MINUTES OF THE 70TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AAVSO, HELD IN WALTHAM AND CAMBRIDGE, MA OCTOBER 23 - 24, 1981

FIRST MEETING - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 (Espousal Conference Center Auditorium, Waltham:

The scheduled Special Paper Session, held in celebration of the AAVSO's 70th Anniversary, convened at 2:00 PM. The papers presented, some of which are summarized elsewhere in this issue of <u>JAAVSO</u>, were as follows:

- 1. <u>AAVSO Director Janet A. Mattei</u>: "Highlights from My Attendance at North American Workshop on Symbiotic Stars, and Fifth Annual Santa Cruz Summer Workshop (Sixth Annual US Workshop on Cataclysmic Variables), held in Boulder, Colorado, and Santa Cruz, California, respectively."
- 2. Ernst H. Mayer: "My Visit to Jaroslav Kruta in Czechoslovakia during 1981."
- Elizabeth O. Waagen: "Presentation of the AAVSO Nova Award to G. D. Alcock and Highlights of Trip to England in 1981."
- 4. Walter Scott Houston: "The Story of William Tyler Olcott and the Founding of the AAVSO."

<u>SECOND MEETING - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23</u> (Phillips Auditorium, Harvard College Observatory, Cambridge):

The details of this Special Session are also summarized elsewhere in this issue of <u>JAAVSO</u>. Speakers included Peter M. Millman as Master of Ceremonies, Elizabeth O. Waagen reading R. Newton Mayall's article, Emeritus Director Margaret W. Mayall, E. Dorrit Hoffleit, and AAVSO Secretary Clinton B. Ford.

THIRD MEETING - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 (Espousal Conference Center Auditorium, Waltham):

The regular Business Meeting came to order at 9:30 AM, with Pres. Carl Anderson in the chair, assisted by the Director, Janet A. Mattei. The Secretary's minutes of the May 1981 General Meetings were not read, since they had already appeared in <u>JAAVSO</u> 10, page 39.

Messrs. C. Ford and D. Overbeek were asked to remark on the recently completed AAVSO Council resolution honoring the work of member Reginald P. deKock of South Africa. This resolution was specially prepared on an illuminated scroll, and delivered to the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa during 1981. Mr. deKock died in July of 1980.

The President called for Committee Reports, and the following were duly presented:

Nova Search
Photoelectric Photometry
Eclipsing & RR Lyrae (
Chart Distribution
New Chart Compilation
Telescope Loan
Solar Division (

(C. Borzelli; read by K. Danskin)

H. Landis

(M. Baldwin; read by P. Taylor)

J. Mattei C. Ford

C. Scovil

(R. Ammons, summarized by J. Mattei)

Details of these reports appear elsewhere in this issue of JAAVSQ.

Mr. Wales presented his Annual Treasurer's Report for fiscal 1980-81 (ending 9/30/81), a five-page document plus six data sheets, a summary of which appears in $\underline{\text{JAAVSO}}$. Valuation of the Endowment Fund at year's end was stated as \$819,263, with an estimated annual income /

of \$68,868 (about 8%). Overall total balanced income and expenditure accounts were stated at approximately \$130,000 for the fiscal year. There was no significant discussion of the Treasurer's Report except to congratulate Mr. Wales with a round of applause.

The Director then presented her Annual Report for 1980-81, which appears as usual in the <u>JAAYSO</u> for this meeting. Highlights may be noted as follows: An all-time high annual total of 197,832 observations and grand total since 1911 of over 4.6 million observations reported; data processing now completed within one month of receipt at HQ; funding received from Research Corporation for new computer at HQ; top observer for the year, Wayne M. Lowder; new policy adopted regarding observations received of "Orion Variables" (each 10 will be counted as one); 110 special requests for AAVSO data from astronomers, and 462 requests for AAVSO information answered during the year; other grants duly acknowledged; a new form sheet for reporting observations, proposed, but not yet 100% accepted by members. The Report was greeted with applause.

The election of new Council Members for the term 1981-83 was announced by tellers as follows:

Charles E. Scovil (CT) Charles S. Morris (MA)
James E. Morgan (AZ) Walter S. Houston (CT)

Mrs. Mattei announced that the Association has been invited by the Milwaukee Astronomical Society to hold its 1982 Spring Meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on April 30 - May 1, 1982. It was also announced that plans are under way to hold the Spring 1983 meeting jointly with the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada in Quebec City, Canada.

In the category of other business, AAVSO member Mr. Charles Cole, from the Central Florida Amateur Astronomical Society, announced that that group has received a bequest from the estate of Past-AAVSO-President Cyrus F. Fernald of \$33,000, which will probably be used to set up an Endowment Fund in Mr. Fernald's honor. Another item was the delayed report of the Cepheid Variables Committee, submitted by its Chairman, Mr. Thomas Cragg, and read by Ernst Mayer.

Members present stood and observed a moment of silence as the Director read the list of members deceased during 1980-81:

Harold L. Bondy Mrs. C. L. Bridgen Reginald P. deKock W. Val Isham

The Saturday morning session adjourned at noon for a group photograph.

The Saturday afternoon session was called to order at 2:20 PM, with newly-elected First Vice-President Ernst H. Mayer presiding. The papers numbered 1 through 8 on the attached list were duly presented and discussed, as described in this issue of <u>JAAVSO</u>. Following a break for coffee, the meeting reconvened at 4:25 PM for the remaining papers, numbers 9 through 16. Dr. Millman's paper on the Herschel family in 1981 was especially applauded.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.

