



The Observer

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

Member of The Astronomical League

<http://sbvaa.org/>



Volume #61, Issue 11

Since 1958

November 2019

Meeting:

November 9, 2019

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

2 Parts: Pt. 1, Round Table/Show and Tell
Pt. 2, Radio Astronomy: an Intro to Observing the
Invisible Universe

First, moderated by our club prez Jamie, we will open the floor to anyone who wants to talk about a new piece of gear or who has some pictures to share. And don't worry if you don't feel comfortable about transferring pics to a thumb drive or other media. Just bring your camera and its USB cord and Megan will figure out how to make it work. Join with your fellow club members as we discuss these and many other subjects about our favorite hobby.

The second part will be an intro to radio astronomy explaining not only what it is but how it works and why it's such an important tool of astronomers

Bring a scope for some observing after the meeting!



SBVAA Officers

President: Jamie Countryman

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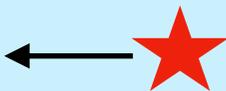
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Club Website: SBVAA.org



Calendar of Upcoming Events

Oct 26, Star Party, Pioneer Town

Nov 2, Outreach, S.B. County Museum

Nov. 9, Club Meeting

Nov. 11, Veterans Day (*fly your flag!*)

Nov. 23, Star Party, Whitewater (or
if the road is not fixed yet,
loc. TBA. However, the folks
at Whitewater are pretty confident
that the road will be repaired
by then.

Dec. 7, Annual Holiday Party

Meeting dates beginning in January are
still being worked out with the church.
You will be notified as soon as they are
confirmed.

2020 Calendars

Fidel has a supply of Astronomy Magazine's 2020 calendars for sale — discounted from what you can buy them for elsewhere. See Fidel before or after the meeting. These make great gifts for the astro-minded person or for anyone who enjoys the beauty and wonder of the universe.



Huge Outreach at Alice Birney School

The crowd was enthusiastic and HUGE! There were only four members that came, Chris, Bob, Fidel and your faithful editor. Unfortunately, my C6SE's computer took the occasion the "bomb" requiring that I pack it back into the car. So I spent the evening answering questions and helping with the other scopes.

I think this was one of the largest school outreaches that I've ever attended. A conservative estimate put the number at 275+. I was told by a number of teachers there that every time we are scheduled to go there, the students go wild with anticipation. For many of them and for their parents too, it's the first time to look through a telescope. SBVAA touches the future.

Club Members What Do You Want?

For the last decade at least, your club's meetings have consisted of "business" (star party/outreach reports, calendar updates & treasurer reports) and an astro-educational video generally followed by some casual observing. While many of the videos were excellent a number of you said you were tired of watching them. So that brings up the question of — *"what do you want in the way of programs?"* Being a club of limited resources, we can't bring in big-name speakers like Neal deGrasse Tyson or Alex Filippenko. The videos, however, did make it possible to learn from them, albeit via e-media.

So let's hear it from you. What do you want? E-mail your ideas to Jamie, Chris or your newsletter editor via the URLs shown above. We three plus Tom, Fidel et al. want to keep our club relevant, active and exciting. BUT... we need to know what you want in the way of programs.

Speak up... it's your club.



Club dues will be \$40 for an individual or family membership beginning in January. The change was voted on in a club meeting several months ago.

SBVAA has never been a "wealthy" club — at least in terms of money. However, various club expenses have increased and a little extra cash in the kitty may help us to bring in a speaker now and then.

Astro Events of Interest in November



k45689954 www.fotosearch.com

11th: Transit of Mercury at sunrise

12th: Asteroid Vesta at opposition & Taurid meteor shower

18th: Leonid meteor shower

22nd: Monocerotid meteor shower

24th: Conjunction of Moon & Mars, Venus & Jupiter, Moon & Mercury

28th: Orionid meteor shower

Yes folks, it's official; RTMC is dead. One wonders why an event like NEAF continues to prosper while our own RTMC dies. We'll miss the comradery — seeing old friends and meeting new ones
(Sorry about the black background but I couldn't figure out how to change it over)

A sad and heartfelt farewell to all...

We, the current Board of RTMC, Inc., have made the difficult decision that 2019 was the last year that the Astronomy Expo will be held. Many contributing factors have led us to this difficult and disappointing decision. We have tried to navigate these challenges while experimenting with many new ideas. However, it has become apparent that hosting further Astronomy Expos is no longer feasible. We are heartened by the fact that both the 50th and 51st years (2018 & 2019) were well received and enjoyed by all those who attended.

We wish to thank all the past Board members and the many volunteers who helped put on this event for 51 amazing years. To the many vendors, who've come to share their products, to the thousands of attendees and to all our various sponsors, thank you for supporting us through the years. Thank you to all the speakers and presenters we've had through the years, for sharing your wonderful knowledge. Thank you to the YMCA Camp Oakes for hosting our event for over 40 years in the beautiful San Bernardino Mountains.

We've made many memories, friends, and discoveries along the way. We will cherish them all.

Again, thank you so much for your support and patronage through the years. We wish you all clear, dark skies and bright futures!

The Board of RTMC, Inc.

