

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CLASSICAL CEPHEID, Chairman: Thomas A. Cragg
 Anglo-Australian Observatory
 Private Bag 4
 Coonabarabran, N.S.W. 2857
 Australia

Chairman's report not received at AAVSO Headquarters.

CHART DISTRIBUTION, AAVSO Headquarters

The following is a report of AAVSO standard charts distributed from Headquarters from October 1, 1982, to March 31, 1983. 213 chart orders were filled, which included 70 sets to new members.

Standard Charts (8.5 x 11-inch)	7,231
Finder Charts	125
"Old" <u>AAVSO Atlas</u>	9
"New" <u>AAVSO Variable Star Atlas</u>	9

Please use the Standard Chart Order Form when ordering charts. This form is available from Headquarters.

NEW CHART, Chairman: Clinton B. Ford
 10 Canterbury Lane
 Wilton, CT 06897

The following mailings of AAVSO Preliminary Charts have been made from the Secretary's office during the period of November 1, 1982, through May 15, 1983:

<u>Destination</u>	<u>No. of Different Addressees</u>	<u>Chart Copies Mailed</u>
U.S.A.	28	1,280
Hong Kong	1	1,047
West Germany	1	1,032
Greece	1	24
Canada	2	16
Australia	1	3
England	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
TOTALS	35	3,404

A detailed breakdown of these figures is available. Two complete sets of the Preliminary Charts were shipped during this period. A complete set now comprises over 1100 charts covering over 900 variables.

About 40 copies of the October 1982 (Fifth Edition) Preliminary Chart Catalog have been mailed, in addition to those distributed at the October 1982 Annual Meeting of the AAVSO. A completely new Sixth Edition of this catalog is now nearing completion, containing 22 pages of information.

The TRS-80 Model III computer (see JAAVSO 11, 2 report) programmed by Mr. Taylor and Ms. Manella has now been shipped to the Secretary's office in Connecticut, where it is being operated mostly by Mr. Scovil to up-date preliminary chart data and distribution information. The new Sixth Edition of the Preliminary Chart Catalog

is being prepared using this computer.

Committee members continue to be active: Mr. Lowder with sketching of new fields; Messrs. Scovil and Hazel with chart drafting; Mr. Stanton with obtaining photoelectric comparison star sequences on faint variable star fields; Rev. Ronald Royer with photography of fields to be revised; Mr. Ford mostly with copying, mailing, and distribution. AAVSO member John I. Riggs (Buffalo, NY) has prepared a number of useful b-type charts for fields previously charted in more detail only.

The backlog of new material to be charted again remains about the same, and again it appears that the Committee's work should continue for some time in the future if we are ever to have all the charts needed to cover even 50 percent of the variables listed in the Kukarkin et al. General Catalogue of Variable Stars and its Supplements.

ECLIPSING BINARY, Chairman: Marvin E. Baldwin
Route 1
Butlerville, IN 47223

During this reporting period, data on eclipsing binary stars were submitted by ten observers. A total of 159 minima were timed for 110 stars. Some 45 program stars and 65 non-program stars were observed.

Nearly 75 percent of the minima were submitted by Gerry Samolyk, covering a wide variety of stars, many of which are rarely observed. Other minima observations of special significance were made of program stars which don't usually receive the attention they deserve. Some of these minima are for WW Cyg, RW Gem, and Z Per by David Williams; V342 Aql by Philip Atwood and Gerry Samolyk; and RY Aqr and Y Cam by Ernst Mayer. XZ And, which had been badly neglected during recent years, was observed by Mark Heifner, Gerry Samolyk, David Williams, and Ernst Mayer, for a total of 6 minima obtained.

Chris Hesseltine has joined the ranks of photoelectric photometry observing by obtaining very well defined minima of WW Aur and W UMa. We hope to see more of his PEP work in the future.

All participants in this observing program are to be congratulated for their perseverance in obtaining these important data with a minimum of support and encouragement from their committee chairman.

NOVA SEARCH, Chairman: Carmine V. Borzelli
12 Corbin Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Chairman's report not received at AAVSO Headquarters.

PHOTOELECTRIC PHOTOMETRY, Chairman: Howard Landis
50 Price Road West
Locust Grove, GA 30248

A double issue of the AAVSO Photoelectric Photometry Newsletter was published in February of 1983. This Newsletter was large, as it contained a report on the Photoelectric Photometry Workshop held just prior to the 1982 AAVSO Annual Meeting at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge. We appreciate the efforts and the abilities of the Editor, Russell M. Genet, our Director, Dr. Janet A.

