MINUTES OF THE 89TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AAVSO, HELD OCTOBER 25–28, 2000, WALTHAM, MA

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AAVSO Secretary
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60 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

The AAVSO Finance Committee met during the afternoon on Wednesday, October 25, at the Best Western Hotel.

The AAVSO Council met on Thursday morning, October 26. After this meeting, members and guests were transported to the Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge for the first session of a Symposium in commemoration of the 100th birthday of Cecilia Payne Gaposchkin.

Following the Symposium, AAVSO Headquarters was open for an Open House and Dinner Buffet. Afterwards, those who wished were transported to the Gaposchkin dinner site to enjoy the after-dinner speech by Dorrit Hoffleit and the presentation of selections from *The Observatory Pinafore* by members of the Harvard Gilbert and Sullivan Society.

On Friday morning, October 27, participants again were transported to Cambridge for the second session of the Gaposchkin Symposium. After a box lunch at the Center for Astrophysics, AAVSO meeting attendees returned to the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS) Headquarters for the first scientific paper session at which six papers were presented. Following a break, the AAVSO Director and officers held a Town Meeting for discussion of members' concerns. Following dinner at MMS, Mario Motta presented a talk about how similar he found studying variable stars to studying heart rhythms of his patients. Then there was a "show and tell" session with several AAVSO members sharing some lighter moments of astronomy.

The Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, October 28, was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by President Lee Anne Willson.

Martha Hazen, Secretary, gave a summary of the minutes, recorded by Secretary Pro-Tem David Williams, of the 89th Spring meeting of the AAVSO in Huntsville, Alabama. The minutes were accepted as summarized.

Past Treasurer Theodore Wales presented the annual report in the absence of Treasurer Wayne Lowder. He reported that the ratio of stocks to bonds in the two investment funds was now at an acceptable level, and would start producing more income shortly. The report of the treasurer was accepted as summarized.

The president appointed Elizabeth Waagen, Gerry Samolyk, and George East to count the ballots for new Councilors.

The following Committee reports were read:

CCD Photometry	Gary Walker, Chair
Chart Distribution	Kerriann Malatesta
New & Preliminary Charts	Charles Scovil, Chair
Telescopes	Charles Scovil, Chair
Nova Search	Kenneth Beckmann, Chair *(report read by Chuck Pullen)*
Photoelectric Photometry	Howard Landis, Chair *(report read by Janet Mattei)*
RR Lyrae	Marvin Baldwin, Chair
Eclipsing Binary	Marvin Baldwin, Chair

Solar Division	Carl Feehrer, Chair
Supernova Search	Robert Evans, Chair
	(report read by Gene Hanson)

Director Mattei expressed the AAVSO's thanks to all the committee chairs for their valuable contributions, and also thanked those who read the reports for the absent chairs.

Director Mattei read the report of new membership applications approved by the Council on October 26, 2000. Seventy-eight applicants were accepted including 3 junior and 3 sustaining. Sixty-five of the new members are from the U. S.; Australia has the most from abroad. The total membership is now 1182, of which 144 are sustaining members. There is a total of 525 member observers, 307 group member observers, and 352 non-member observers.

Director Mattei announced the decease of the following members and friends of the AAVSO: Robert Clyde, J. Russell Smith, Jindra Silhan, and William S. Sizensky. The attendees rose for a moment of silence in memory of their deceased colleagues.

Director Mattei then discussed plans for future meetings.

• The spring meeting will be held May 3–5, 2001, in Madison, WI.

• The Annual Meeting will be in Massachusetts, possibly on Cape Cod again, and probably the last weekend in October.

• The Spring 2002 meeting will be the "Pan-Pacific" meeting, on the big island of Hawaii. The date is to be arranged, but will probably be the very end of June and early July. Dr. Gerry Fishman from NASA-Marshall Space Flight Center would very much like to hold another high-energy workshop for amateur astronomers, and this could possibly be combined with the Hawaii meeting.

