COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHARGE-COUPLED DEVICE (CCD)

Chair: Gary Walker
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The CCD Program has completed another active 6 months. During the period of October 1, 1999, to April 15, 2000, observations were received from four members in BVRI on all 8 standard stars totalling 496 measurements with a typical standard deviation of 0.03 magnitude. Feedback was provided to all observers showing their measurements in comparison to other observers. The agreement was well within 0.1 magnitude absolute. These observations were added to the Lotus database and a backup copy was sent to headquarters. The BVRI CCD measurements now total 5285.

During the same period, 144 observations on 20 of the 27 variables in the faint CV/LPV program have been submitted to date, bringing the CV/LPV CCD(V) database to 1407 observations.

Combining both the BVRI and CV/LPV Programs gives a Grand Total of 6692 CCD observations.

I would like to recognize our top two observers so far this year: Ron Zissell, 373 observations, and Tom Michalik, 251 observations. Thank you all very much.

Additional accomplishments for the past six months were:

1. Encouraged participation of CCD observers
2. Updated database and corresponded with members
3. Continued the CCD(V) project
4. Generated feedback on a revised web page.

Goals for the next 6 months are:

1. Continue to expand participation—both observing and contributing
2. Transition database to Headquarters and correspond with members
3. Publish the 4th issue of *CCD Views*
4. Finish updating the CCD web page with light curves and other information
5. Review/rewrite the transformation instructions
6. Start a new observing program using brighter stars.

ECLIPSING BINARY

Chair: Marvin E. Baldwin
8655 N. County Road 775E
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During this reporting period 23 observers submitted 10,241 visual observations of 233 eclipsing binary stars. Additional CCD times of minima were reported for 20 stars by Gerry Samolyk. Other observers have obtained CCD data on the Hipparcos eclipser, CD Lyn, but these CCD observations remain to be counted.

Ray Berg and your committee chairman have participated in an intense visual observing project on seven unresolved eclipsing binaries discovered by the Hipparcos satellite. Upon finding eclipses of CD Lyn we have been joined by CCD observers who have accurately measured additional eclipses. (Hours after this report was given at the Huntsville meeting word was received that Bob Nelson had obtained another CCD minimum of CD Lyn, confirming our preliminary elements for predicting minima).

The sixth AAVSO monograph listing observed minima of eclipsing binaries is being prepared. Our goal is to have it ready for publication by October.

David B. Williams has published and distributed our newsletter, the *Eclipsing Binary Update* No. 9. The newsletter features the star AB Cas. This star has undergone a lengthening of period which has minima arriving about one-and-a-half hours later than predicted by the ephemeris determined only a few years ago.

NEW CHART
Chair: Charles E. Scovil
Stamford Observatory
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With the advent of all Preliminary charts being available on the Web there has been only one chart order by mail—for a complete set of about 1200 charts.

I have supplied about 20–30 charts by email.

Marc Biesmans continues to help a great deal by reversing all charts that I computerize. He is now also reversing some of the old Standard charts.

Since October, 245 charts have been computerized or produced in response to special needs such as novae, etc.

. Charts for about 17 stars have been computerized showing new sequences measured with a CCD by Ron Zissell. Many of these are old Standard charts which had poor sequences. More of these are in the works.

NOVA SEARCH
Chair: Rev. Kenneth C. Beckmann
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Kahoka, MO 63445

The AAVSO Nova Search committee continues to receive requests and inquiries about the AAVSO Nova Search program by conventional mail and e-mail. We are currently attempting to place the *AAVSO Nova Search Handbook* on line via a simple word processing text format program or via email. We are using a (.txt) file for this purpose. If you prefer not to have the handbook sent by email, we suggest that you contact the Nova Search chairman and a copy will be mailed conventionally to you. Please remember that we have had some difficulties in sending the handbook and receiving e-mail requests. If you have requested a copy and did not receive it in a reasonable amount of time, please resubmit your request. Some e-mails have failed to reach their designated e-mail addresses.

We will provide a full report of the AAVSO Nova Search activites of our observers at the fall 2000 meeting as well as recognize those who have been successful in discovering a nova visually during the past year. We wish our observers good hunting!

