



# The Observer

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS  
Member of The Astronomical League  
<http://sbvaa.org/>



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Since 1958

October, 2018

## Meeting:

October 6, 2018

## Location:

**First Christian Church**  
**2102 E. Foothill Dr.**  
**San Bernardino, CA**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Pre-meeting Dinner,**  
**5:00 to 6:30 p.m.,**

***Jenny's Family***  
***Resturant***  
***7750 Palm Ave.***  
***Highland, CA***

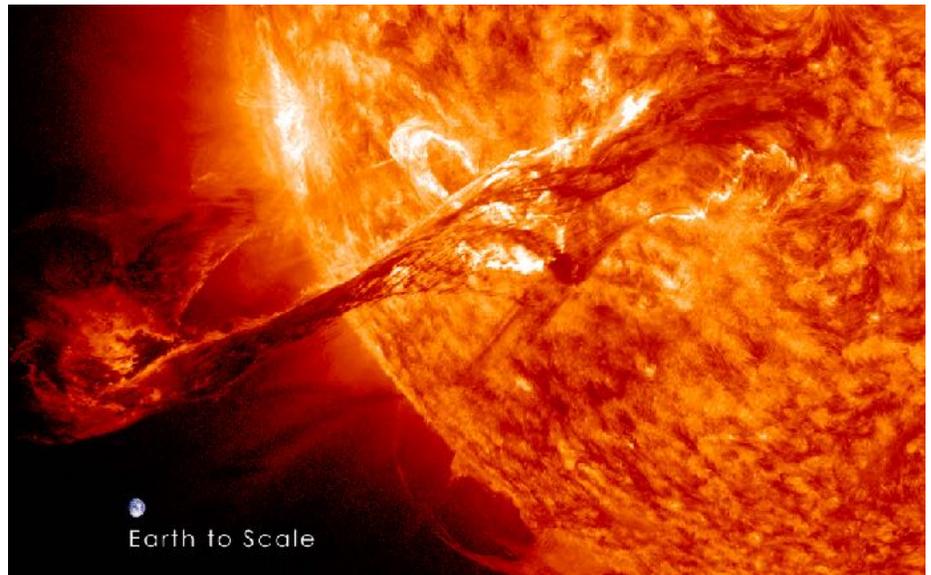
After the meeting telescopes will be set up for viewing and members will be available to answer questions. Bring your telescope to observe with us.

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

## Program

# Megaflares

The Universe is a magnetic minefield. The Sun spits out flares capable of battering life on Earth. But out there in space lie the true magnetic monsters. As we uncover dangerous megaflares in the cosmos, the question is, will we end up in the firing line?



“Megaflares” and it is about ‘super-size’ flares from the sun and other types of stars and their effects on objects around them. It has incredible visuals simulating the explosions and has nice narration and guest scientists describing the events and what causes them. It is an episode from the “How the Universe Works” series.

*(Photo credit: NASA SDO)*

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

*Oct. 13, Outreach, Oak Glen*

*Oct. 20, Outreach, White Water*

*Nov. 3, Club Meeting*

*Nov. 10, Star Party, Pioneer Tonw*

*Dec 1, Annual Holiday Party*



## 20129 Astronomy Calendars

The new calendars are available now!

Fidel will have them for sale from



October 6, until he runs out of them. The cost is \$10, which is a \$4 savings over the normal retail price.

## No News Is Not Bad News

You no doubt noticed that the Calendar of Upcoming Events shows nothing after December 1.

Not to worry. We are still going to have club meetings, star parties and outreaches in 2019.

The club's "executive committee" is still working on picking the right dates for next year.



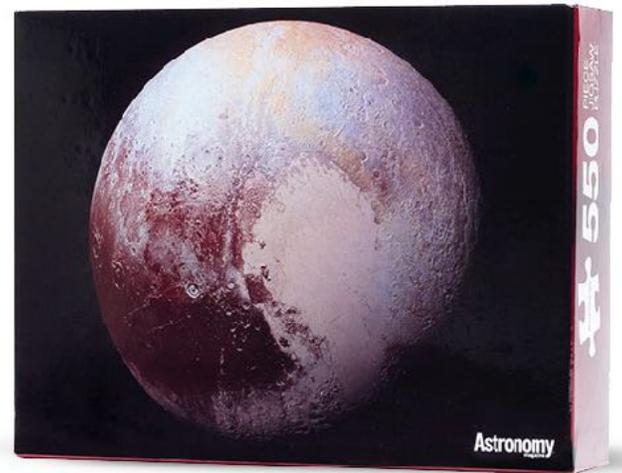
As soon as the various dates are finalized, they will be published here and in a general member email.

## What To Do On A Cloudy Night?

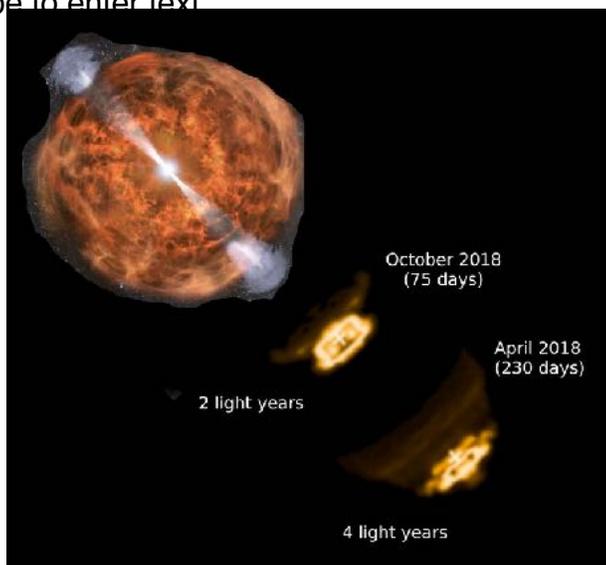
Assemble an 18" x 24" 550 piece jigsaw puzzle of course. As if their diabolical Crab Nebula puzzle wasn't enough, Astronomy Magazine is now selling one of Pluto.

The puzzle's image is from a photo taken by the New Horizons spacecraft as it passed Pluto in July of 2015.

With a seamless black background and limited color differentiation on the planet, this should keep you busy for many a cloudy night.



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## Faster Than The Speed of Light?

The dramatic [neutron-star merger](#) that astronomers spotted last year generated a jet of material that seemed to move at four times the speed of light

The superluminal motion was an illusion, which was caused by the jet's (still very fast) speed and the fact that it blasted almost directly at us, researchers said.

*(For the complete story, go to [space.com](https://www.space.com))*

## Exploring the Veil Nebula

The Veil Nebula is a favorite of many observers. It's wispy tendrils are lovely and in a large scope can look magical. But many times we only look at the eastern and western parts. But with good conditions even a smaller telescope can reveal many other parts of this 8,000+ year old super nova remnant.



Your editor remembers his excitement when he first spotted Pickering's Triangle in his 80mm refractor.

Sometimes, given the right conditions, some of the Veil can be seen in binoculars!

(For a full look, see Bob King's excellent article of Sept.5, at:

[skyandtelescope.com](http://skyandtelescope.com))

