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12th June 2000

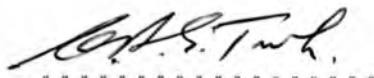
The Secretary
ASSA
12 Redgum Avenue
THORNTON
7460

Dear Mr. Skinner

We wish to nominate the following persons for election to the offices as shown for the year 2000/2001.

President	Mr. P. Van Blommestein
Vice Presidents	Prof D Smits Dr. D.M. Kilkenny Mr. T.P. Cooper
Members of Council	Miss P. Booth Mr. C. Rijsdijk Mr. S. Walsh
Secretary	B. Skinner
Treasurer	C.D. Gray

Yours faithfully


.....
C.R.G. Turk.


.....

MCALLUM MBADGE

396 Voortrekker Road • Maitland
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zerodive@iafrica.com

*Astronomical Society of Southern Africa
PO Box 9
Observatory 7935*

4 June 2000

*To: Brian Skinner
From: Brian Harvey*

Re: Lapel Badges

We have done 3 different formats for your attention.

The badges will have the Gold coloured areas raised & polished with a blue colour infill in the background.

*500 units R8.50 + VAT each
Die cost R510 + VAT*

*Delivery: 4 - 6 weeks
Terms: COD*

Regards



Brian



The Astronomical Society of Southern Africa Scholarship

After due consideration, the Council of the Society has decided to establish a Scholarship to encourage the study of Astronomy. The Scholarship, which will be awarded for the first time in 2001, is available in support of 2nd and 3rd year undergraduate studies (and in exceptional cases, Honours) in astronomy subjects only, at any Southern African university, including those which offer astronomy courses to part-time students in distance-learning mode.

Criteria are a demonstrated interest in astronomy, and a good academic record. Preference will be given to members of ASSA as well as to previous holders of the Scholarship who have made good progress in their studies. Preference will also be given to applicants who are not in receipt of other scholarships or similar funding.

The Scholarship will cover academic fees for astronomy subjects only, as well as a contribution towards the cost prescribed books for these subjects, and is valid for one year. Payment of academic fees will be made directly to the university concerned.

The Scholarship shall be awarded by a sub-committee (comprising not less than 3 persons) of ASSA Council, based on applications and the recommendations of the relevant university department and possible interview by the ASSA Centre closest to the applicant's place of residence. (ASSA will not bear any travel costs or any other expenses).

Applications are hereby invited and should be forwarded to:

Hon. Secretary
The Astronomical Society of Southern Africa
PO Box 9
7935 Observatory
South Africa

The application should include the applicant's personal details, academic record, reasons for studying astronomy, astronomical activities to date, cost of astronomical courses for the year in question (i.e. funding requested), a statement of other bursaries and scholarships applied for or awarded, and any other relevant details.

A statement of support from the university department concerned must be submitted by the university under separate cover.

Queries may be addressed by e-mail to Maciej@ifr.sun.ac.za

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL
Held on 13 February 2001 at the S.A.A.O.

Council observed a minute's silence in memory of Mr Harold Krumm who passed away on 8 February 2001 after a long illness.

The President, Mr P van Blommestein welcomed Mr Paul de Villiers to the meeting.

1 PRESENT:

Mr P van Blommestein (in the Chair) Ms P Booth, Messrs B Skinner, C Gray, M Christianson, C Turk, D Field, P de Villiers and R Hurly.

2 APOLOGIES:

Messrs MG Soltynski, C Rijdsijk, C de Coning, M A Gray and A Jones, G Bosch, Drs D Kilkenny and A Mahomed and all up country members.

3 MINUTES OF TWO PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND MATTERS ARISING:

The Minutes of the two previous meetings were read and accepted before being signed by the President.

3.1 Award Certificates:

As yet no observing section directors have requested certificates.

3.2 Constitution

C Turk is to send file to Hon Secretary for printing.

