

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE AAVSO
HELD AT SMITH COLLEGE, NORTHAMPTON, MASS.
OCTOBER 16, 1976

The Saturday morning General Meeting was called to order by President G. L. Fortier at 9:40 AM. The Secretary's minutes of the May 1976 General Meeting were formally approved as previously published in JAAVSO Vol. 5, No. 1. The President appointed tellers to collect and count votes from members present, electing new Council Members. Mr. Mayall's Treasurer's Report for fiscal 1975-1976 was summarized by Emeritus Director Mrs. M. W. Mayall. Details of this report, as approved by the AAVSO Council at its meeting on October 15, 1976, appear elsewhere in this issue. The report was approved by general meeting vote, following short discussion.

The President called for general discussion and voting on a list of six proposed amendments to the AAVSO Constitution as approved by Council at its meeting in May, 1976, for voting in October, 1976. Details of these proposals, with mail ballots for voting on same, were mailed to all members with meeting notices previous to the October, 1976 meetings, and a copy of same is attached to the original of these minutes, showing also the results of mail voting as received by the Treasurer. The general meeting declined to discuss these results, and the amendments were duly adopted by general vote.

The Director's report on new membership applications, as approved by the Council at its meeting on October 15, 1976, was summarized by Mrs. Mattei, showing 58 new applications received during the past five months, with 58 approved, per the list which appears elsewhere in this issue. This list of names was read by the Director, and approved by general vote.

Committee Reports were presented as follows:

New Charts	C. B. Ford
Classical Cepheid	T. A. Cragg
Eclipsing Binary & RR Lyrae	M. E. Baldwin
Nova Search	C. V. Borzelli
Occultations	G. L. Fortier
Photoelectric Photometry	H. Landis
Solar Division	C. H. Hossfield
Telescope Loan	C. E. Scovill
Variable Star Atlas	C. B. Ford & C. E. Scovill
Chart Distribution	J. A. Mattei

In connection with these reports, the following items were especially notable: (1) Mr. Baldwin stated that Mr. Halbach's group in Wisconsin has currently completed nearly 400 new standardized-format reproducible 8"x10" charts for eclipsing and RR Lyrae star fields, following the symposium discussion of procedures for same which was held at the May, 1976 AAVSO meetings; (2) President G. L. Fortier, as chairman of the Occultation Committee, reported that the AAVSO Council, at its meeting on October 15, 1976, had voted to discontinue that Committee after some 50 years of activity; (3) Mr. Stokes reported that the "AAVSO PEP Manual" was still in process of revision; (4) following Mr. Hossfield's Solar Division report, Dr. Allen H. Shaply, who was present, gave a short talk on the history of the AAVSO Solar Division and the uses to which current data from that Division are being put by his organization N.O.A.A.

Mr. Bortle, as senior teller, announced the results of balloting for new Council Members for the term 1976-78, as follows:

Peter O. Taylor (FL)	Arthur J. Stokes (OH)
Joseph Ashbrook (MA)	Jeremy H. Knowles (NY)

The Director read the names of the following members deceased since October, 1975, and the meeting stood briefly in silent respect:

John Shea, Lynn Hildon, Ernie Hatai, Francis Morgan.

The President then called upon the Director to present her Annual Report for fiscal 1975-76. The complete report appears elsewhere in this issue, and for the purposes of these minutes, it suffices to say that the Association experienced another record year of activity, with 1,983 reports received from 413 different observers, totalling 171,185 variable star estimates.

Discussion followed concerning possible dates and locations for future meetings. Mrs. Mattei announced that the next spring meeting of the AAVSO would be held on May 13-14, 1977 at the U. S. Naval Observatory, Washington, D. C.; and also that plans were now in process to hold the October, 1977 meeting once more at Nantucket, Mass.

Before the Saturday morning meeting adjourned for a group photo, Mr. Bortle introduced Mr. Jack Bennett, well-known comet and supernova discoverer from Pretoria, South Africa, who was a special guest at the meeting. Mr. Bennett gave a short talk which was warmly applauded.

The Saturday afternoon papers session was chaired by Councillor Ernst H. Mayer, and convened at 2:05 PM. Papers 1-6 on the attached list were duly presented and discussed before a 10-minute break about 3:20 PM, after which the remaining papers 7-14 were presented. The papers session adjourned at about 4:45 PM.

