



The Observer

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS

Member of The Astronomical League

<http://sbvaa.org/>



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Since 1958

January, 2021

Meeting:

January XX, 2021

Location:

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

Whenever the club meets, telescopes will be set up (weather permitting) 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

Happy New Year!

It looks like that, for a while yet at least, we will not have a regular club meeting. Your club officers are looking at potential dates and places for “informal” gatherings where we can still have fun while maintaining reasonable COVID19 precautions.

Make sure Tom has your correct e-mail address so that you can keep informed of any club activities — formal or informal.

And remember, keep looking up!

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

Your club officers are working on alternatives for activities for 2021. The type of events and the dates will be published as soon as they can be arranged/confirmed.

Meanwhile, stay healthy & safe!

Dues News

For calendar year 2021 (and 2021 only), club dues are suspended.

Owing to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, i.e. our loss of regular club meetings and also the financial hardship that some members face, your club officers have opted to suspend dues for the calendar year 2021. It is hoped that we might be able to hold some “unofficial” star parties, etc., but that will remain to be seen. If we are able to plan a safe get-together, it will be announced in your newsletter or via one of Tom’s e-mail flash messages.

Miscellaneous Stuff for January

Important note about pre-meeting dinners and regular club meetings: perhaps non will occur until well into 2021. We will keep you posted.

If you are interested in obtaining a pristine Celestron C9.25 with XLT coatings & including a JMI EV1 2" diagonal focuser and Televue 2" adapter for it, contact your newsletter editor. This is a great setup for astrophotography.



Things to See While in “Quarantine”



- Jan. 1, M41 (NGC 2287) in the constellation Canis Major at its highest point in the sky around midnight local time.
- Jan. 2 - 3, Quadrantids meteor shower. This shower is capable of producing up to forty meteors per hour. This year, however, a waning gibbous Moon will block out most of the faintest meteors. But... you should still be able to catch a few of the larger brighter ones. The best viewing will, of course, be from a dark sky location and after midnight. The constellation Bootes is usually the point from which the shower radiates but can appear anywhere in the sky.
- Jan. 10, The conjunction of Neptune and 1 Ceres. This offers a challenge as it first becomes visible about 32 degrees above the south-west horizon around 1800 PST and will set about 2109 PST. Look near a mid-point between constellations Cetus and Capricornus.
- Jan. 13, New Moon
- Jan. 14, M47 (NGC 2422) in the constellation Puppis at its highest point in the sky around midnight local time. Also well placed this night will be the spiral galaxy NGC 2403, in the constellation Camelopardalis.
- Jan. 24, Mercury will be at its greatest eastern elongation. This is the best time to view the planet since it will be at its highest point above the evening horizon. Look for it low in the western sky just after sunset.
- Jan. 28, Full Moon

As always, check your sky charts and star guides.