

# South Shore Astronomical Society

Since 1958

## Observing Objectives – August '20



*A sampling of some rewarding night-sky treats for this month:*

**Open Cluster** – M20, Trifid Nebula, Observer's Challenge object for this month.

**Globular Cluster** – M71 in Sagitta. Loose concentration, relatively young.

**Double Star** – Xi Sco and Struve 1999 – a Scorpius double double!

**Planetary Nebula** – NGC 6818, the Little Gem nebula in Sagittarius.

**Galaxies** – NGC 6822, aka C57 – Barnard's Galaxy in Sagittarius.

**Comet** – C/2020 F3 NEOWISE – Still a solid binocular object in early August.

**Mercury** – Poorly placed throughout most of this month.

**Venus** – Hits greatest western elongation on the 13<sup>th</sup>, see it at 50% phase.

**Mars** – grows to 16.5" by mid-month, 18.8" by month's end.

**Jupiter** – Look for moon shadow transits and the Great Red Spot – prime time!

**Saturn** – Also prime time, can anything trump those rings???

**By Day: The Sun** – rising from its slumber of minima lately, see active regions.

**Notable Dates:**    **Full Moon** – 8/3    **Persieds Peak** – 8/12    **New Moon** – 8/18