

**ASSA Bloemfontein Centre**

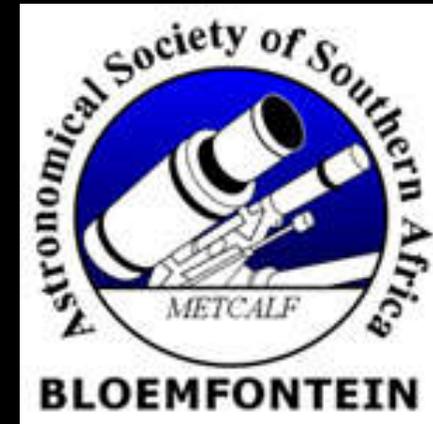
**Symposium 2006**

# ASSA Bloemfontein Centre

Established in 1959, affiliated with ASSA

Complete History put in digital archives in 2005 and is on the website – [www.assabfn.co.za](http://www.assabfn.co.za)

Through the Centre's history, meetings at Boyden, Lamont-Hussey, in and outside city (Brandkop, Mooihoek Observatories etc.)



# Recent years

## Form of meetings

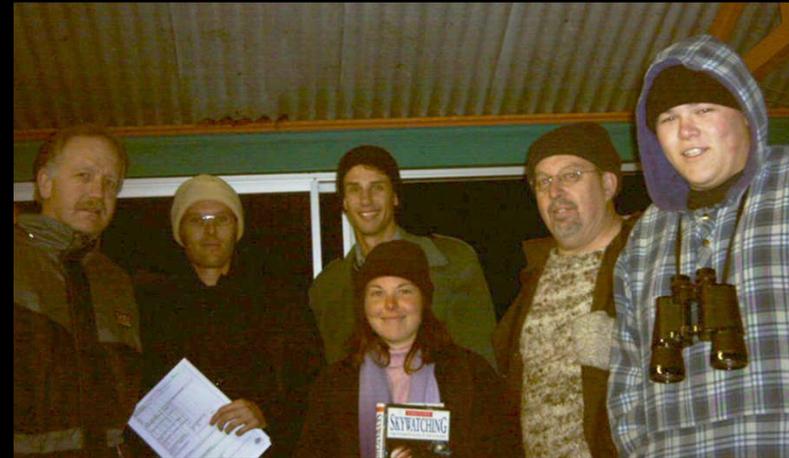
Quarterly official meetings,  
Workshops, Observation  
evenings, training, away-  
weekends, public outreach

On average about two  
activities per month.



Focus shifted to practical astronomy

ASSA Bloemfontein for people who actually practice astronomy as hobby. Those with a passing or armchair interest are canalized to the Friends of Boyden.



## Benefit of Friends of Boyden

ASSA Bloemfontein is extremely fortunate to have this interest group in the city.

Very good relationship between the club and Friends, help to organize open-evenings in and outside Boyden together.



## Practical activities

Deep Sky Observations

Solar and lunar studies

Educational outreach

Comets & Meteors

Historical research

Astrophotography

Telescope Making



## Educational / Public outreach

Probably the biggest strength of ASSA Bloemfontein, what we “specialize” in. Assist the Friends of Boyden and Boyden Observatory, but has own outreach program also.



**Club membership: 30**

**Also serving the Friends  
of Boyden with  
membership of 40.**

**Total: 70**





**Current committee  
2006/2007**

Hannes Pieterse, Gerrit Penning, Mia Zeelie,  
Pat van Heerden, Phillip Coetzer



**Involvement at Boyden Observatory:**  
lending our expertise and skills as  
presenters to the Boyden Science Centre  
and Friends of Boyden.





## Boyden Observatory

ASSA Bloemfontein does not have uncontrolled access to Boyden: members must be assisted by a qualified Boyden Educational official and must reserve the facilities in advance. If observation evenings are at Boyden, the Boyden telescopes are actually **NOT** used! We bring our own telescopes and work on the observation platform.

## Communication

- Dedicated member email list
- Die Naghemel Newsletter (official Centre newsletter)
- SpaceTides e-zine (the centre's newsletter to the public)
- Website

