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President's Message



Pat Donnelly



The COVID-19 nightmare of the last 16 months is finally ending. Our society in California is returning to normal. I can actually

enter a public building without a mask, and I do not have to maintain a stated distance from other people. There are, of course, things that still need to be accomplished. By all means please get vaccinated, if you have not done it already. You owe it to yourself and your family to do so.

As far as the FPOA is concerned the nightmare is also ending. Earlier this week the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) approved the resumption of almost all FPOA programs and activities. Moreover, we begin these activities without restrictions. The only activity of FPOA that is not allowed is the use of the lecture room for public presentations. The room is very small and the ventilation is limited. I believe this activity will not begin until any and all COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. So what activities are being restarted.

On July 3 the FPOA will begin evening programs. The program will consist of observing through the Challenger Telescope and other telescopes and an outdoor sky tour. These evening programs will continue until October, and a full schedule of all of our programs and

2021 Programs

Evening Programs

July 3, 10, 31 Aug 7, 14, 28 Sept 4, 11

Oct 2, 9, 30

Solar Programs
July 31, Aug 14, Sept 4, Oct 30

SBQ/Rededication August 28

activities is provided both in this abbreviated newsletter and on our webpage. The FPOA has already conducted one solar program, and the next solar program is scheduled for July 31.

As a final note, because the activities at the observatory are resuming, the FPOA Board has scheduled a special rededication party on August 28. The party will consist of a bar-b-que, a rededication ceremony, and an observing session. This will be open to all members and local astronomers. Please mark your calendar.

WE'RE BACK!!!

Observing Reservations



Note: We are back to pre COVID rules

For observing pad reservations, please send the following information **48 hours in advance** to:

schedule at fpoa.net

- Member name
- Reservation date
- Estimated arrival time
- Duration of stay
- Number in party (2020 1 guest limit, contact FPOA to bring more than 1 immediate family member
- Vehicle description and license plate
- Specific observing site request (pad)

Challenger Retraining Required

FPOA Board

The renovation made a number of changes in the building. This added a number of important steps to the process to safely open.

The board decided rather than patch the already obsolete checklist we should create two new checklists; one for opening and one for closing.

Once this work is complete we will retrain interested members on the new procedures.

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Dates and Delivery

Members, The Observer is now sent by email and posted on our website at <u>FPOA Observer online</u> Please send email updates to *membership at fpoa.net*.

The Fremont Peak Observer is published four times a year (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall). Articles from members are encouraged and should be emailed to editor at fpoa.net by Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1, and Nov 1, in plain text or Word format.