



# In Memoriam:

Members, Observers, Colleagues



**Richard Crowe, Ph.D.**

Astronomer and co-founder  
of astronomy program at the  
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Extensive involvement in  
science education

Research in pulsating stars,  
stellar evolution,  
spectroscopy



**Roy A. Mimna, Ph.D.  
(MMA)**

AAVSO member/observer in  
1980-84, contributed 664  
observations to the AAVSO  
database

Comet hunter

Former president of the  
Mahoning Valley  
Astronomical Society



**Vi Royer**

Mother of AAVSO member/  
observer Msgr. Ron Royer  
(RR)

Frequent and cheerful  
AAVSO meeting attendee

Award-winning dancer,  
swimmer, and golfer

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Members, Observers, Colleagues



**Carl E. Feehrer**  
(solar initials FEEC)

AAVSO member and  
solar observer since 1998

Chair of the AAVSO Solar  
Division from 2000-06



**Romano Vivaldi**  
(VRM)

AAVSO observer since  
2003

Owner of Astronomical  
Observatory Val Pellice  
(OAVP)

President of Italian  
amateur observers group  
OAVP Associazione  
Astrofilii Urania

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Members, Observers, Colleagues



## J. Robert Buchler

Astronomer and professor at the University of Florida

Contributions to research on supernovae, pulsating stars, and fluid dynamics



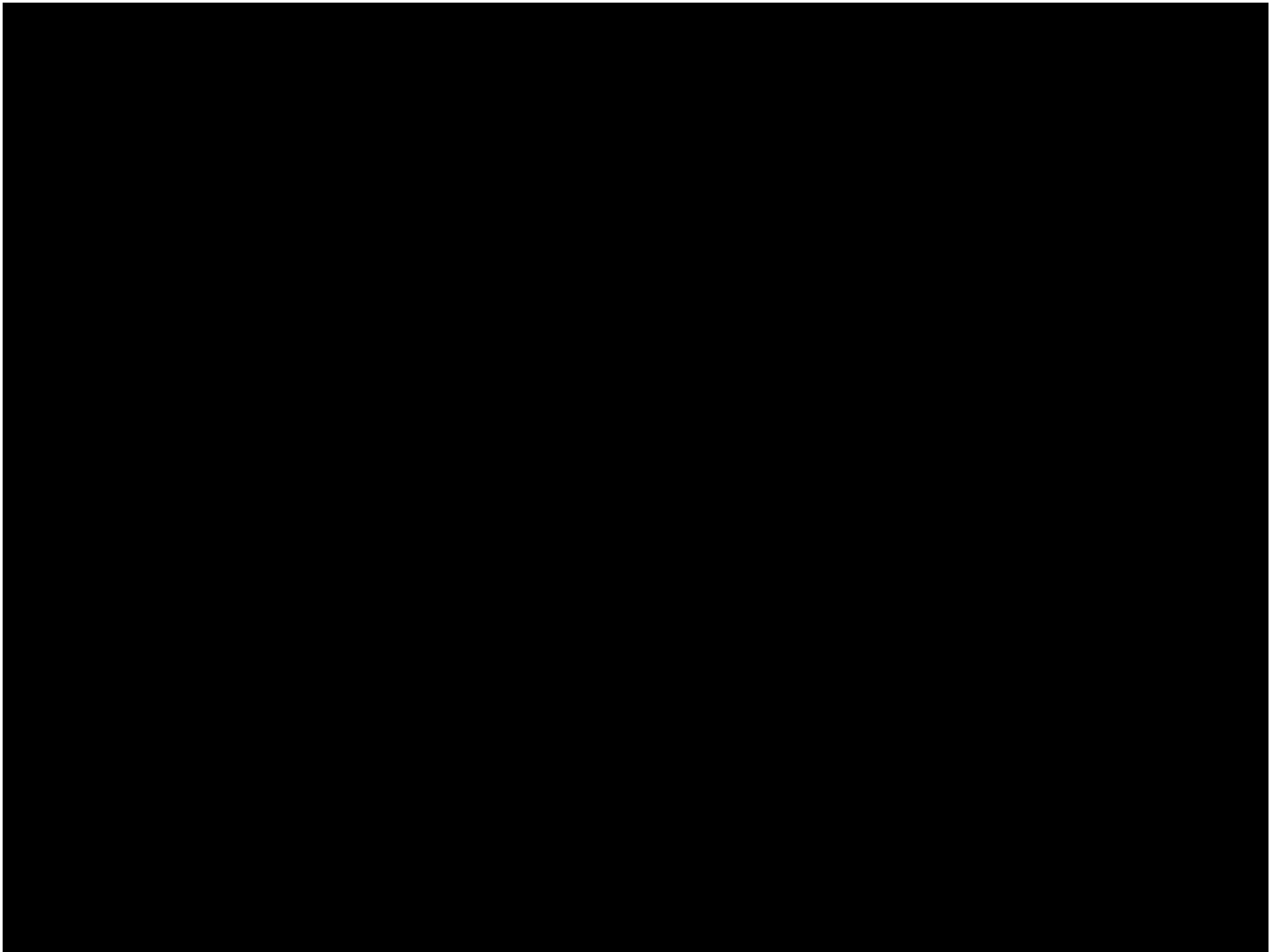
## Dr. Frank Kameny (KFE)

Former astronomer fired for revealing sexual orientation

Gay rights activist

Ph.D. thesis housed in AAVSO's MacAteer Library

Minor Planet 40463 discovered by Gary Billings (BGW) was named Frankkameny in his honor; citation written by AAVSO staff member Doc Kinne (KQR)



# Director's Report

## November 3, 2012



Arne Henden  
Director, AAVSO  
[arne@aavso.org](mailto:arne@aavso.org)



# New Member Summary

**April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012**

New Members: 110

=====

Members from US: 79

Members from abroad: 31

(from 15 countries)

=====

***New Members FY 2011/2012: 193***

(38 more than in FY 2010/2011!)

=====

Half-price membership promotion in April 2012 brought  
in **38** new members!

# New Members - 2012

October 1, 2011 - September 30, 2012

Annual: 152

=====

Members from US: 130

Members from abroad: 63

(from 20 countries)

13 female

=====

***Total Members FY 2012: 1194***



# Upcoming Meetings

- May 15-18,2013: Boone, NC (AppState)
- ~November 1-3: Woburn, MA

Appalachian State University  
Boone, NC

Hosted by Lee Hawkins and  
Dan Caton



DFM  
32-  
inch



Appalachian State University, Boone, NC



# Appalachian State University CAP Science Building

Southeast View from Rivers St.



