of a child or young adult to become an amateur astronomer, or to work in the field of astronomy as an educator, [professional] astronomer or other scientist."

How many times at our outreaches have you heard someone say "wow!" or "that's amazing" or "that's so beautiful"? As Mr. Manning reminds us, we may be planting a seed that will grow into something very, very special.

Outreach at Wildlands Conservancy, Oak Glen

While the die-hard deep sky observers are enjoying a dark night in Johnson Valley on **Saturday, October 5**, the rest of us will have the opportunity to participate in a public outreach in our local foothills. The Los Rios Rancho site just over the top of the ridge in Oak Glen is one of the darkest spots in our San Bernardino Valley. The Wildlands Conservancy is a great fan of our club and they draw a nice group of guests to their various outreach programs -- including ours. So come on out. I think I can safely promise that it will be much warmer than when this photo was taken last March.



Another Outreach Opportunity

This one's not an "official" club outreach but it is for our good friends at the Wildlands Conservancy out at White Water, site of the old White Water Trout Farm. Several of our members have formed a friendship with the staff there and greatly enjoy taking our scopes to the canyon. The White Water programs normally draw a pretty sizable crowd so any and all scopes are welcome. The date is **Friday, October 4**. Just take the White Water exit off the I-10 and go north until the road ends -- it ends at the conservancy buildings.



Plan Ahead

2nd Annual Arizona Science & Astronomy Expo

November 16 & 17, 2013, Tucson, Arizona.

Last year's inaugural expo was outstanding with top speakers and a massive vendor hall. For 2013, three stellar speakers have already signed: **Alex Filippenko**, world renowned astrophysicist and professor of astronomy, **Timothy Ferris**, astronomer and author of twelve best selling books and retired astronaut **Story Musgrave**.

Tickets are only \$10 per day plus \$1 for parking. Ticket price includes all activities and presentations.

November 16th and November 17th
2013. Being held at the Tucson
Convention Center Tucson AZ.

www.scienceandastronomy.com/

or if you are on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/ASAExpo/

Grand View Star Party

A small but enthusiastic group of eleven found their way to the fall Grand View star party at Camp Noren, Cedar Flats over the weekend of September 6. As it turned out, it was a good thing our group was small because the camp site was small. It seems that someone beat us to the punch in reserving the larger Camp Ferguson. Oh well, next time.

Both Friday and Saturday nights were clear and dark with perfect transparency and near perfect seeing. The evening temperatures dipped into the low 60's with nothing more than a light jacket required. The smallest scope present was a 3-inch reflector and the largest was Martin's 20-inch Dob. We had excellent views to the East around through the South and into the West. Our three astro-photographers were sited so they could also pick up some DSO's in the North. The visual observers had a lot of fun chasing each other all over the sky looking for lesser NGC objects as well as our old Messier favorites.

Tom & Cliff did the cooking for the Saturday morning pot luck breakfast, Tom flipping pancakes and Cliff scrambling eggs and sausages. Everyone shared snacks all weekend. A great time was had by all.

SCENES OF GRAND VIEW (CEDAR FLATS), SEPT. 2013

Photos by Robin Hennen



RUE, MEGAN & TOM WERE SHOOTING ASTRO-PHOTOS. HERE ARE SOME RUE SENT FOR THE NEWSLETTER

