



# The Observer

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



Volume #63, Issue 9

Since 1958

September, 2021

Meeting:

September 18, 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

### Annual Club BBQ

It's On!



We don't have a regular club meeting in September. Instead we have a social get-together. **On Saturday, September 18, we'll meet at our regular meeting place — the church.**

***Set up will begin about 4:30 pm or so and eating will commence after 5:00 pm.*** Event ends at 7:00 p.m.

Bring any kind of food you like, and everyone usually shares what they have. If you can't bring food, we always need napkins, plasticware, paper plates and beverages too.

It's a nice opportunity to simply chat and hang out with your fellow members.

## SBVAA Officers

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events (If all goes well!)

Sept. 18, Club meeting & annual BBQ  
at the church

Oct. 9, Star Party, Pioneer Town

**Oct. 16, Outreach at the Museum**

Oct. 23, Club Meeting at the Church

Nov. 6, Star Party, Pioneer Town

Nov. 20, Club meeting

Dec. 11, Ann. Club holiday party,  
Shakey's, Redlands,  
**3:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

The 2022 calendars are here! Fidel will have some at the BBQ or you can contact him to tell him how many you want

The cost is still \$10.00!



# Future Space Telescope Missions



In the next few weeks, a high-powered group of astronomers spanning a range of disciplines will publish guidelines that will set the priorities for the next decade of astronomy. Selected by the National Academy of Sciences, this group is considering four flagship space telescope missions — any one of which could change the face of astronomy — as well as 10 smaller [probe missions](#). The astronomers will set down a vision of the future in a report called the decadal survey.

Decadal surveys have been setting the tone for space-based astronomy for the past 50 years. So far at least, any space mission that received highest priority in a given decadal eventually made it to the launch pad. That list includes the Hubble Space Telescope, which received priority in the 1972 report and launched in 1990; the Chandra X-ray Observatory, which received priority in 1982 and launched in 1999; and the Spitzer Space Telescope, which received priority in 1991 and launched in 2003.

The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) is up next, having been prioritized in 2000, then the Nancy Grace Roman Telescope (formerly known as Wide Field Infrared Survey Telescope, or WFIRST), which received first place in the [2010 survey](#). Neither mission has launched yet. While they will likely still make it to space, James Webb in particular has extracted a political cost with numerous delays and budget overruns. That's why in 2016 NASA started funding detailed studies — including everything from costing models to work breakdown structures — for four “large mission” concepts: HabEx, LUVOIR, Lynx, and the Origins Space Telescope (listed in alphabetical order).

*(For more in depth info, go to [skyandtelescope.org](http://skyandtelescope.org))*

## Things to See in September



Sep. 1, Aurigid meteor shower

Sep. 3, Mercury at highest altitude in the evening sky

Sep. 6, New Moon

Sep. 8, Conjunction of the Moon & Mercury

Sep. 9, e-Perseid meteor shower

Sep. 10, 4P/Faye at perihelion

Sep. 13, Mercury is at greatest elongation east

Sep. 16, Conjunction of the Moon and Saturn

Sep. 17, Conjunction of the Moon and Jupiter

Sep. 20, Mars at apogee + full Moon

Sep. 24, NGC 55 well placed + the Moon and Uranus relative close approach

**Some of the above events may require you to be out quite early or quite late so check the weather and dress appropriately. [As always, check your sky charts and star guides.](#)**