Orion Sculpture in Foreground



Northeast View

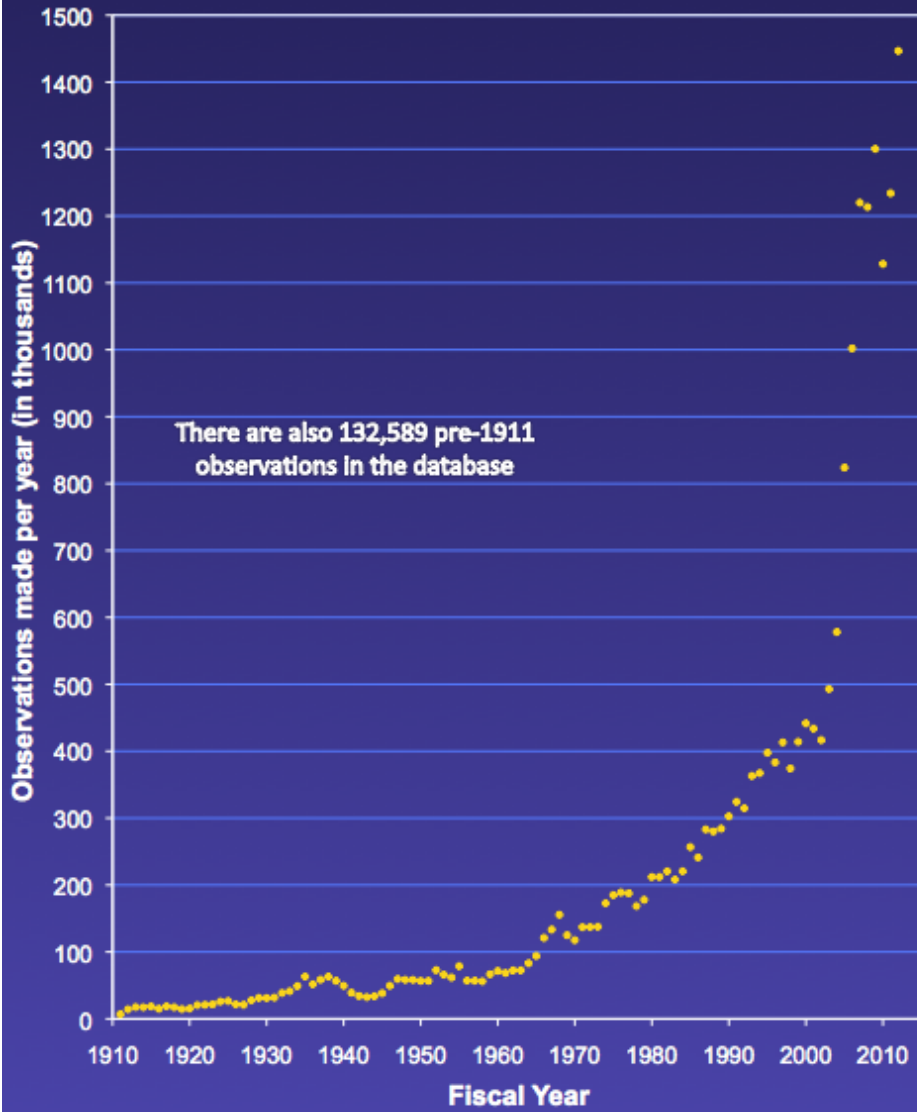


Lodging at the  
Holiday Inn

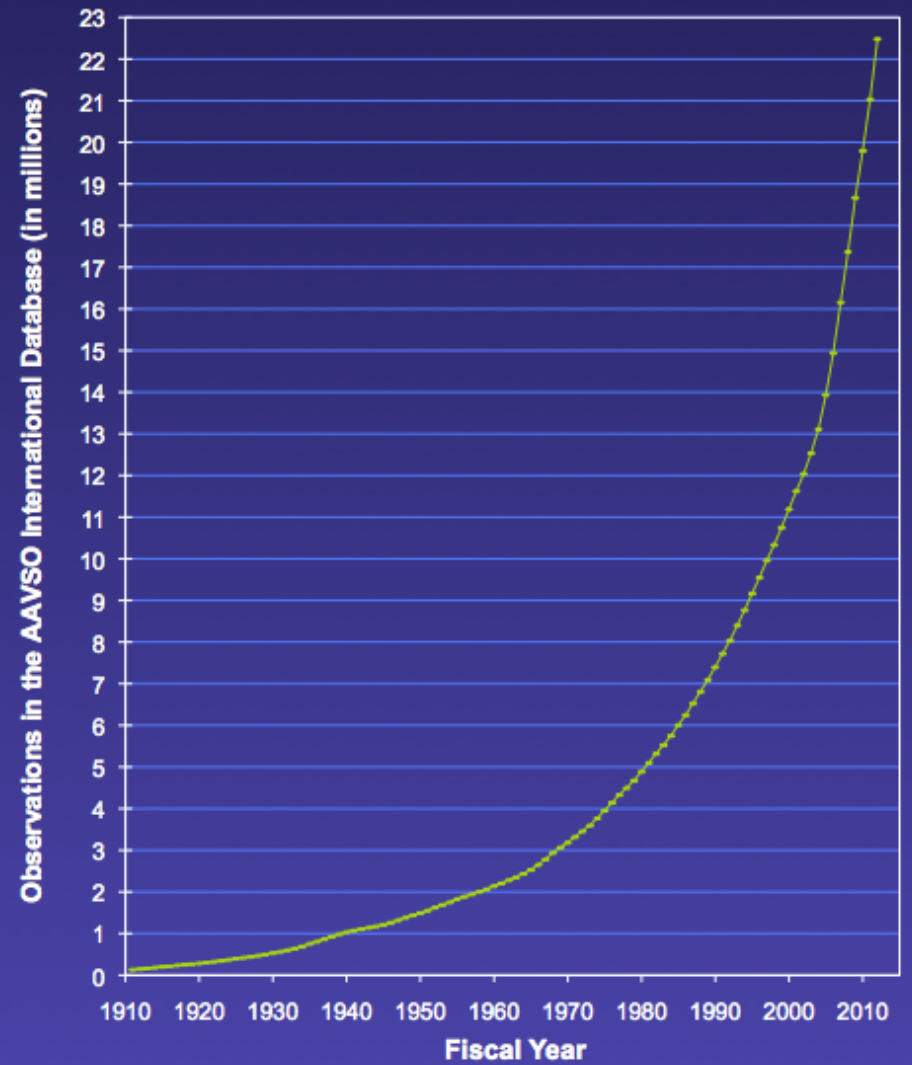


# Megasteps

### AAVSO Annual Observations 1911 - 2012



### Megasteps of the AAVSO 1911 - 2012



# Publications

- 608-page centennial issue for JAAVSO
- Eps Aur issue in progress
- Centennial annual report
- 22 Alert notices (incl. 15 campaigns)
- 43 special notices
- 4 newsletters