<u>FOURTH MEETING - SATURDAY. OCTOBER 24</u> (At Cottage Crest Restaurant, Waltham):

The 70th Anniversary Banquet was a special event, attended by over 100 people. Following dinner, the 22nd AAVSO Merit Award was

duly presented to Charles E. Scovil for his work in preparation of the AAVSO Variable Star Atlas, and for his many other contributions to the work of the Association. Following this presentation, the guest speaker, Prof. Owen J. Gingerich from the Center For Astrophysics, presented a memorable 1981 "Highlights of Astronomy" speech in keeping with such traditional speeches given for many years at AAVSO Banquets by the late Dr. Harlow Shapley. Prof. Gingerich's talk was received with great enthusiasm.

The banquet meeting adjourned about 10:30 PM.

Clinton B. Ford Secretary

LIST OF PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY
MEETINGS OF THE AAVSO HELD AT THE ESPOUSAL CONFERENCE CENTER,
WALTHAM, MA, OCTOBER 23 - 24, 1981

| Order of Presentation | Author(s) | <u>Title</u> |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| 1. | John R. Percy R. Paul Ford (read by J. Percy) | The Unique Cepheid HR 7308. |
| 2. | Edwin B. Weston | Some Background Information on R Aquarii as an Eclipsing System. |
| 3. | Janet A. Mattei James J. Klavetter (read by J. Klavetter) | Decline Rates of Outbursts of Dwarf Novae. |
| 4. | Karen J. Meech | When Is a Variable <u>Really</u> a Variable Star? |
| 5. | Emilia P. Belserene Gary G. Smith (read by E. Belserene) | A Contribution to the Controversy Concerning the Period of EG Sagittarii. |
| 6. | Leondina N. Ventura | Revised Period and Amplitude Change for V802 Cygni. |
| 7. | Janet A. Mattei | Some Interesting Variables. |
| 8. | Denise Gabuzda | Period and Amplitude of V1670 Sagittarii. |
| 9. | Michael S. Davis (read by W. Lowder) | The Decreasing Periods of R Aquilae and R Hydrae. |
| 10. | Dorrit Hoffleit | Common and Elite Variables Then and Now. |
| 11. | Lee Anne Willson | On the Analysis and Inter- pretation of Light Curves. |
| 12. | Jonathan Wheatley | Spurious Periods and the Case of EL Comae Berenices. |
| 13. | Wendy Banta | A Neglected Variable in Sagittarius. |
| 14. | Scott Davis | Period Determination for MY Scuti. |
| 15. | Herbert A. Luft | The Present Sunspot Numbers. |
| 16. | Peter M. Millman | Meeting the Herschel Family in 1981. |

List of New Members accepted at this meeting.

ATKIN, Timothy W., Haiti BARANI, Carlo, Italy BLAGG, Bill, TX BLANCHETTE, Marion, FL BOURGEOIS, Benjamin, TX BRUTON, James R., DE BUNGE, Robert D., NY BURBANK, Daniel P., MN CAMPONOVO, Ambrosio J., Argentina CHASE, Louis E., UT CLARK, Eileen, CA COMPTON, Thomas G., MI COUCKE, Michael G., TX CROWE, Richard, Canada DENNIS, Michael L., KY D'ERRICO, Paul A., CO DONAHUE, Robert A., MA FERRIN, Ignacio, Venezuela FREEMAN, Robert A., IL GAMBATO, Giampolo, Italy GILL, Peter B., NJ GIULIANI, Valter, Italy GRIFFANTE, Augusto, Italy GROVE, Frederick W., MI GUO, T. H., Republic of China HENDERSON, John J., MS HINSMAN, Donald E., CA HOLEVE, Barry, FL HOSTY, John J., England HULL, Henry M., CT HUTCHINSON, Paul G., Australia JACOBS, Thomas B., WI KLAVETTER, James J., MA KUPLINSKI, Robert Jr., PA LEAKE, David C., IL LEONARD, John L., IL

LEY, Frederick N., CA MacDONALD, Walter J. II, Canada McCANDLESS, Brian E., DE MEIER, Rolf, Canada MONTREAL CENTRE, ROYAL AST. SOC. CANADA, Canada NEWBERRY, Mark A., CO NEWSOME, William E., MT NIELSEN, Joseph A., NY PAGE, George A., AZ PALMER, Richard, NY PAULIUKONIS, Rinantas P., IL PAZZI, L., South Africa PHILLIPS, William E., AZ POOLE, Rowen S., PA POTTER, Randy G., UT RHOADS, Jay T., GA RODUTA, Peter G., MA ROSENTHAL, Edward, MA RYAN, Philip J., MS SASTRE, Cesar A., NY SAVAGE, Matthew G., MA SIZENSKY, William S., CT SPEVAK, Jerry, Canada STOLZ, John J., IA STROUD, Jason, LA STUHLER, Robert E., NY TALAGA, Robert M., IN TESKE, David R., MN THOMSON, Robert J., S. Africa VAN ORSOW, Doug, IA VUYLSTEKE, Pieter, Belgium WHITEHURST, Floyd D., VA WILLIAMS, Scott E., OH YANDELL, Mark D., TX

List of New Members sponsored from an iron-curtain country:

BIESIADA, Mark R., Poland - sponsored by George W. KELLEY, Jr. GABOR, Domeny, Hungary - sponsored by Anthony GONDOLA HORVATH, Geza, Hungary - sponsored by Dennis MEANS HORVATH, Istvan, Hungary - sponsored by James MARTIN TOLGYESI, Antal, Hungary - sponsored by Lewis COOK

List of Members changing from Annual to Sustaining:

ALBRECHT, William, HI WEST, Frederick R., AL

List of Members deceased during 1980 - 1981:

BONDY, Harold L., NY

BRIDGEN, Mrs. C. L., Canada
DEKOCK, Reginald P., South Africa
ISHAM, W. Val, OH