

The Observer

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

Member of The Astronomical League

<http://sbvaa.org/>



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Since 1958

July, 2012

Meeting:

July 14, 2012

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!*

After viewing the group will
head for Coco's in Redlands,
Tennessee exit, I-10 Fwy.

Program

My apologies, gentle readers, for this abbreviated edition. Your humble editor and his wife will be on vacation and won't return until July 5, which does not leave time to put a complete newsletter together. However, I hope to have pictures and a tale of high adventure to share when I return. We shall see.

SBVAA Officers

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 30, Outreach, Moon Party

July 14, Club meeting at the Museum

July 21, Two star parties:
(1) Afton Canyon
(2) Wildlands Conservancy, Oak Glen

August 11, Annual club BBQ at the Museum

August 18, Star party, Johnson Valley

August 25, Moon Party, at the Museum

Transit of Venus

By Jim Sommer

I hope all of you were able to get out and see the Transit of Venus on Monday, June 5. I got out in time to see the planet's silhouette begin to move across the face of the Sun and was able to watch it until the Sun dropped behind some neighboring trees. I used my 80 mm triplet refractor with a 17 mm Hyperion eyepiece and an Orion white light solar filter. The same combination I used to watch the recent solar eclipse. By the time the trees obscured the view Venus had completed about half its transit. A number of sunspots added to the great show.

Transits of Venus only happen with a frequency of about once a century and in pairs, separated by eight years. The previous transit was in June 2004, and prior to that, occurred in 1874 and 1882. 1769 saw Capt. Cook make one of his famous voyages to the South Pacific to observe it. The next pair of transits will occur in December, 2117, and December, 2125.



(Photos by Jim Sommer)