# APASS Data Release 6

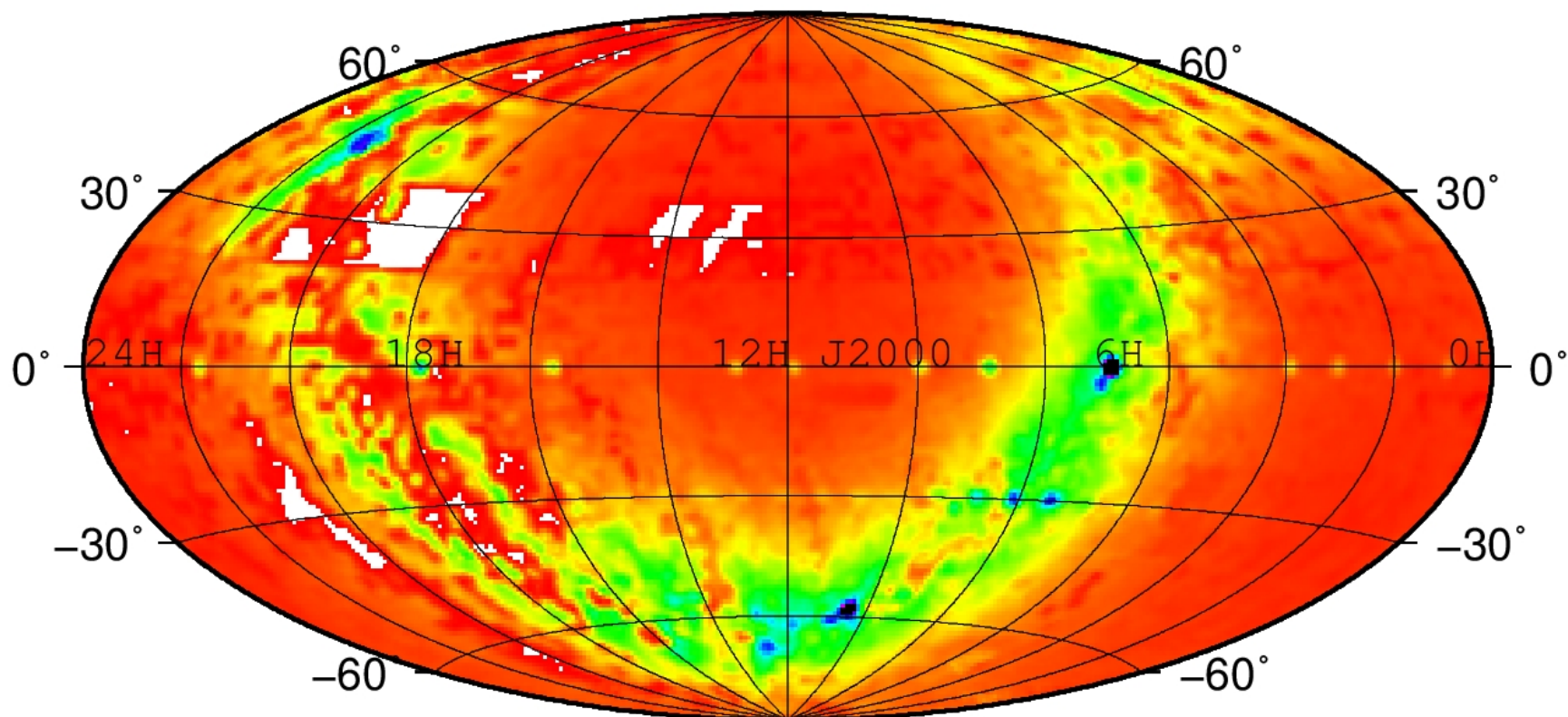
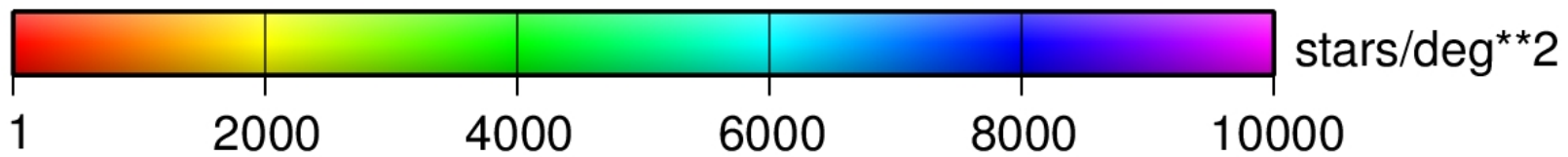
- All-sky photometric calibration, Johnson B&V and Sloan gri
- $10 < V < 17$ , 42 million stars
- Approx 95% sky coverage, 2x
- Press release at June AAS meeting
- <http://www.aavso.org/apass>