Following the annual banquet in the Coach Light Room of the Northampton Inn, members and guests witnessed the special event for this meeting, the awarding of the AAVSO's Nova Award or Citation to G.E.D. Alcock from England for his visual discoveries of HR Delphini on 8 July, 1967, LV Vulpeculae on 15 April, 1968, and V368 Scuti on 31 July, 1970; K. Osada from Japan for his discovery of V1500 Cygni on 29 August, 1975; and J. Bennett from South Africa for his discovery of a supernova in NGC 5236 on 16 July, 1968. Mr. Bennett, who came especially for this occasion, was introduced by the Director, Mrs. Mattei. He gave an interesting detailed account of how he made his discovery. The presentation of the Citation was greeted with a standing ovation. Mr. Alcock and Mr. Osada could not be present at this time, however they were there in thought.

This special event was followed by the scheduled and much-anticipated post-banquet lecture by Dr. Owen Gingerich on "200 Years of Astronomy in America", generously illustrated with slides from his collection, and delivered with his usual wit and background of extensive historical information. The banquet session concluded about 10:30 PM.

Clinton B. Ford
Secretary

LIST OF PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE MEETING OF THE AAVSO HELD OCTOBER 16, 1976.

1. "Mira-Type Variables in the Infrared at an Altitude of 13.7km."
Lewis L. Smith
2. "New Period Determination for a Planetary Nebula, Three Variables, and a Suspected Variable in Sagittarius."
Pamela J. Robinson
3. "Optical Observations of Quasars."
John Bally
4. "Observing Variables With Binoculars."
Edward G. Oravec
5. "Updated Periods for Three Sagittarius Variables."
Constance E. Phillips
6. "Photometry of the Radio Star BS 1099."
Howard J. Landis (read by Dr. Douglas Hall)
7. "A New Maser in W3(OH)."
Nathaniel Cohen
8. "New Periods for Two Variables in Sagittarius."
MaryJane Taylor

9. "New Data on Three Long-Neglected Eclipsing Binaries"
Marvin E. Baldwin
10. "A Revised Period for Theta¹ Orionis A."
Marvin E. Baldwin
11. "Red Supergiant Variables."
Horace A. Smith
12. "Two Variable Stars in Scutum."
Nancy Hartle
13. "Stellar Velocities of Long-Period Variables."
Dale Dickinson
14. "Three Long-Period Variables in Cygnus."
Beverly Kehoe

List of New Members accepted at this meeting.

AUCOIN, Donald A., Jr., ME	O'BRIEN, Paul S., CA
BALLIETTE, Susan, WI	OSTROWSKI, Kevin L., PA
BRADY, John F., OH	PIKE, Robert C., Canada
BURBINE, Thomas E., MA	POLMAN, Jorge, Brazil
BUTLER, Thomas M., MO	PORETTI, Ennio, Italy
CARNEY, William R., IL	PORTER, Anthony K., U.K.
CAUCCI, Emilio J., PA	PRUITT, William H., VA
CHOUINARD, Dean G., MA	QUINNERT, Chris D., CA
CLANCY, Sean P., NM	ROBERTSON, Marc A., IL
CLYDE, Robert, OH	ROMAN, Frank E., IL
FAMELI, Paul J., MA	SABIA, John D., PA
FERREIRA, James L., CA	SAKSEK, Jeffrey A., UT
GHIO, Luis H., Argentina	SANDS, Stephen W., IL
GILLEN, Michael P., IL	SCHARLACH, Werner W. G., AZ
GOFF, Robert F., TX	SHAO, Cheng-Yuan, MA
GREGORY, Brooke, CT	SINOR, Timothy W., CA
HAMMER, Carl, DC	SIOK, Stephen C., RI
HEBERT, Michael L., IL	TROTTIER, Howard, Canada
HENCHY, Thomas B., NY	TYROLF, Edward O., LA
KIRSHNER, Brian M., IL	VAN HUANG, M. C., CA
LAMBERT, William R., TX	VAN VLEET, Lawrence W., CO
LONABERGER, Charles R., PA	WAGNER, Mark S., IL
MACQUARRIE, Jeffrey A., MA	WIDDOP, Herbert J., Canada
MACVEY, John W., U.K.	WIEMER, Douglas J., IA
MAGAW, Brian D. D., RI	WOBUS, Richard L., WI
MARCUS, Joseph N., MO	
MCGUIRE, Patrick J., CA	New Sustaining
MOELLER, James, NY	
MOLNAR, James, VA	BOHN, Dennis, WI
MYERS, Stephen R., KY	EHRHART, J. Edward, CA
	WEIER, David D., WI