Following a short break President Willson announced the results of the election for Council. David Williams was elected to a second term, and Lewis Cook, Jaime Garcia, and Kevin Marvel were elected for their first term.

Director Janet Mattei presented her annual report. The report in its entirety appears in this issue of *JAAVSO*. Some of the highlights of what was a very exciting and successful year:

a) The website has been redesigned again so as not to be too image intensive. The light curve generator was improved, and educational tools have been added. The GRB network will be up shortly, and a start has been made at digitizing the *Journal*.

b) There was a record number of observations submitted this year.

c) Data requests are made by email, postal mail, and via the web. Most of the web requests are downloading of data by students.

d) There has been intensive cooperation with satellites; the Gamma Ray Burst network is almost up and running.

Director Mattei expressed her warm thanks to the members, observers, and committee chairs, as well as to the Council, officers, and office staff. She congratulated Rebecca Pellock on five years of service in Headquarters, and John Bortle for 30 years as editor of the *AAVSO Circular*.

The Membership Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon, and was followed by a group photograph.

The second Scientific Paper Session was held from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. At the beginning, President Willson announced election by the Council of the following officers for 2000–2001:

President	Lee Anne Willson
1st Vice President	Daniel Kaiser
2nd Vice President	William Dillon
Secretary	Martha Hazen
Treasurer	Wayne Lowder
Director	Janet Mattei
Clerk	Michael Mattei

Following this announcement, 12 scientific papers were presented in the second session. The list is attached to the minutes.

The Banquet was held at 7:30 p.m. in the Waltham Best Western Hotel. Following dinner the first William Tyler Olcott Award for Promotion of and Public Education in Variable Star Astronomy was presented to David Levy. AAVSO Nova Awards were presented to Gary T. Nowak of Vermont, for his independent discovery of Nova Aquilae 1999 No. 2, and to Robert O. Evans of Australia for his discovery of SN 2000cj in NGC 6753.

The after-dinner talk was given by Dr. David Latham of the Center for Astrophysics on the subject of planets around other stars.

On Sunday, October 29, there was a meeting of the Chart Committee at AAVSO Headquarters, with members interested in providing input about chart making.

Papers presented at the Scientific Paper Session on Friday, October 27, 2000:

Arne A. Henden	The TASS Mark IV Photometric Survey
Mario Motta	Microvariability of CH Cygni at Minimum
John Pazmino	The Promise for Starry Eyes
Regina Jorgenson Vladimir Strelnitski	Complex Variability of the Peculiar Emission-Line Star MWC349
Ronald E. Royer	Slow Death of SN 1999em
Frederick R. West	Favorable Times Predicted for Searching for Transits of Gliese 876 by its Extrasolar Giant Planet

Papers presented at the Scientific Paper Session on Saturday, October 28, 2000:

Lee Anne Willson	Summer with the Variable Stars
David B. Williams Marvin E. Baldwin Peter Guilbault Arne A. Henden Daniel H. Kaiser Gilbert C. Lubke Gerard Samolyk	The New Algol-type Eclipsing Binary GSC 3002-454

Shadrian Holmes N. N. Samus	UBVRI Photometry of DE CVn
Kevin B. Marvel Phil Diamond Athol Kemball	The SiO Masers of TX Camelopardalis
Casper H. Hossfield	The Wolf Number Mystery
Philip Dombrowski, Jr.	Secrets in Starlight: The Strange Case of R Coronae Borealis
Courtney Peterson N. N. Samus Shadrian Holmes Karen Singer	Lost Variables in Sagittarius and Cygnus Recovered on Nantucket Plates
Ronald E. Zissell	What Magnitude is that Galaxy?
Tiffany Llenos Mark Darancing	*Na Hoku O Mililani*—The Stars of Mililani
Christopher B. Sande Wayne H. Warren, Jr. David A. Tracewell	Recent Enhancements to and Future Plans for the *SKY 2000* Star Catalogue
George Hawkins	Chart Making for the AAVSO CCD Program
David Turner	Characteristics of the Variable Star P Cygni Determined from Cluster Membership

