

# The Observer

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

Member of The Astronomical League

<http://sbvaa.org/>



Volume #56, Issue 12

Since 1958

December, 2014

## Meeting:

December 6, 2014

## Location:

Shakey's Pizza  
836 W. Colton Ave.  
Redlands, CA

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## Program

## Annual Holiday Party

**Saturday, December 6th**

**between 3 and 5 pm.**

Shakey's Pizza  
836 W. Colton Ave.  
Redlands, CA 92373  
909-793-5993



**Seasons Greetings**

There will also be a **Gift exchange**. For those wishing to participate please bring a nice wrapped gift..... 'value not to exceed \$15.00.'

## SBVAA Officers

President:

Vice President:

Treasurer: Fidel Hernandez 909-864-0615

Secretary - Educational Outreach: Chris Clarke  
909-384-8539 Work  
909-875-6694 Home

Star Party Coordinator: Tom Lawson  
909-8828198

SBVAA Webmaster: Gerald Rezes 909-810-7217

Newsletter Editor: Jim Sommer 909-792-3587

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Dec. 20, Star Party, Johnson Valley

Jan. 24, Club meeting at new location

Feb. 28, Club meeting at new location

Mar. 28, Club meeting at new location

Apr. 25. Club meeting at new location

*Star parties, outreaches and other events  
TBD*

## New Meeting Location Starting in January!

★ First Christian Church ★  
2102 E. Foothill Drive  
San Bernardino, CA 92404

After three failures in what we thought would be good partnership with Grove School, members at the last meeting voted unanimously to change the location to Fidel's church in San Bernardino. This will be effective starting in January, 2015.

Fidel has a key to their meeting hall and it has the audio/visual facilities we usually need. Also, there are larger, clean restrooms. So if you haven't come to a meeting for a while, come on back!

## Ancient Galaxy Has New Life



A newly released image from NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope shows the galaxy NGC 1291. Though the galaxy is quite old, roughly 12 billion years, it is marked by an unusual ring where newborn stars are igniting.

"The rest of the galaxy is done maturing," said Kartik Sheth of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory of Charlottesville, Virginia. "But the outer ring is just now starting to light up with stars."

NGC 1291 is located about 33 million light-years away in the constellation Eridanus.



© click to enlarge

The 2015 “Deep Space Mysteries” calendars from Astronomy Magazine are here. they will be available for sale starting with the club meeting on September 13th . We have 30 for sale on a first come first served basis. The retail cost for this calendar is \$12.95 plus \$1.00 tax or \$13.95 altogether. Your cost, through the club this year, is \$8 -- a savings of \$6. See Fidel, the club treasurer, at the back of the room to make your purchase. Reservations are accepted.

From ASAE

Steve Peeters attended the ASAE event in Tucson over the first weekend in November. The following is an excerpt from his e-mail to your editor.

“Hi Jim:

Thought I'd write and tell you what a nice experience it was for my wife and I to go to the Expo. So, your putting that info in the newsletter really helped, thanks. There were some terrific speakers, and, for the most part we understood what they were talking about. And, when we did not that was some good brain exercise! The Science in Science fiction panel was really cool, and, we also attended as many other talks as we could fit in. The retired astronaut gave a fine talk and we were shocked that NASA's budget is less than .5% of the GDP, it was 4.5% in the Apollo days. Also, I was able to get some good buys on the purchases I made.”

If you are interested in attending in 2015, watch for news of the event starting about next August or September.

## For Sale

Venture Reflector Telescope  
“LNIB”  
Great “starter scope”

114mm primary, 900mm focal length

Equatorial mount, 6 x 30 finder scope  
3, 1.25” EP's )4. 10 & 25mm)  
3x Barlow, Moon filter & erecting lens

Original list price was \$360.  
Asking \$250 but open to any  
reasonable offer.

Contact Deborah Reynolds,

{H} 909-797-1373, (C) 951-965-1444



# Wildlands Conservancy Oak Glen Outreach

The evening of October 25, saw a number of our members once again at Oak Glen. The various Wildlands Conservancy sites near by make for good viewing and an outreach makes a great excuse for gathering a few photons. At the same time you are increasing public awareness and interest in things astronomical. Below are a few pictures by Robin of that event.