## APASS in Prompt6 clamshell





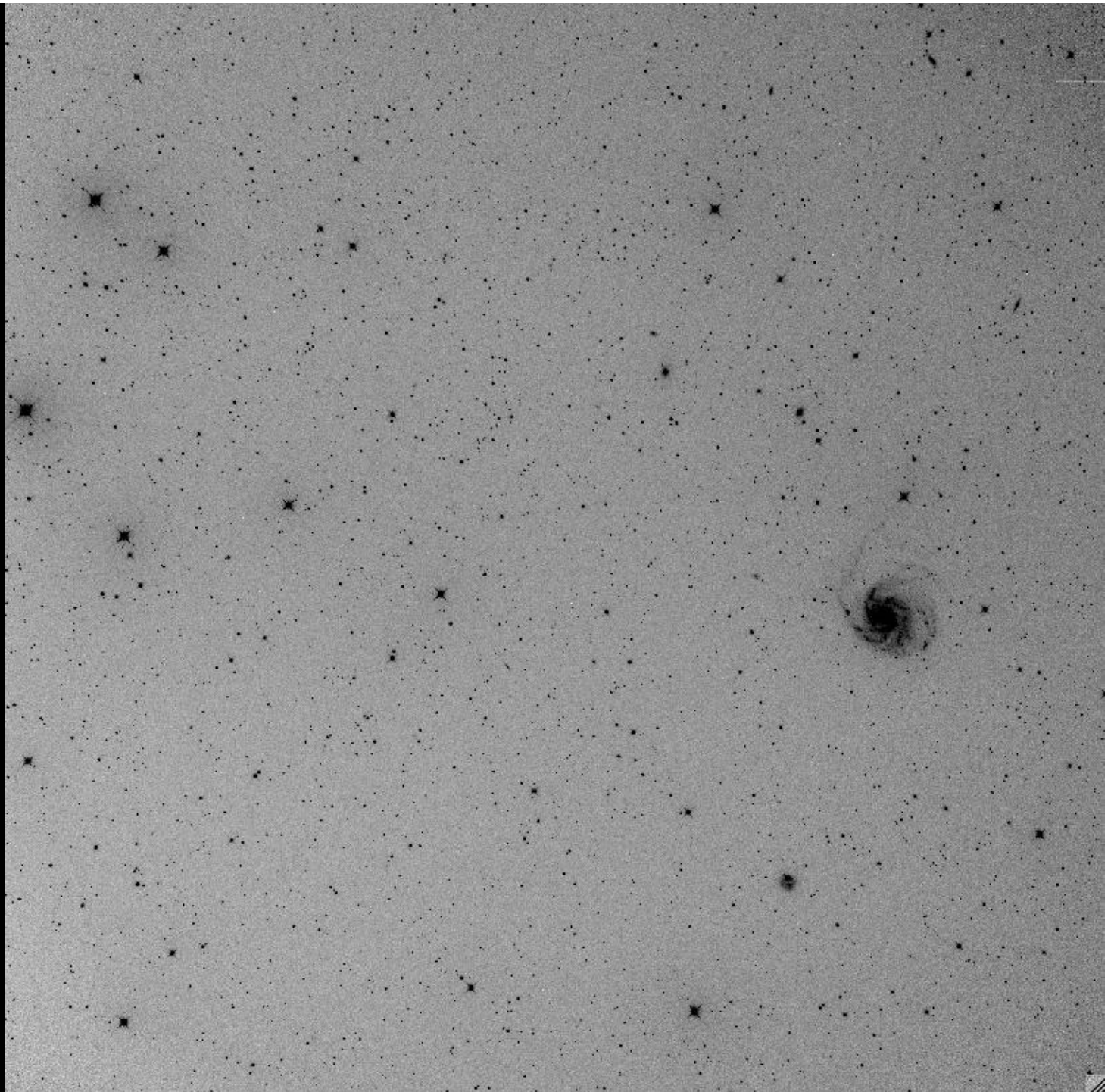
# APASS DR6



# APASS Images

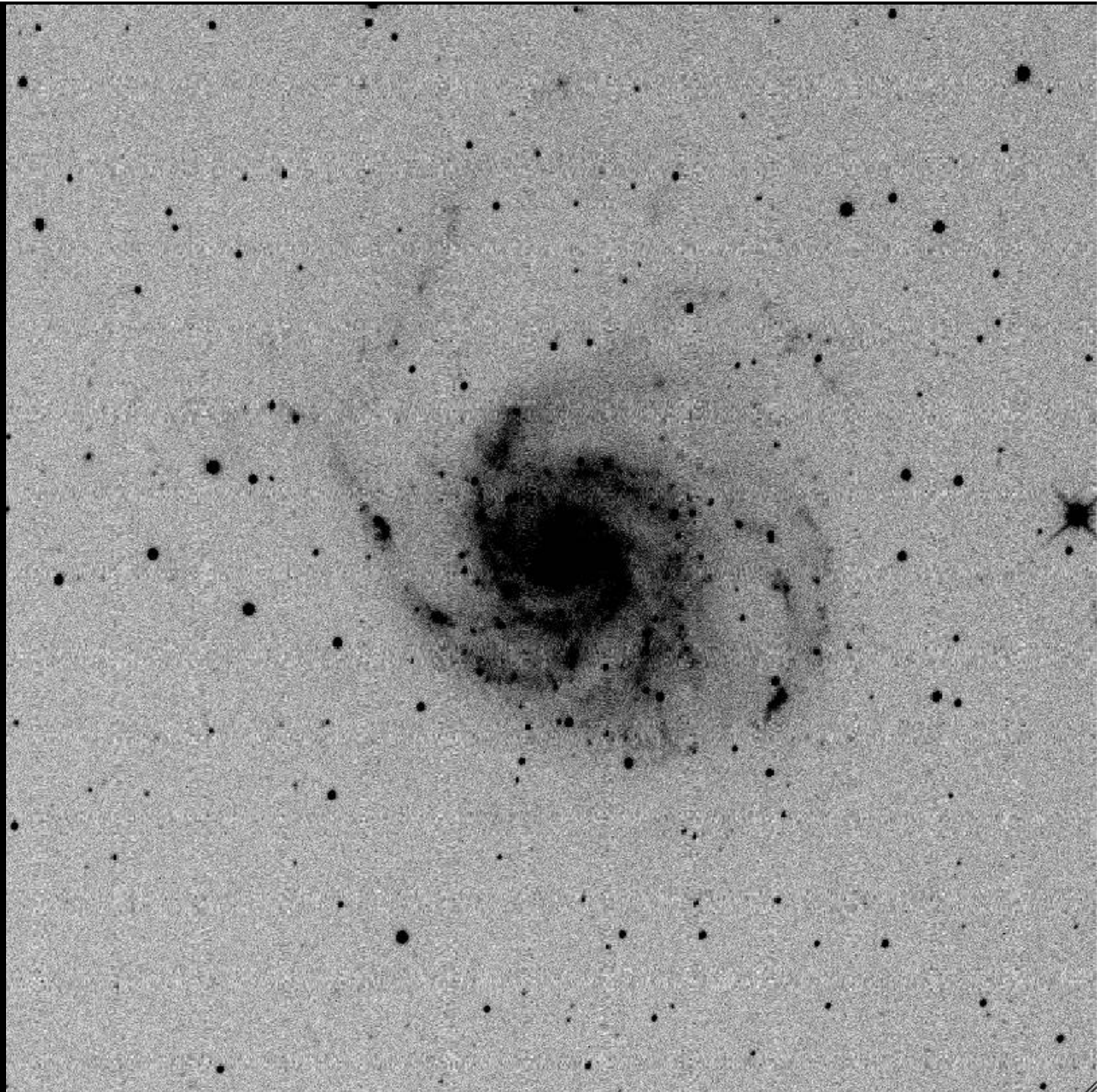
- 194,158 images from south
- 52,949 images from north
- Doug Welch and JJ Kavelaars (CADDC) archiving and making them accessible
- About halfway through the project

APASS  
M101 field  
Sloan g



M101  
October 2010

SN 2011fe  
24 Aug 2011

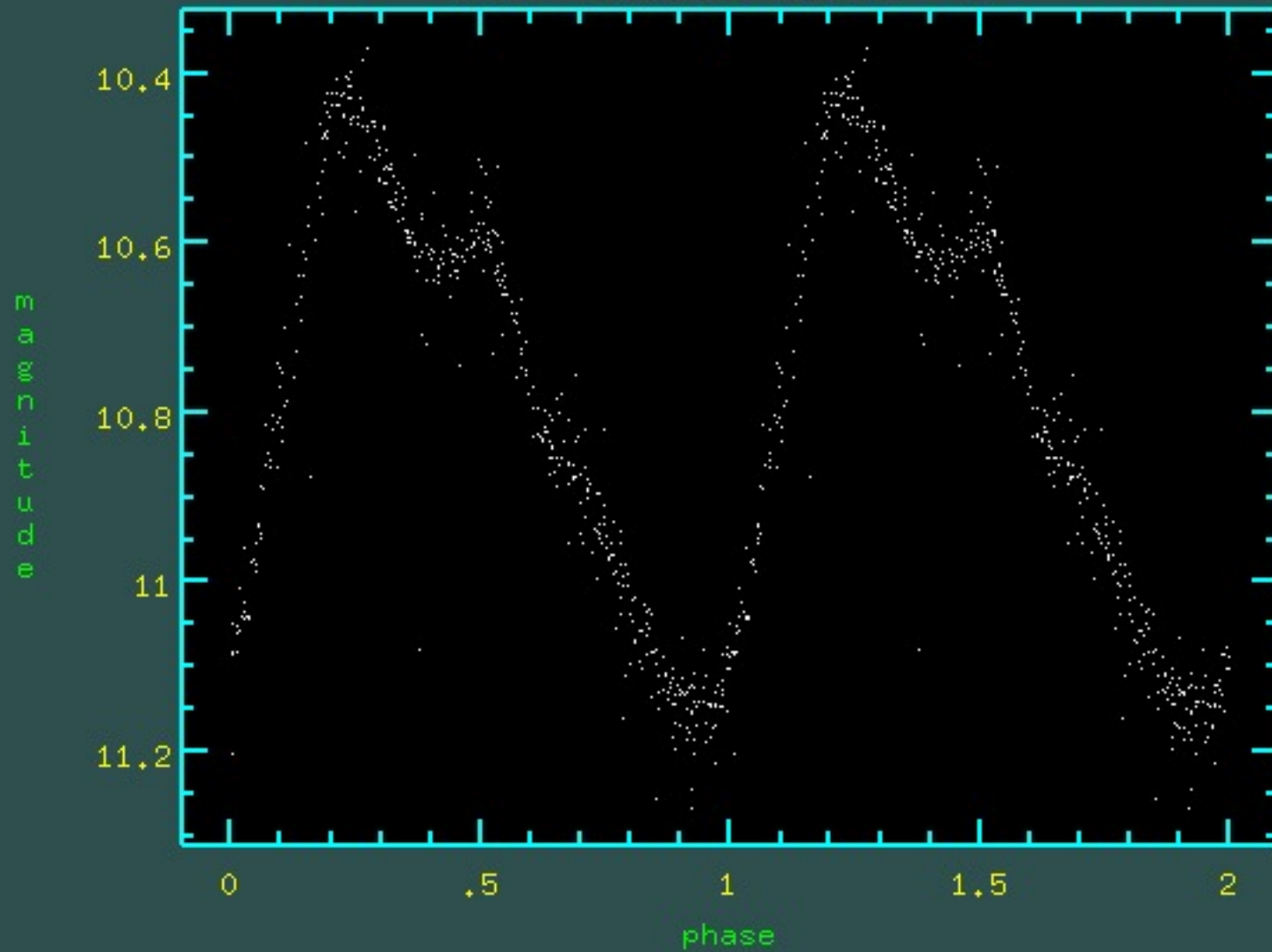


# APASS Epoch photometry

- North and south, all photometric survey nights from 2009-2012
- Approximately 861 million observations in database
- See Doug Welch's paper for more details

