

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE AAVSO HELD AT
THE RACKHAM SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF
MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
JUNE 2-4, 1978

The Friday evening speaker for the AAVSO's 1978 Spring Meeting was our host, Dr. W. A. Hiltner, chairman of the Astronomy Department at the University of Michigan. His lecture, mainly describing his work in designing and building a "Photon-Counting Spectral Photometer," proved to be of great interest to his audience, especially those AAVSO members who work with photometers. A lively question-answer period followed the lecture, and was in turn followed by the scheduled "Observers Workshop" which finally adjourned at about 10:30 p.m.

The Saturday morning business session was called to order by President Baldwin at 9:25 a.m. Minutes of the October, 1977, General Meetings were duly approved as previously printed in the Journal of the AAVSO covering that Meeting. In the absence of the Treasurer, Mr. Mayall, his interim Treasurer's Report was read by the Secretary. Balanced receipts vs. expenditures for the period 1 October 1977 thru 31 March 1978 were reported as \$36,710, with receipts recorded as transfers from the Endowment Fund totalling \$19,037. The Secretary summarized the contents of a letter written by the Treasurer to members of the Finance Committee, dated April 28, 1978, requesting that the total assets of the Telescope Fund, amounting to \$2,271.90, be transferred to the General Fund in order to offset current anticipated deficits in operating expenses. Such action was approved and subsequently taken, but according to the Treasurer's Report, such action will not fully offset deficits anticipated by October, 1978. By that time, further withdrawals from the accumulated income account of the Endowment Fund will probably not be possible; thus the Treasurer's letter warned of an impending financial crisis for the Association. The interim Treasurer's Report was duly approved, and appears in detail in the issue of JAAVSO for this meeting.

The Director read a list of 48 new adult, 17 new junior, 5 new sustaining, 8 new changes to sustaining, and 2 new sponsored memberships approved by the AAVSO Council at its meeting on June 2, 1978. The complete list appears in JAAVSO for this meeting.

The President called for Committee Reports, and the following were presented and discussed, with summaries subsequently printed in JAAVSO for this meeting:

Solar Division	Mr. Hossfield
Standard Chart Distribution	Mrs. Mattei
New and Preliminary Charts	Mr. Ford
Eclipsing Binary and RR Lyrae Stars	Mr. Baldwin
Cepheid	Mr. Cragg (read by Mrs. Mattei)
Photoelectric Photometry	Mr. Landis .
AAVSO Atlas	Mr. Ford
Telescopes	Mr. Scovil (read by Mr. Ford)

The report of the Nominating Committee, presented by its chairman, Mr. Mayer, proposed the following slate for Council members to be voted upon at the October 1978 meeting:

Robert B. Arial	(So. Carolina)
Joseph Ashbrook	(Mass.)
William Liller	(Mass.)
Robert Monski (reply pending)	(Penna.)
Jack Nordby	(Montana)
Theodore H. N. Wales	(Mass.)
Thomas R. Williams	(Texas)

These reports were followed by the Interim Report of the AAVSO Director. Mrs. Mattei read many testimonial letters from professional astronomers in praise of the AAVSO and its current contributions to astronomy. Her appeal for any and all ideas directed toward averting the impending financial crisis, as mentioned in the Treasurer's Report, led to much open discussion and many suggestions but no definite conclusions or decisions. The General Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m., and members gathered in front of Rackham Hall for a group photograph.

The Saturday afternoon session for papers convened at 2:10 p.m. with President Baldwin in the chair. Papers numbered 1 through 6 were presented and discussed before a 10-minute break at 3:40 p.m. Those numbered 7 through 11 followed, before final adjournment of the papers session at 5:10 p.m. A list of these papers appears on page 45 of this Journal. Special interest attached to the issue of a newly-revised (June 1978) Catalog of AAVSO Preliminary Charts; the description and photos by Mr. Halbach of his design for a new 16-inch Cassegrain telescope to be installed at his retirement home near Estes Park, Colorado. An excellent show of slides depicting current work being done at the Milwaukee Astronomical Society's Observatory was presented by the new director, Raymond Zit.

