Part 3. Reports From Institutions and Groups

The *General Catalogue of Variable Stars* in a Changing World *(Abstract)*

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Abstract I describe the present state of our work on the *General Catalogue of Variable Stars* (GCVS) and some of its prospects for the future.

The AAVSO and Its Activities *(Abstract)*

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Abstract The American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO) collects, processes, evaluates, and makes available to researchers and educators visual, photoelectric, and CCD observations of variable stars from observers worldwide. The AAVSO International Database contains over 8.5 million observations. The AAVSO recently completed the digitizing and processing of observations going back to the founding in 1911, thus creating the world's largest and longest (in time) database of variable star observations. The AAVSO's history, observing programs, committees, and services to researchers and educators will be described and illustrated.

Addendum, 2007: As of October 1, 2007, the AAVSO International Database contains over 15 million observations.

*deceased March 22, 2004

Observing Down Under *(Abstract)*

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Abstract The current programs, publications, and discoveries of the Variable Star Section, Royal Astronomical Society of New Zealand (RASNZ-VSS), and its association with the American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO) are outlined.

*deceased April 14, 2007

Present Activities of the Hungarian Astronomical Association-Variable Star Section (HAA-VSS) *(Abstract)*

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Abstract Variable star observing is one of the most popular amateur astronomy activities in Hungary. Traditionally the visual observing technique has been most common, but the first results in CCD photometry have appeared showing the future of observing fainter variables with higher accuracy. The total number of visual observations received yearly exceeds 40,000 (thanks to a few very enthusiastic members of the HAA-VSS), which is an exciting sign of the continuous interest among the amateurs.