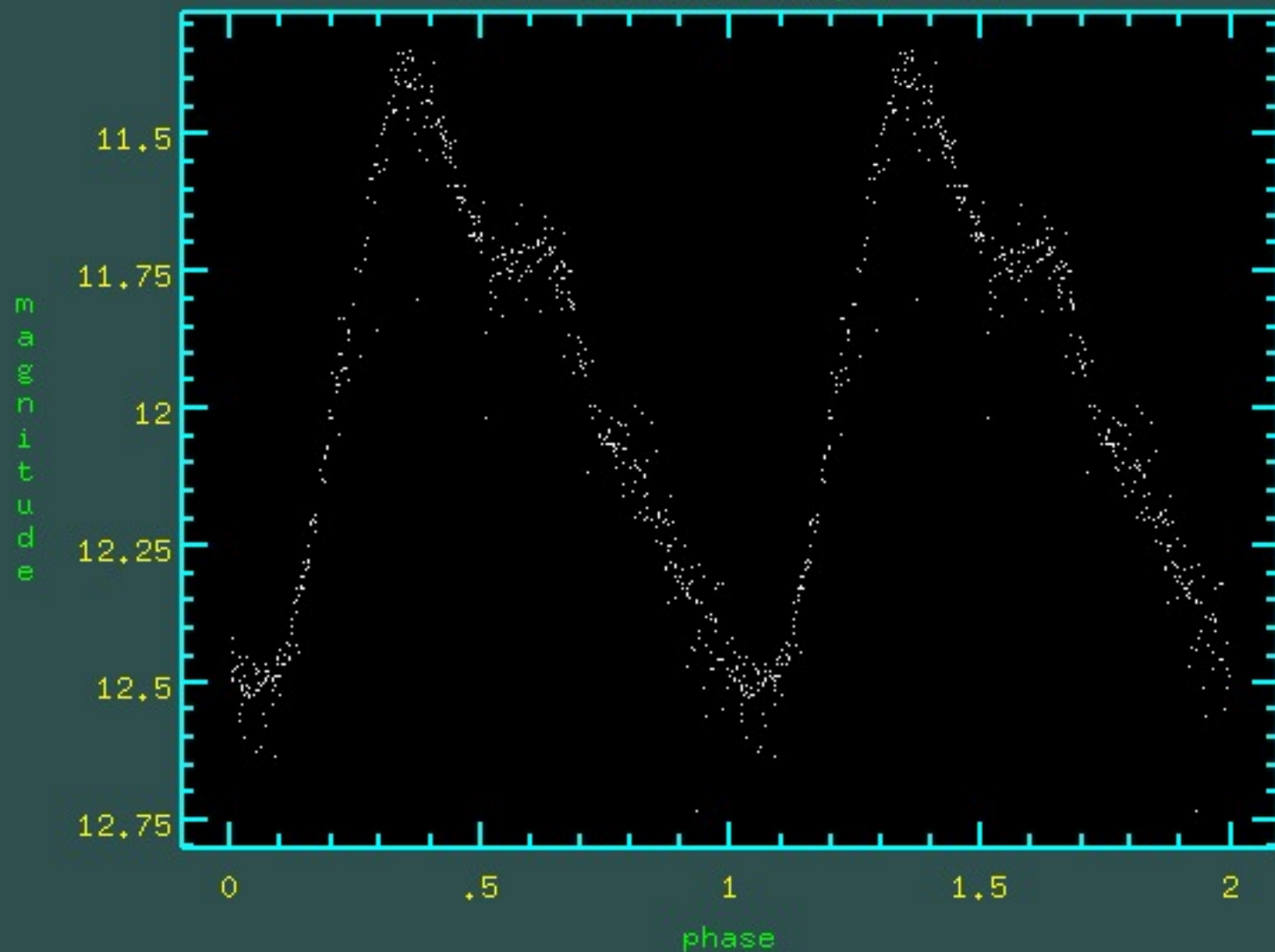
# Cepheid TZ Mon, Vband

NOAO/IRAF V2.14.1 welch@tombstone Mon 15:52:49 20-Aug-2012  
Phase curve at period 7.4301109314, frequency 0.1345874926  
File = TZ\_Mon.V, numpts = 467



# Cepheid TZ Mon, B band

NOAO/IRAF V2.14.1 welch@tombstone Mon 15:48:51 20-Aug-2012  
Phase curve at period 7.4280281067, frequency 0.134625231  
File = TZ\_Mon.B, numpts = 468



# BSM Epoch photometry

- North system only for v1.0
- Only fields where decent calibration is available (approx 1/2 of total); ensemble photometry zeropointing
- 14 million BV or BVRI datasets
- <http://www.aavso.org/bright-star-monitor-epoch-photometry-database>



## BSM epoch photometry database query form

Star name:

Note: supercedes coordinates below

RA:

Decl.:

Radius (degrees)

RHJD: (HJD-2400000)

Min:

Max:

Magnitude Range (V):

Bright V:

Faint V:

