MINUTES OF THE 88TH SPRING MEETING OF THE AAVSO, HELD JULY 3, 1999, AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, CANADA

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The AAVSO Finance Committee and Council met in Cambridge, MA, on May 2, 1999.

The Membership Meeting on Saturday, July 3, was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by President Gary Walker. He thanked our fellow co-hosts: Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP), Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC), and the local hosts.

Martha Hazen, Secretary, gave a summary of the minutes of the 87th Annual Meeting of the AAVSO. The minutes were accepted as summarized.

Ted Wales presented the semiannual report by Treasurer Wayne Lowder. Ted noted the large increase in investment income due to changes in the distribution of investments. He also mentioned that we still have fairly large cash balances, which bodes well for the future.

The president of ASP, Frank Bash, joined us to give a brief welcoming speech.

The following Committee reports were read:

CCD	Gary Walker, Chair
Chart Distribution	Janet Mattei, Director
Eclipsing Binary	Marvin Baldwin, Chair
New and Preliminary Charts	Charles Scovil, Chair
Nova Search	Kenneth Beckmann, Chair *(Report read by Tom Cragg)*
Photoelectric Photometry	Howard Landis, Chair *(Report read by Ray Thompson)*
RR Lyrae	Marvin Baldwin, Chair
Solar Division & SID	Joseph Lawrence, Chair
Supernova Search	Robert Evans, Chair *(Report read by Louis Cox)*
Telescope	Charles Scovil, Chair

Gary Walker expressed his warm thanks to the chairs of the committees, and to the observers.

Director Mattei read the report of new membership applications approved by the Council on May 2, 1999. Fifty-three applicants were accepted: 46 adults, 3 junior, and 4 sponsored. Thirty-nine were from the United States, and 14 were foreign. *Sky & Telescope*, other books and magazines, and the website accounted for over half of the new applicants. It is also interesting to note that 60% of the applications were submitted through the web page.

Janet Mattei reported that in the last 6 months two members had died: Johannes L. Jooste of South Africa, and Thomas C. McGlinn of Oregon. Also, she announced the decease of member Chuck Fausel's wife, Suellen Fausel, and of astronomer and close friend of the AAVSO Barry Lasker, of the Space Telescope Science Institute. All members present stood for a moment of silence in their memory.

Director Mattei then discussed plans for future meetings. The 88th Annual Meeting will be held in Hyannis, MA, on October 28–31, 1999. The Spring Meeting in 1999 will be held in Huntsville, AL, at the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center. Dr. Gerald Fishman will be the local host. The meeting will include a first-ever workshop for amateurs on the high-energy universe; this would be held for 2 or 3 days immediately before or after the regular AAVSO meeting. The date will be the last week in April or the first week in May. Future possible meeting sites include Madison, WI, and Hawaii.

President Walker presented a report on the Council meeting. Nominations for election to the Council in the fall were presented. He also announced that new awards were approved by the Council: milestone awards for the Solar Division observers, and a Distinguished Service Award, to be awarded by the Council after solicitation of nominations from the membership.

Following a short break, Randy Attwood, President of the RASC, spoke a few words of greeting on behalf of that organization.

Director Janet Mattei presented her semiannual report. Some of the highlights were:

a) A more robust and secure website is now operational.
b) Over 600 Preliminary charts (00–11 hours) are now on the web.
c) Dissemination of HOA has been expanded both nationally and internationally.

Janet also discussed data management and processing, publications, requests for data, awards, and grants received.

There being no other business, the formal membership meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

After a break for a photograph and lunch, the Scientific Paper session opened at 1:00 p.m. Seven oral papers and five poster papers were presented. A list of these follows these minutes.

At 4:15 p.m. Dr. Geoff Marcy, the discoverer of several planets around solar-like stars, presented the Ruth Northcott Lecture on "The Revolution in Planetary Systems."

In the evening, a gala awards banquet was held in conjunction with ASP and RASC. AAVSO Observer Awards were presented to 21 observers, and this year's Director's Award was presented to Charles E. Scovil for his tireless efforts in chart making.

Papers presented at the Scientific Paper Session on Saturday, July 3, 1999

Marvin Baldwin	Examining Prediction Elements for 23 Southern RR Lyrae Stars
Hideo Sato Keiichi Saijo Kazuo Yoshioka	Photometric and Polarimetric Observations of VV Cephei
Richard W. Schmude, Jr.	Is RX Cep a Variable Star?
Glenn Gombert	Automated Photometric Reduction of Wide-Field Variable Star Data
Jonathan Hoss David Kolin Liz Nelson John Percy	Studies of Yellow Supergiant Variable Stars
David H. Levy	Tombaugh's Star: A Historical Summary of the Cataclysmic Variable TV Corvi
Osao Shigehisa	The Story of the Sock's Star—A Bright Nova [CP Pup] Discovered by a School-Girl in the War Time

Poster papers

Jaime Rubin Garcia	Nova Velorum 1999 from South America
Raymond R. Thompson	Amplitude Changes in Semiregular Variables
Frederick R. West	A Suggested Search for Partial Eclipses in the Nearby Binary Star Gliese 793.1
Diego Rodriguez	Peak SN Luminosities and Cosmological Distance Determinations
Devi Soondarsingh John Percy	Results of AAVSO PEP Observations of RS Cvn Stars