PHOTOELECTRIC PHOTOMETRY

Chair: Howard J. Landis
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This is the report of photoelectric photometry observations made by 19 observers by 31 March 2000 in the fiscal year 1999–2000. New observers reporting observations are: Hugh Pinkston, VA, and Henri van Bemmel, Canada.

Here's something interesting to think about: observers from outside the United States have contributed 69% of the observations in the AAVSO photoelectric photometry archives and U. S. observers 31%, and we have just passed the 26,000 observation mark in the archives. Since it takes most observers 18 minutes per observation, if one observer made 26,000 observations in one session, he or she would be at it for 325 days. Oh, my aching feet! Thank you all observers for the teamwork!

Please note that my E-mail address has been changed to lndvarstars@aol.com. I have finally arrived in the 20th Century internet.

Ken Luedeke, Fanie de Villiers, and Jim Wood are my assistants in keying-in data from observers who do not enter their own. Thank you one and all.

Dr. John R. Percy, University of Toronto, published one issue of the *AAVSO Photoelectric Photometry Newsletter*, Volume 19, Number 2, (October 1999). In it he gave a report on important activities at last year's Joint meeting with the Astronomical Society of the Pacific and the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He also reported recent findings of activity in about 10 AAVSO photoelectric program stars we have been observing for many years. Thank you very much, John.

Photoelectric Photometry Observations, October 1, 1999–March 31, 2000

Observer	*Location*	*No. Obs.*	*Observer*	*Location*	*No. Obs.*
Beresky, T.	MO	88	Luedeke, K.	NM	34
Clark, W.	MO	55	Manker, P.	GA	40
Cox, L.	Canada	10	Pinkston, H.	VA	1
Crumrine, R.	NY	15	Sorensen, H.	Denmark	33
Dempsey, F.	Canada	38	Stoikidis, N.	Greece	103
Dallaporta, S.	Italy	153	Thompson, R.	Canada	315
de Villiers, F.	South Africa	48	Williams, D. B.	IN	18
Fox, J.	MN	65	van Bemmel, H.	Canada	10
Jones, W.	South Africa	203	Wood, J.	CA	80
Lopata, E.	CA	3			

RR LYRAE

Chair: Marvin E. Baldwin
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Butlerville, IN 47223

Since our last report eight observers have submitted 2513 visual observations of 53 RR Lyrae type stars. Additional CCD observations, mostly timing maxima of some of the neglected southern RR Lyrae stars reported on last year at the Toronto meeting, were made by Gerry Samolyk. The visual and CCD data will result in the measurement of 129 times of maxima.

SOLAR DIVISION

Chair: Joseph Lawrence
1808 N. Anthony Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Report prepared by Carl Feehrer

The Solar Division has continued its high rate of activity since October 1. During the months of October, November, and December, a total of 3,099 sunspot observations and 221 sudden ionospheric disturbances (SID) were contributed and processed. The numbers of sunspot and SID contributors during that period ranged from 66 to 72 and 11 to 14, respectively. The roster of contributors now numbers approximately 140. Most of these have remained active, making at least one report during 1999.

The second installment of a two-part guide to sunspot grouping using the McIntosh classification system and begun in the August 1999 *Solar Bulletin* was presented in the November *Solar Bulletin*. Additional guidance resulting from a study conducted earlier by a committee of volunteers chaired by Michel Lerman was included in the series.

Analyses of sunspot and SID reports and publication of the *Solar Bulletin* for the January-March period were suspended due to the resignation of Joseph Lawrence during that time. (Note: Analyses of sunspot reports received since the first of the year were later completed by Carl Feehrer, who assumed Joseph's responsibilities in April 2000. SID reports received during these months will be analyzed when a new analyst can be found.)

SUPERNOVA SEARCH

Chair: Rev. Robert O. Evans
Villa 7, 1 Glendarrah St.
Hazelbrook, N. S. W. 2779
Australia

No visual discoveries have been reported since the beginning of the fiscal year.

TELESCOPE

Chair: Charles E. Scovil
Stamford Observatory
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Stamford, CT 06903

We currently have no telescopes for sale.

There is an SSP-3 solid-state photometer with UBVRI filter for sale.