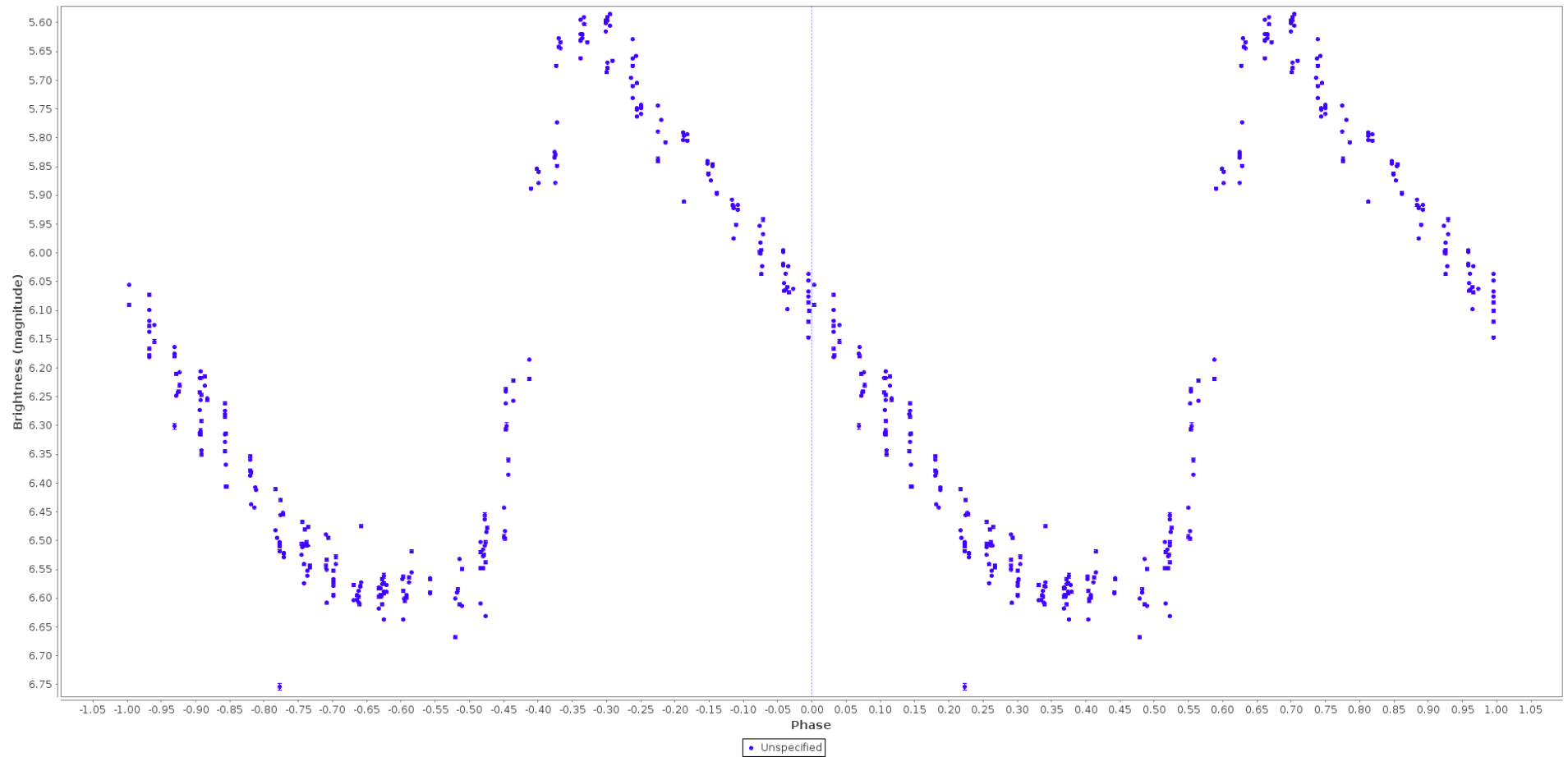
Include non-photometric data:  Yes

No

- HTML output
- CSV output
- VStar (simple format) output

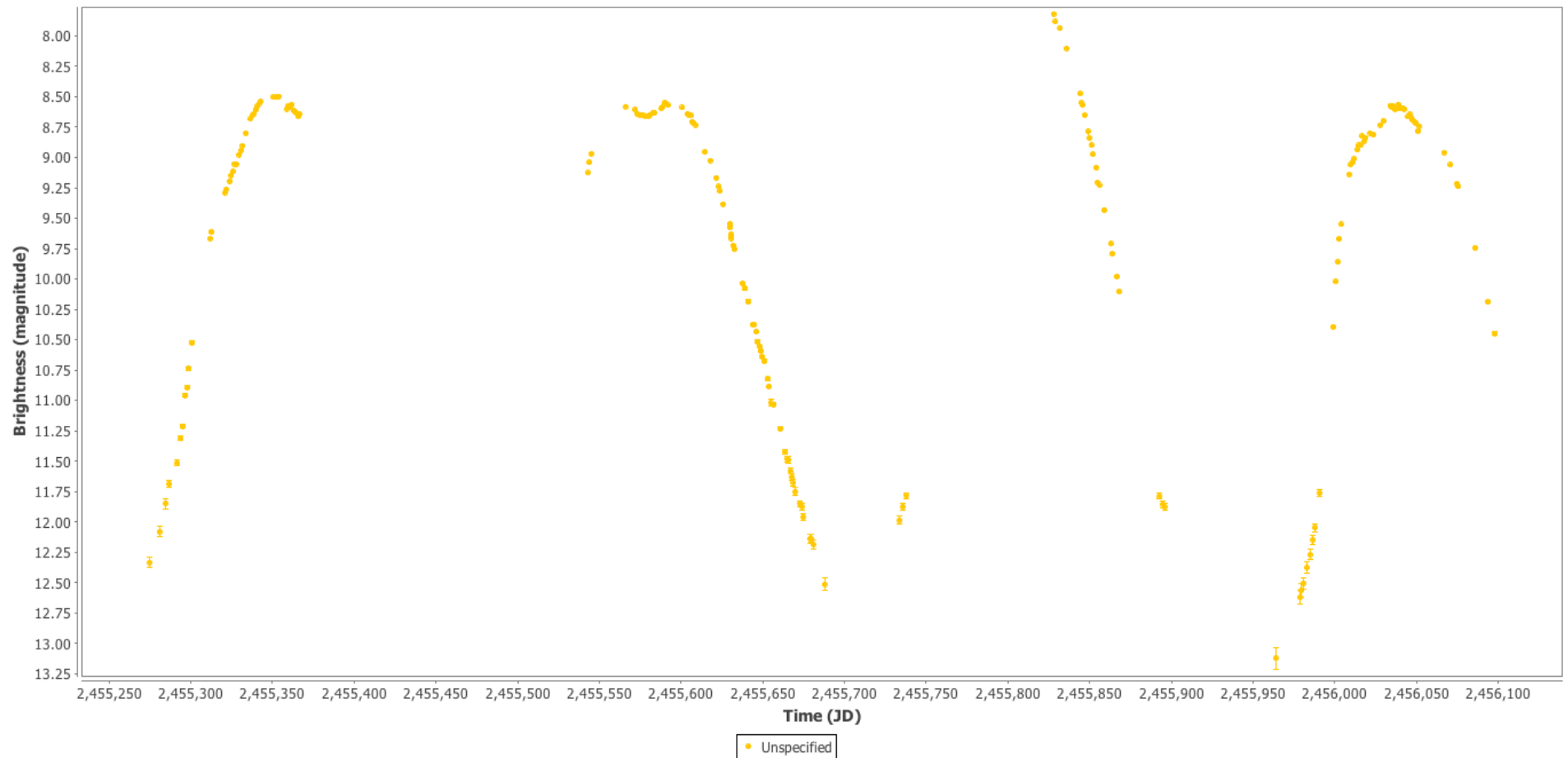
# Cepheid T Mon V-band phase plot raw

Phase Plot for tmon\_v.csv  
period: 27.00175000, epoch: 2455578.74970



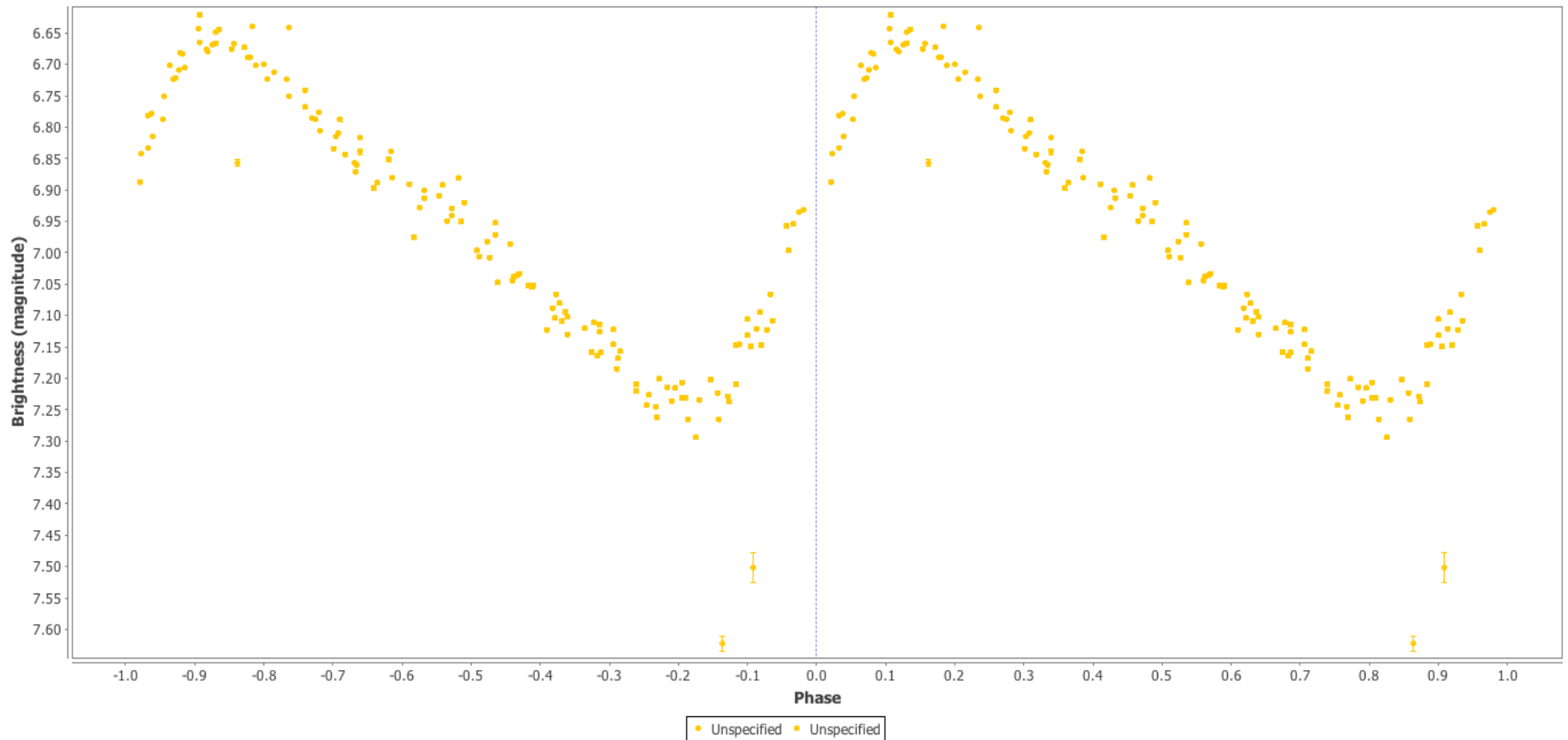
# Mira S Lmi V band only

Light Curve for bsm\_148.42987000\_34.92650000\_0.0011.csv



# Cepheid BB Sgr phase plot

Phase Plot for bsm\_282.74946000\_-20.29522000\_0.0011.csv  
period: 6.636990, epoch: 2455678.48010



