

## INTRODUCTION

The First European Meeting of the AAVSO, held in Brussels, Belgium, between July 24 and 28, 1990, was a milestone event in the history of the Association. This meeting, attended by about 170 amateur and professional astronomers, provided an excellent forum for very fruitful discussions between observers who contribute valuable observations of variable stars and astronomers who are users of these data. This Meeting was also unique for it brought together representatives of variable star observers' groups from around the world, and provided them with opportunities for the exchange of ideas and further cooperation and collaboration. Our sincere thanks go to the attendees and to the members of the Scientific Organizing, Regional, and Local Committees who helped to make this meeting a real success.

The schedule of this five-day meeting was full, with invited and contributed presentations and poster papers. The topics covered all aspects of variable star observations and research. The Proceedings of this meeting, titled *Variable Star Research - an International Perspective*, and Volume 19, Numbers 1 and 2, of this *Journal* are devoted to the presentations at the Brussels meeting.

The Proceedings, containing the longer presentations, is being published by Cambridge University Press, and will be distributed to the attendees of the Meeting free of charge, as part of their registration materials. Members who could not attend this Meeting will be able to purchase the Proceedings through the AAVSO. The contents of the Proceedings are listed on page 110.

Volume 19, Number 1, of the *Journal* contains the majority of the scientific papers. Volume 19, Number 2 (this issue), contains the remainder of the scientific papers, the Reports from the representatives of variable star observers' Associations from around the world, the Reports of AAVSO Committee Chairmen, the Treasurer's Report, and my Annual Report.

The two issues of Volume 19 of the *Journal* have a new look to them, published in a new format and produced using computer-based scanners, optical character recognition (OCR), and drawing software. We are grateful to Charles A. Whitney, our Editor, for initiating these new undertakings and contributing so generously of his time in preparing the materials for publication. Our sincere thanks go the Elizabeth O. Waagen, our Associate Editor, for her careful work, to Tanja E. Foulds, our Editorial Assistant, who has been responsible for the production of the *Journal*, and to Charles E. Scovil and Robert J. Leitner for their contribution in preparing the texts and the figures of the papers using OCR and computer-based scanner. We thank all the authors for their valuable contributions.

Janet A. Mattei  
Director

## Papers in the Proceedings of the First European Meeting of the AAVSO

- International Cooperation and Coordination in Astronomical Research - A. Blaauw**
- History and Organization**
- Variable Stars: A Historical Perspective - *J. R. Percy*
- Some Little Known Variable Star Astronomers from Around the World - *T. R. Williams*
- AAVSO and Variable Star Observing - *J. A. Mattei*
- International Astronomical Union Commission 27: Variable Stars - *M. Breger*
- The Present State of the Compilation of the General Catalogue of Variable Stars - *N. Samus*
- The Extragalactic Variables in the Fourth Edition of the GCVS - *N. A. Lipunova*
- A Catalogue of Variable Components in Visual Double and Multiple Stars - *P. Lampens*
- Visual Observation**
- Coordination of Visual Observing Programs - *J. A. Mattei*
- On the Homogeneity of Visual Photometry - *C. Sterken and J. Manfroid*
- Visual Searching for Supernovae - *R. Evans*
- Photoelectric and CCD Observation**
- Photoelectric Photometry of Variable Stars - *D. S. Hall*
- Robotic Telescopes for Photometry - *J. Baruch*
- Multichannel Photometry for Amateur Astronomy Groups - *J. M. Le Contel and E. N. Walker*
- The Joint European Amateur Photometer: An Update - *E. N. Walker*
- Extragalactic Photometry in the Transition Era between Photoelectric and CCD Photometry - *G. Longo, G. Busarello, and C. Sterken*
- Analysis and Interpretation**
- Variable Stars and Stellar Evolution - *J. R. Percy*
- Period Analysis of Variable Stars - *J. Cuypers*
- Computer Networks in Variable Star Activities - *V. Mäkelä and A. Kellomäki*
- Highly Variable Objects in the Solar System - *W. Z. Wisniewski*
- Blue and Yellow Variable Stars**
- The Study of Short-Period Variable Stars through International Cooperation - *M. Breger*
- Photographic Photometry: Application to Population II Variables - *M. L. Hazen*
- Visual Detection of the Two Periods of the Double-Mode Cepheid EW Scuti - *A. Figer, E. Poretti, and C. Sterken*
- Eta Carinae, AG Carinae, and the Hubble-Sandage Variables - *R. Viotti*
- Recent Work on R Coronae Borealis Stars - *D. Kilkenny*
- The Hot R CrB Star V348 Sgr and the Evolutionary Status of the R CrB Stars - *D. Pollacco*
- Red Variable Stars**
- Observational Perspectives on Red Giants - *F. R. Querci, M. Querci, B. Fontaine, and A. Klotz*
- The Analysis of Observations of Mira Stars - *J. E. Isles*
- Detecting Period Changes in Mira Variables - *C. Lloyd*
- International Cooperation for Coordinated Studies of Mira Variables - *M. Karovska*
- Predicting the Behavior of Variable Stars - *M.-O. Mennessier*
- The Variable Star X Ophiuchi - *D. Proust and M. Verdenet*
- Cataclysmic Variable Stars**
- Symbiotic Variable Stars - *J. Mikolajewska*
- The Benefit of Amateur Observations for Research in Dwarf Novae - *C. la Dous*
- Coordination of Multiwavelength Groundbased and Satellite Observations of Novae in Outburst - *S. N. Shore*
- IUE Observations of Mass-Losing Cataclysmic Variables - *J. E. Drew*
- TT Crateris 1987-1990 - *R. Fleet*
- Visual Detection of Superhumps in SW Ursae Majoris - *B. H. Granslo*