New Members Accepted at the Annual Meeting, October 28, 2000

Alexander, William, WV
Bartlett, Trixie, MI
Bitters, Warren, CA
Brant, Steven, IN
Brennan, Timothy, WA
Bros Caton, Xavier, Spain
Campbell, Robert Tut, AR
Carr, Patrick, AR
Clegg, Stephanie, Northern Ireland
Collins, John H., AZ
Corwin, Greg, WI
Crawford, Gregory G., Australia
Doyle, Susan K., CA
Durback, Eric, PA
Eftimora, Magdalena, IL
Fertig, Jonathon, OR
Flores, Carlos, GA
Fox, Thomas, TX
Funamura, Janwyn, CA
Gandet, Thom, AZ
Gianni, Galli, Italy
Gonzales, Pamela J., CA
Good, Gerry A., NM
Greene, Stephen Michael, MI
Hall, David, Australia
Harmon, Robert, OH
Hauk, Robert, OR
Havens, Stephen L., NY
Heald, Michael A., TX
S Herrod, Timm, CO
Hofman, Peter, NY
Horne, Jerry D., CA
Hoyt, Helen, CO
Jarvie, Donald, CT
Jennings, James, CO
John B. Connally High School Science Olympiad, TX
Leonhart, Louis, AK

(continued next page)

New Members Accepted at the Annual Meeting, October 28, 2000 (continued)

Ley, Frederick, CA
Linnolt, Michael, HI
Lush, Craig,L., MA
Mangold, Melissa, KS
McDonald, Michael Patrick, GA
McGinnis, Gary L., WA
Mezzapelle, Paul, CA
Mickle, Ronald E., CO
Nance, David, AL
Narvaez, Elsie, GA
Norton, Andrea, Canada
Norton, Jonathon, Canada
Offutt, Warren & Beverly, NM
Pagano, Joseph, FL
Palmer, Tomas, WA
Peairs, Thomas, VT
Pearce, Andrew, Australia
Pennington, Gerry, NV
Pickard, Roger, England
Pietrapiana, Paolo, Italy
Richards, Thomas Joseph, Australia
Romano, Joseph, DE
S Ruiz-Montes, Jose, France
Schoenstene, Robert, IL
Shultz, Anthony, IN
Solomon, Jerry, CA
Spaulding, Nathan, NH
Stacey, James, NY
Swatek, John M., HI
Thomas, Roger E., PA
Thomas, W. Gregory, CA
Thompson, Alex, CA
Walker, Gary W., CA
Walker, Rick, FL
Walter, Delburn Michael, VA
S Wilson, Charles, AK
Woodward, William, WY
Wright, Irving B., VA
York, Paul F., Australia
Zuehlike, David A., MO
Zytowski, Alan J., NY

S = sustaining membership

Deceased Members/Observers

Clyde, Robert, OH
Silhan, Jindra, Czech Republic
Sizensky, William S., NY
Smith, J. Russell, TX

AAVSO Nova Award Recipients (presented/announced at the 89th Annual meeting in Waltham, MA, October 28, 2000)

Robert O. Evans of Hazelbrook, New South Wales, Australia for his visual discovery of SN 2000cj in NGC 6753 on May 14.7 UT.

Alfredo Pereira of Linda-a-Velha, Portugal, for his independent visual discovery of Nova Aquilae 1999 No. 2 on December 1.785 UT.

Gary T. Nowak of Essex Junction, Vermont, for his independent visual discovery of Nova Aquilae 1999 No. 2 on December 1.958 UT.

AAVSO William Tyler Olcott Award Recipient (presented at the 89th Annual meeting in Waltham, MA, October 28, 2000)

David Levy of Vail, Arizona, was presented the first William Tyler Olcott Award for Promotion of and Public Education in Variable Star Astronomy.