# AAVSO 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Synoptic Sky Survey

- Follow-on to APASS
- Simultaneous 2-color,  $10 < V < 17$
- First telescope arrived at HQ over summer
- 2<sup>nd</sup> telescope due Nov 23

2GSS prototype building, Anderson Mesa, Lowell



# Aaron Price leaves AAVSO!

- Last day June 30
- Currently manager, research and evaluation, Chicago Museum of Science and Industry
- Continuing work on his 2eyes, 3D grant with the AAVSO

## Going-away party





# 4th Janet Mattei Research Fellowship

- Ulisse Munari
- Aug 23 - Sept 24 at HQ
- Working on:
  - RAVE-APASS  
paper
  - Landolt-APASS  
comparison
  - RR Lyrs in Aqr  
stream
  - ANS amateur  
consortium
  - Varese observatory



# AAVSONet news

- BSM-NM being relocated to Bill Stein (Stars End Estates)
- BSM-CA nearing first light
- BSM-Berry ready for HQ installation
- W30 being relocated to Bill Goff (CA)
- W28 possibly relocated to Lowell

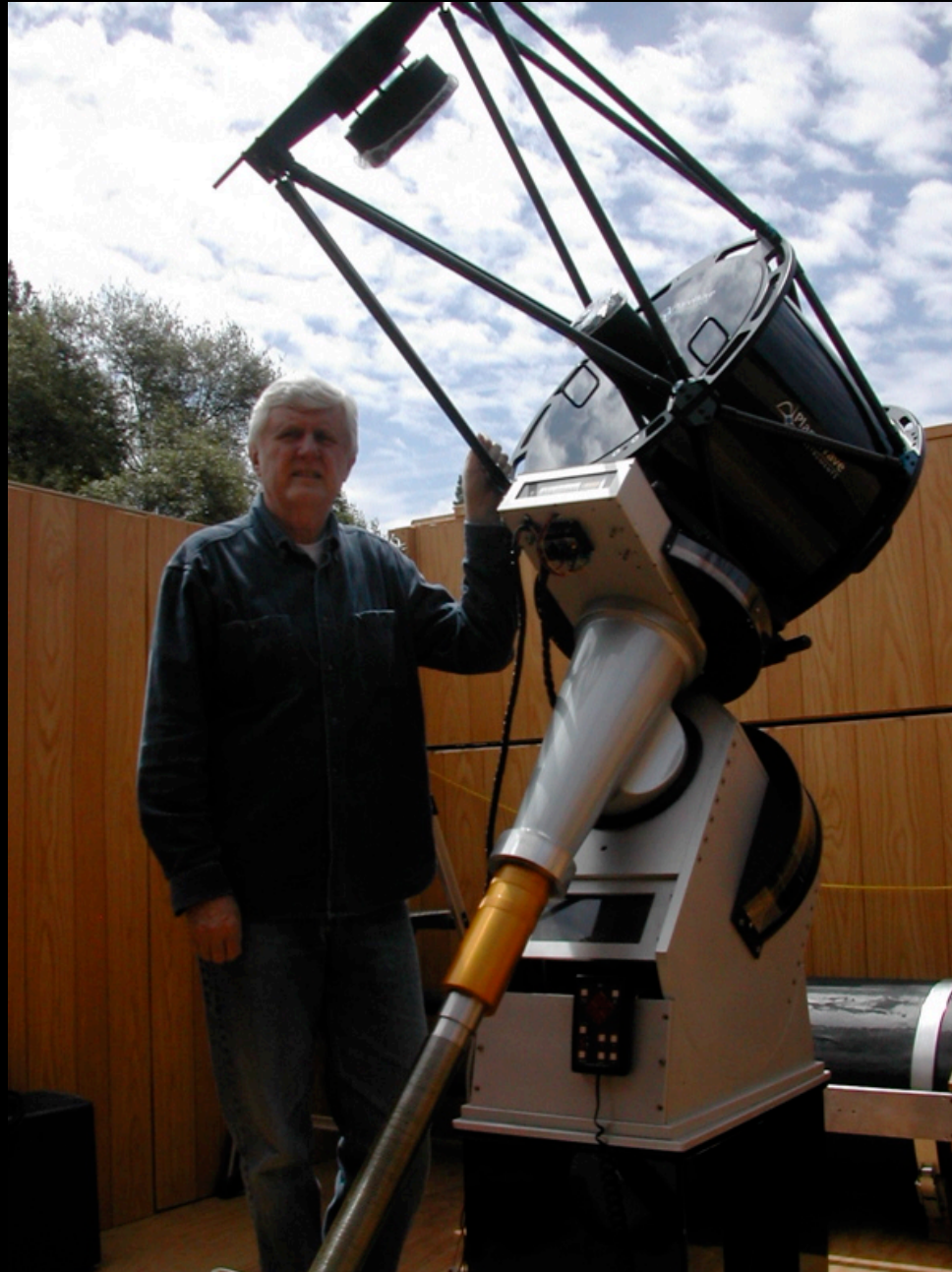
# Stine observatory BSM\_CA



## Stein observatory



## Goff observatory



## Anderson mesa roll-off



## AAVSONet news - 2

- Arne going to NZ mid-November to work on 24-inch
- Matt working with Jon Holtzman to get NMSU 24-inch operational
- Matt working with Ido Bareket to get Bareket operational
- Decision regarding BSM-AR

# Telescope Allocation Committee

- Policy and Procedures manual developed by Krajci, Starkey, Bedient, Simonsen
- Dirk Terrell (chair); Sebastian Otero, Tim Crawford, Doug Welch
- Review science, both at submission time and annually
- Work with telescope operators



# All-Sky Cameras

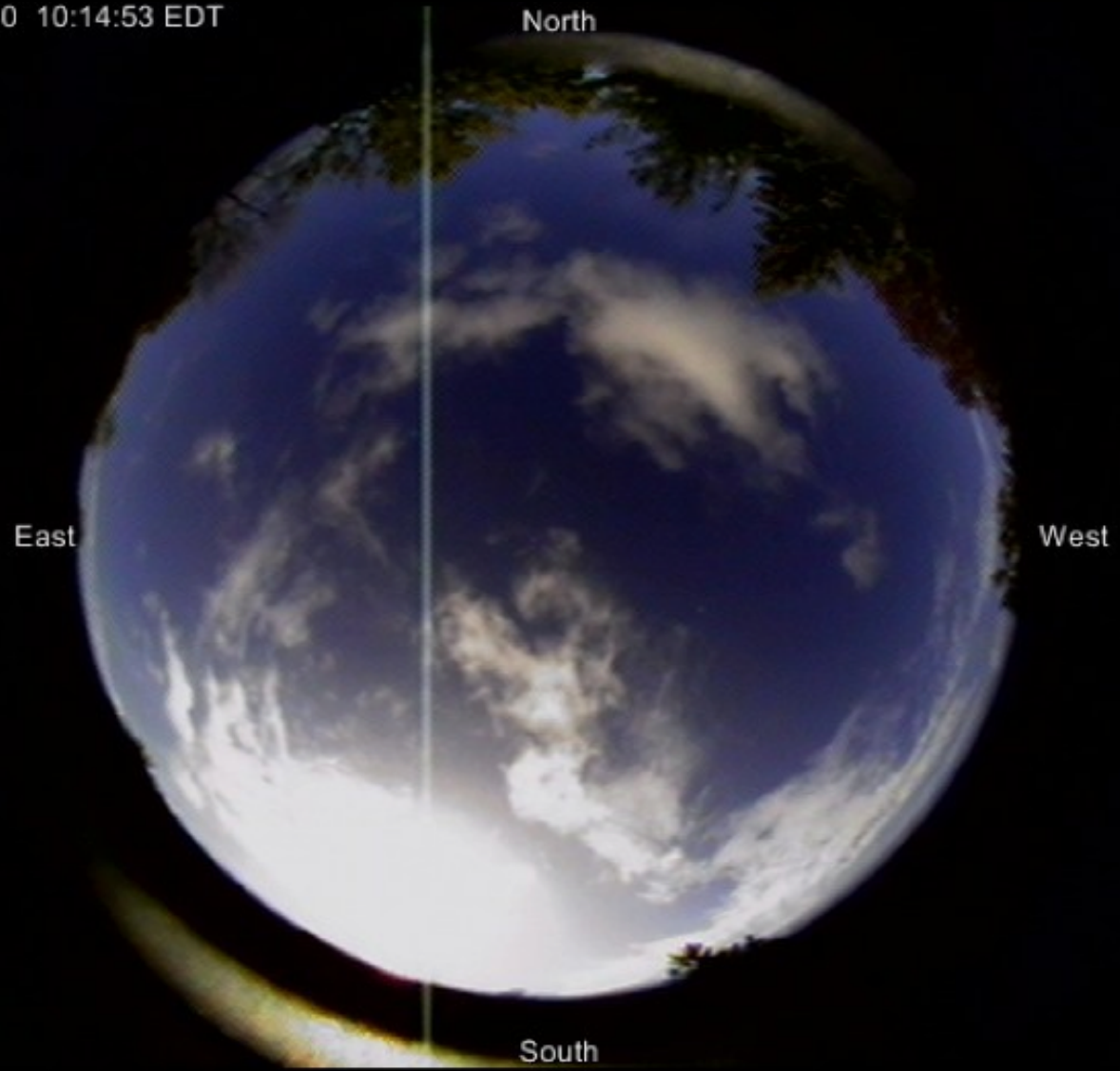
- CCD School attendees donate for all-sky cloud camera for CTIO
- Sufficient funds to also purchase different all-sky camera for HQ (BSM-Berry)
- Will test before upgrading other sites