Mattei, and the staff at Headquarters in producing the Newsletter.

The AAVSO Photoelectric Photometry Program Star Catalog has been revised, with some stars deleted and others added. The new catalog and finder charts are already available from Headquarters. The catalog was revised in order to present a wider variety of star classes. Many of the stars which were retained from the original catalog now have new comparison and check stars. This work is exacting and time-consuming, and we thank Dr. John Percy for his efforts to accomplish this project in a prompt manner. Also available are finder charts for four Transformation Pairs of stars our observers may use to determine their individual instrument's transformation coefficients. These pairs are ones used by Dr. Douglas S. Hall in his RS CVn program.

The Observer Information Sheet and the Photoelectric Observation Report Forms are near completion. This material will be sent to our photoelectric photometry observers, along with an information letter containing instructions for the desired use of these items. If observers have any difficulty in obtaining their transformation coefficients please contact me. I would be happy to help.

Requests for information continue to come in at a nominal rate, along with requests for help on observational and instrument problems. As always, I am happy to help anyone with getting started observing variable stars photoelectrically.

RR LYRAE, Chairman: Marvin E. Baldwin
Route 1
Butlerville, IN 47223

Activity among observers of RR Lyrae type variables has diminished in comparison with the observing pace maintained during the past few years. In the past seven months, three observers reported data on seven stars. Seventeen maxima were timed during this period.

The AAVSO 1983 Ephemeris for RR Lyrae Stars contains a total of 41 stars. However, we possess charts deemed adequate for only 28 of these stars. For the remaining 13 stars, the charts we possess are inadequate for reasons ranging from lack of chart verification to lack of comparison star sequence to mis-location of objects on the chart including, in at least one case, mis-identification of the variable itself.

This problem has been a long standing one for your committee chairman because of the frequent requests for charts which cannot be provided unless the prospective observer is well equipped to deal with these chart problems. With the assistance of AAVSO member Glenn F. Chaple, your committee chairman is undertaking the review of available chart material for RW Dra, XZ Dra, TW Her, VX Her, AR Her, DL Her, DY Her, and RV UMa. The five other stars needing similar attention are SW Aqr, RW Cnc, VZ Cnc, SS Leo, and RZ Lyr.

Our most common need for these 13 stars is tested and proven comparison star sequences. If any observer possesses such a sequence deemed adequate for visual work, we would be most appreciative if you could share it with us. Our immediate goal is to have satisfactory charts available for some of these stars in time for the 1984 observing season.

SOLAR DIVISION, Chairman: Robert B. Ammons
 Box 9229
 Missoula, MT 59807

Chairman's report not received at AAVSO Headquarters.

TELESCOPE, Chairman: Charles E. Scovil
 Stamford Observatory
 c/o Stamford Museum
 39 Scofieldtown Road
 Stamford, CT 06903

At the outset, it should be restated that the Council has set a policy of no longer loaning instruments. Instruments acquired through donation or bequest are to be sold. The only exceptions to this policy are the 8-inch Criterion Dynamax bequeathed by George van Biesbroeck and the 6-inch Post refractor. The Criterion is in the hands of the Director, and the Post is in storage at Stamford Observatory.

Two instruments are presently available for sale. The first is a 5-inch Alvan Clark refractor, tube and optics only, with some eyepieces. This instrument is of all brass construction, and is mechanically rather beaten up, but performs very well optically. Bids of \$1500 or more are solicited.

The second instrument available is also a 5-inch refractor, tube and optics only, with many eyepieces and accessories. This instrument was made by John Mellish. It is in excellent condition, and performs well optically. Bids of \$1000 or more are solicited.

A cast-iron cradle is available for either of these telescopes, but there are no other mounting parts. Both telescopes will be advertised for sale in Astronomy magazine, since no bids were forthcoming after the publication of our last report in JAAVSO.

A 4-inch refractor has been sold to AAVSO member Allen Montague, and is now in use for making variable star estimates.

Member Edward W. Clement of Florida donated a 6-inch Newtonian, which has been loaned to member David Branchett, also of Florida, until final disposition is made. It is currently in use for making variable star estimates.

There are two mirrors available in the 10- to 12-inch range. They are of plate glass, and of rather poor quality, but would provide a quick way to get started for someone wishing to upgrade at a later time.

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