List of New Members Accepted at the Spring Meeting, July 3, 1999

Anderson, David Eugene, ME
Attanasio, Antonio, Italy
Beesley, Thaxton, CO
Bhathal, Ragbir S., Australia
Bishop, Barry, CA
S Bryja, Claia, MO
Chilingirian, Stephen J., FL
Crosina, Enrico, Italy
Dodder, Steven, AZ
Donahue, Robert A., MA
Doyle, Chet, IL
S Dukes Jr., Robert J., SC
Evans, Glenn, ME
Fadda, Maurizio, Italy
Ficht, Joseph F., TX
Fish, Warren, CA
Flatter, Warren D., TN
Fontalba, Jacques, France
Gill, Robert M., CA
Grim, Bruce Simpson, UT
Gruppo Monte Zugna, Italy
Habison, Peter, Austria
Haslett II, George F., MI
Hernandez Ramirez, Francisco, Spain
Holt, Stephen M., VA
Hurdis, David A., RI
Hynes, Michael V., CA
Johnson, Richard, MN
Karel, Dennis F., MN
Katzenberger, Fred, AZ
S Kroll, Peter, Germany
Lammon, Donald J., NV
Lammon, Gregory Donald, NV
Le Foll, Marc, France
Lebofsky, Larry, AZ
Lopez, Lawrence, NH
McHugh, Paul Henry, N. Ireland
Neill, Robert, UT
Neznanski, Lawrence S., ID
Otero, Sebastian Alberto, Argentina
Pasek, Joseph R., CA
Payne, Michael, FL
Pisarcik Jr., James Michael, NJ
Rhodes, Brad E., GA
Salati, Andrea, Italy
Salido, Javier, FL
Shung, Lam Wai, Hong Kong
Simonsen, Michael A., MI
Steele, Hugh C., WI
Stotz, Donald J., TX
Titone, Michael C., AK
S Young, James W. and Karen A., CA
Williams, James, CA

S = Sustaining Member

List of Members Changing from Annual to Sustaining

Davis, Jack F., MD

List of Deceased Members/Observers/Friends

Fausel, Suellen, IN
Jooste, Johannes L., South Africa
Lasker, Barry, MD
McGlinn, Thomas C., OR

AAVSO OBSERVER AWARDS

Presented at the 87th Spring Meeting, Boulder, Colorado, June 18–21, 1998, and the 88th Spring Meeting, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, July 1–5, 1999

Boulder

Over 250,000 Observations

none

Over 50,000 Observations

Michael Moeller	Germany	1985-97	51,758

Over 25,000 Observations

Lasse Teist Jensen	Denmark	1992-97	34,017
Jerome F. McKenna	USA	1981-97	25,136

Over 10,000 Observations

Ronald E. Zissell	USA	1985-97	14,557
Thomas A.Burrows	USA	1993-97	13,712
Frank Vohla	Germany	1989-97	12,717
Robert A. James	USA	1953-97	10,742
A. Patrick Abbott	Canada	1982-97	10,660
Ian A. Middlemist	England	1985-97	10,046
Eric Broens	Belgium	1987-97	10,004

*Over 10,000 PEP/CCD Observations**

Stephen P. Cook	USA	1965-97	11,558	C
Ronald E. Zissell	USA	1985-97	11,350	C&P

*Over 5,000 PEP/CCD Observations**

none

*Over 2,500 PEP/CCD Observations**

Lasse Teist Jensen	Denmark	1992-97	4,287	C
Roger Diethelm	Switzerland	1966-97	3,247	C&P
Kenneth D. Luedeke	USA	1988-97	2,813	P

*Over 1,000 PEP/CCD Observations**

none

Toronto

Over 250,000 Observations

M. Daniel Overbeek	S. Africa	1952-98	267,371

Over 50,000 Observations

Gary Poyner	England	1990-98	58,495
Georg Comello	Netherlands	1966-98	52,192
Bjoern H. Granslo	Norway	1975-98	52,106
Alfons Diepvens	Belgium	1985-98	50,393
Sergio Dominguez	Argentina	1987-98	50,128

Over 25,000 Observations

Gene A. Hanson, II	USA	1980-98	35,412
Richard W. Schmude, Jr.	USA	1994-98	30,067

Over 10,000 Observations

Liebert A. G. Monard	S. Africa	1991-98	15,650
Marino Fonovich	Croatia	1990-98	11,667
Robert J. Johanns	Netherlands	1990-98	11,539
Frans R. Van Loo	Belgium	1976-98	11,384
Dieter Suessmann	Germany	1973-98	11,306
Philip L. Dombrowski	USA	1983-98	10,778
Roger Diethelm	Switzerland	1966-98	10,634
Jan A. Smit	S. Africa	1986-98	10,315
Johan Van Der Looy	Belgium	1990-98	10,277
Timothy W. Atkin	USA	1981-98	10,249

*Over 10,000 PEP/CCD Observations**

Lasse Teist Jensen	Denmark	1992-98	10,136	C

*Over 5,000 PEP/CCD Observations**

Roger Diethelm	Switzerland	1966-98	5,486	C&P

*Over 2,500 PEP/CCD Observations**

none

*Over 1,000 PEP/CCD Observations**

Sergio Dallaporta	Italy	1994-98	1,030	P

* Years include total AAVSO observing interval (not only PEP/CCD observing).
Total includes PEP (P) and/or CCD (C) observations only (not observer's visual contributions).

AAVSO DIRECTOR'S AWARD

Presented at the 87th Spring Meeting, Boulder, Colorado, June 18–21, 1998, to Gene A. Hanson, II, USA.

Presented at the 88th Spring Meeting, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, July 1–5, 1999, to Charles E. Scovil, USA.