HQ all-sky  
Moonglow



2012 Oct 30 10:14:53 EDT

Moonglow  
software and  
web site



2012 Oct 30 10:14:53 EDT



Orion starshoot allsky camera for CTIO



# Construction update

- Condos across street completed
- New fence and landscaping at Rosebrough Residence
- HQ parking lot repaved

## Condo construction (modular units)



# Finished condos



## Condos from end, showing landscaping





## New residence fence and landscaping



Residence side yard





# Alpha Turkonis



# CCD School

- July 30-August 3, 2012
- Tufts University
- Twenty 1.5hr lectures over 5 days
- All aspects of CCD photometry, from basic sensors, calibration, astrophysics, statistics, observing practices
- Will be given again 2013, but at HQ
- <http://www.aavso.org/aavso-ccd-school>

## CCD School attendees



## Amazon Cloud website

kqr



Online

Posted: July 20, 2012 - 12:54pm

Folks:

After six successful tests both yesterday and today, we are going to move the AAVSO website to the Cloud starting at **1200UTC (8:00AM Eastern Time) on Wednesday, 25 July.**

New analysis computer  
(occam)

20TB disk space  
dual quad-core





# Schiaparelli Observatory

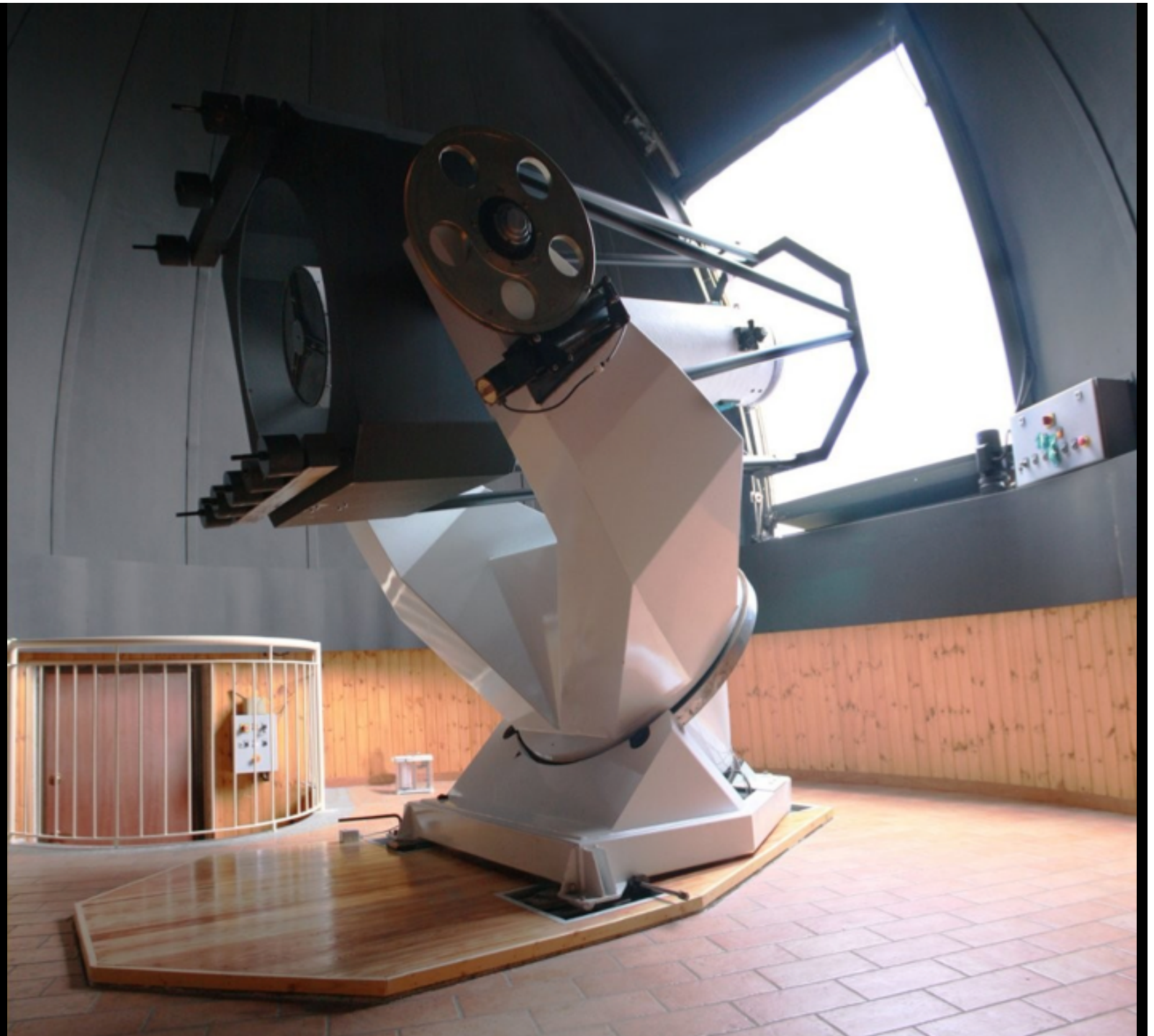
- Varese, Italy (Paolo Valisa)
- Suggestion by Ulisse Munari that they were looking for a mirror
- Contact with Mario Motta, who had spare 80cm mirror
- Donation of mirror to AAVSO; delivery to Varese paid by Italians; we get time on the telescope
- website: [www.astrogeo.va.it/astronomia/astronomia.php](http://www.astrogeo.va.it/astronomia/astronomia.php)

Observatory dome (Monte Rosa 4634m in background)





telescope





# Mike Mattei annual cookout

- September 2012
- Spaghetti in honor of Munari's
- Perfect weather



# Awards

- Digitizer
  - 3 at 2500
  - 2 at 7500
  - 1 at 50000
- Solar Observer
  - Sunspot
    - 1 at 3000
  - SID: 2
- Other awards given out Saturday (Olcott, Merit, Special)



# Thanks!

- To the many volunteers on projects like APASS, or stuffing envelopes, or writing software
- To the hundreds of observers who contribute annual observations
- To the writers of blog and forum posts
- To those that contribute funds or expertise in other ways
- To the council that helps guide the path we follow
- And especially to the staff of hard-working souls that keep this organization vibrant