3.3 Web presence for A.S.S.A.

The ASSA web site has been redesigned by Messrs G Bosch and M Soltynski and is now hosted by the SAAO on their server. See <http://www.saa0.ac.za/assa>.

3.4 Imaging Section Competition

The Director of the Imaging section, Mr D. Duprez, reports that not much interest has been shown by the membership. The Cape Centre appears to be the only centre having astrophotography competitions and will be asked to invite entries from the other Centres.

3.5 Comet & Meteor Monogram

The Director of the Comet & Meteor Section, Mr Tim Cooper has been granted up to R1000 to have a limited number of copies of his three monograms printed. The format has been left to his discretion. Proposed: C Turk and seconded by D Field.

3.6 Dark Sky Section

A proposal that Mrs M Streicher lead this Section was received from Prof D Smits. Council did not support the proposal because it was felt that the Director would need to be at the cutting edge of the battle against light pollution, preferably in a major city. Council would suggest to Mrs Streicher that she lead a local initiative to restore

the night sky and recommend to Centres to start a "Dark Sky Initiative" in their regions.

Proposed: C Gray and seconded by C Turk.

3.7 Banners

Neither the Cape and Natal Midlands Sections have claimed for their requested banners. The agreed R500 made available to each of these Centres for banners to suit their needs has not been spent.

3.8 Lapel Badges

Badges have been sent to members. One vote of thanks received from Harare.

3.9 Solar Section

There is still a vacancy for Director of this Observing Section.

3.10 Scholarships

No applications received.

3.11 Time Signal

Council recommends the time signals available on commercially available GPS receivers and suggests that observers borrow same for timing of observations.

3.12 Symposium

Harare has informed Council that the proposed date coinciding with the Total solar eclipse is not practical and requested a later date. Council noted that no invitations to present papers at a Symposium have been issued and resolved to suggest that the Harare Centre cancel the proposed Symposium.

Proposed: C Turk and seconded by R Hurly.

3.13 Alternates

Mr P de Villiers was elected to deputise for Mr S Walsh. Proposed: R Hurly and seconded by C Turk. The Cape Centre is to be canvassed for additional persons to be alternates for out of town Council members.

4 FINANCE

The Hon Treasurer tabled the Income Statement for the second quarter.

5 NEW MEMBERS

A list of four new members was tabled on behalf of the Membership Secretary. These persons have been accepted subject to their names being published in MNASSA. Proposed by C Gray and seconded by C Turk.

6 CORRESPONDENCE:

6.1 Mr A Overbeek wrote to inform Council of his father's illness. Council expresses its good wishes to Danie Overbeek and wishes him a speedy recovery.

- 6.2 A letter was received from the Durban Centre expressing dismay at their details being omitted from the Handbook. Council noted that the Handbook Editor has an annual struggle to get Centres to send their contact details to her in time for publication. Centres are expected to forward their details to the Handbook Editor and Hon Secretary by the end of August each year.

7 GENERAL:

- 7.1 Alternates are still required for Dr CAJ Smit, and Mr P Smits.
7.2 There will be a talk on the Abbe de la Caille at the Baxter Theatre on March 12 at 5PM. Prof Brian Warner will speak on the same subject at the Royal Society of SA at 5PM on the 14th March at the SA Museum.
7.3 Council mourns the death of Mr Harold Krumm and thanks Mrs Sissy Krumm for donating Harold's telescope to the Society. Council will approach the Cederberg Observatory with regards to building a dome to house this telescope at their facility. Proposed by C Turk and seconded by M Christianson.
7.4 A new list of telescopes owned by the ASSA will be compiled by Mr C Turk.
7.5 Handbook: The Handbook committee is to redesign the Astronomy section of the Handbook by 1 August 2001 for inclusion into the next issue. Proposed by P van Blommestein and seconded by D Field.
7.6 Boyden Observatory: The renovations have been completed and public viewing is held monthly. Research funding has been gained from overseas and new microlensing research observations are planned.

8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 8 May 2001.

*P van Blommestein
8.5.2001*