Members and guests assembled Saturday evening at the Michigan League Building for the banquet and ceremonies honoring long-time members of the Association. All members of 40 years and more present were asked to give banquet speeches, and they posed for a group photograph around a special cake prepared for the occasion. Five such members were present. About 31 others who "qualified" but could not be present, had sent letters and photos to Mrs. Mattei, and these were mounted and displayed on large poster-boards at the banquet. The banquet ceremonies provided a memorable occasion for all concerned, although the AAVSO's most famous long-time observer Leslie Peltier, currently celebrating his 60th consecutive year as an observer, was unable to attend.

On Sunday morning, June 4th, two bus-loads of members and guests departed from the Michigan League Building for the trip to the University's McMath-Hulbert Solar Observatory, near Pontiac, Michigan. Our host was Dr. Orren Mohler of the Astronomy Department staff, and the visit was a very interesting one, with plenty of sunshine and opportunity to see the observatory's instruments in operation. Following box lunches, eaten in leisurely fashion on the lawn of the observatory, the busses returned to Ann Arbor by about 2 p.m. thus concluding a very successful AAVSO Spring Meeting held exactly 25 years after the last previous one at that location.

Clinton B. Ford
Secretary

List of New Members accepted at this meeting.

ABITZ, Michael N., WI
 ADAMS, Jessie, CA
 ANDERSON, Marcus D., Canada
 BAKER, Tim R., WI
 BARNHART, Stephen F., OH
 BENASSAI, Bruno D., CA
 S BIRNEY, D. Scott, Jr., MA
 BORZELLI, John J., CA
 BOWMAN, Jeffrey, PA
 BUSS, Robert A., ND
 CARLINI, John D., NY
 COOLBAUGH, B. John, NJ
 COULOMBE, Andre, Canada
 CULVER, Dennis R., AL
 DANSKIN, Keith H., NJ
 DAVIS, Michael S., CT
 DEANE, Bill, TN
 DeBERRY, David W., TX
 DeGROOT, Mart, North Ireland
 DOOLEY, Stephen M., VA
 ECKENDORF, Jim, AZ
 ELRICH, Donald C., AZ
 FERGUSON, Henry C., MA
 FUGMAN, Gary C., WI
 GARCIA-RAMENTOL, Fernando, El Salvador
 GAETANI, Umberto, Italy
 HARLES, Peter, ND
 HEIFNER, Mark A., CO
 JENKINS, Allan C., Jr., SC
 JOHNSON, Darell J., NM
 KARCH, Dr. Gary D., FL
 LaFONTAINE, Gerald R., RI
 LEAMY, Robert F., Jr., OH
 MATSUYAMA, Hiroshi, Japan
 McCARTER, Lloyd, TX
 McKEE, Marguerite, Canada
 METCALF, Thomas R., CA
 MINTON, R.B., AZ
 MORGAN, James A., WI
 NAVVABI, Hesamedin, Iran
 O'LINGER, James T., CA
 S OLSEN, William W., CA
 OLTION, Raymond G., WY
 OSORIO, Jose Ripero, Spain
 OTTUM, Brian D., WI
 PEARCE, Eric C., NM
 POLSON, Frank E., MI
 S PURINTON, Betsey A., NY
 S RIETH, Ralph, W. Germany
 SADLER, Robert V., NJ
 SANNEVIGO, Roberto, Italy
 SCHWARTZ, James R., OH
 SEBASTIANO, Paul A., VT
 SHEPPARD, Joseph B., GA
 SHERMAN, Barry N., Canada
 SIMPSON, David G., WV
 SODER, James, OH
 S SPENCER, Ronald C., MA
 STENBERG, Clifford R., MI
 STILES, Dr. Phillip J., RI
 TARGAN, David, RI
 THURRELL, Malin V., WI
 TUPPATSCH, Anthony, NY
 WEIGAND, Conrad T., OH
 WILCOX, John T., PA
 WINDSOR, Richard T., TX
 YORK, David, MA
 YOUNG, William R. III, TX
 YUE, Wai-chun, Hongkong
 ZALCIK, Mark S., Canada

CHANGES TO SUSTAINING:

CHIPMAN, Russell A., CT
 KOLLER, Herbert, Canada
 MITCHELL, Robert C., WA
 PERCY, John L., Canada

S = Sustaining

TYROLF, Edward O., LA
 TYSON, Richard L., NY
 WALLERSTEIN, George, WA
 WHEELER, Walter C., CT

Sponsored from iron-curtain countries:

KARASZI, Istvan	Hungary	DUFUR, Roger
BRLAS, Pal	Hungary	DUFUR, Roger