H•A•D NEWS

The Newsletter of the Historical Astronomy Division of the American Astronomical Society

Number 88 * October 2016

In This Issue

New HAD Officers

Ken Rumstay, Valdosta State University

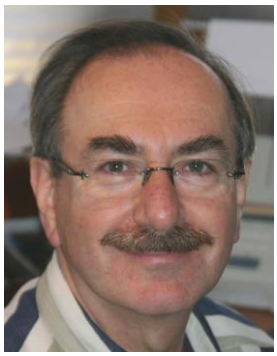
I don't think I need to remind anyone that 2016 is, and was, an election year! The election of new HAD officers concluded on September 15th. Newly-elected Vice Chair Allan Hirshfeld and At-Large Committee Members Pedro Raposo and Robert Stencel will assume office at the end of the HAD Business Meeting on January 4th in Grapevine. Current Chair Marc Rothenberg will turn over the gavel to current Vice Chair Pat Seitzer. He will then become Past Chair and Chair of the HAD Prize Committee, which will select the recipients of the LeRoy E. Doggett Prize for Historical Astronomy next year and the Donald E. Osterbrock Book Prize in 2018. As Vice Chair, Allan will be in charge of soliciting and editing obituaries of all newly deceased AAS members for the next two years.

This year's election was a close one! I would like to thank the Nominating Subcommittee (Barbara Becker, Steven Dick, and Chair David DeVorkin) for their efforts. A total of 111 members voted, representing 36.8% of the membership.

Finally, special thanks to Jay Pasachoff, who will have completed six years of service as Vice Chair, Chair, and Past Chair, and thanks as well to Brenda Corbin and Linda French, who have served on the HAD Committee during the past two years.

hadsec@aas.org

HAD's new officers: Allan Hirshfeld (left), Pedro Raposo (center), and Robert E. Stencel (right)



From the Chair

Marc Rothenberg, National Science Foundation

I write this column, my last as HAD Chair, a few days after the conclusion of the annual Fall Leadership Meeting of the AAS. The AAS is facing a number of issues, including diversity, ethical behavior in the field in general and at AAS meetings in particular, and the expense of meetings. If you read Christine Jones's recent President's Column you are aware of AAS efforts to combat racism and harassment. A new code of ethics for the AAS is in development. Let me remind you all, I hope unnecessarily, that prejudice or harassment in any form at HAD sessions is unacceptable.

As a recent discussion among HAD members demonstrated, the expense and timing of HAD meetings is of concern to members. What I found most interesting at the Leadership Meeting was the discovery that HAD is the only division to meet at the winter AAS meeting. All other AAS divisions either meet independently or at the smaller summer meeting. I would like to have a brief discussion of our various options during the Business Meeting in January.

Speaking of the upcoming Business Meeting, if anyone wants to suggest agenda items for the Business Meeting, please send them to me at josephhenr@aol.com before December 15th.

We have a very rich program for the Grapevine meeting (more on this elsewhere in the News) and I hope many of you will attend the two special sessions, the session of oral presentations, and the rich poster session. And the tradition of the mini-banquet will continue! It will be held in the town of Grapevine, venue still to be decided. I want to reassure everyone that transportation will not be an issue! There will be a shuttle from the Gaylord into Grapevine and we will select a restaurant convenient to the shuttle stop.

Let me conclude by thanking the wonderful team I worked with during these past two years: Vice-Chair Patrick Seitzer; Past Chair Jay Pasachoff, Committee Members Brenda Corbin and Linda French; and Secretary-Treasurer Ken Rumstay.

See you in Texas!

josephhenr@aol.com

From the Vice Chair

Patrick Seitzer, University of Michigan

This is my last column as Vice-Chair of the Historical Astronomy Division. It is with very mixed feelings that I leave this post! On the one hand, in overseeing the obituaries of former AAS members it is satisfying to read the legacies of so many recently deceased astronomers. But it is depressing to see so many pass on whose papers I read as a graduate student. Doubly depressing is the trouble one has to find people to write even a short (three or four paragraph) obituary of their thesis advisor or collaborator.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those people who have made my job easier: Brenda Corbin and Virginia Trimble, who have prepared several difficult obituaries themselves or have found people to do them. And special thanks to Crystal Tinch of the AAS, who maintains the main AAS obituary web page, posts new obituaries to that page, and sends out notices when the AAS receives notices of members' passing.

I now look forward to accepting the gavel from Marc Rothenberg at the January meeting, and to assuming the duties of HAD Chair. It is an honor and a pleasure to serve the Division!

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From the Secretary-Treasurer

Ken Rumstay, Valdosta State University

Greetings to all HAD members! As I write these words both the HAD election and our national presidential election are behind us. I am thankful for the high level of respect and professionalism exhibited throughout the course of ours! I would like to welcome our new officers, and to thank every member who voted.

During October we had a spirited discussion via e-mail regarding future HAD meetings, and the pros and cons of continuing to meet in conjunction with the winter meetings of the American Astronomical Society. As Marc mentioned, we'll be continuing the discussion and reviewing our options. Like many of you, I fondly remember when AAS meetings were smaller, and held on university campuses. But I'm afraid we've grown beyond that possibility.

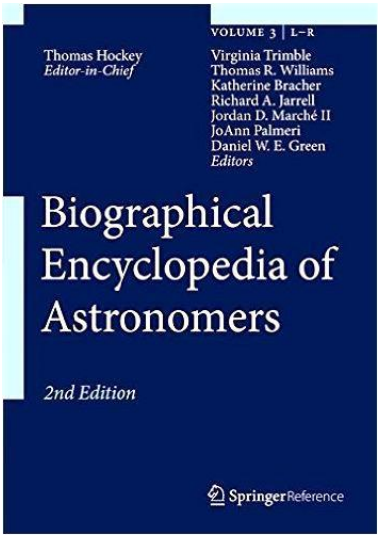
The Historical Astronomy Division will meet in January, in conjunction with the 229th meeting of the AAS. We have traditionally had a booth or table at the January AAS meetings to publicize our Division, and to encourage new members to join. But it has, on occasion, been difficult to find a sufficient number of volunteers to staff the table full-time. We have therefore decided that at future AAS meetings the HAD exhibit space should be manned during the morning coffee breaks and afternoon poster sessions, and at other times if possible. If you plan to attend the January meeting in Grapevine, and would be willing to devote an hour or two to representing HAD at our table, please contact me at hadsec@aas.org.; we would be grateful for your help! And I would like to take this opportunity to thank Arnie Heiser, who for many years has selflessly supervised the HAD booth, and was instrumental to its success. Thank you Arnie; you left some big shoes to fill!

As you have likely noticed by now, our website (https://had.aas.org/) has a new look. The AAS has adopted the Drupal content management system, and has encouraged its divisions and working groups to voluntarily transition their websites to the new platform. Not all have done so; HAD made the change during early August. Drupal will allow Division sites to be easily editable, and to be identical in style to other AAS sites. There were a few bugs to work out, but I for one am very happy with it!

As we approach the end of another calendar year, I would remind you to please be sure to renew your HAD membership. And please consider making a donation to HAD, or to its Doggett or Osterbrock Prize Funds. We rely on your contributions!

Thank you, and I look forward to seeing many of you at the meeting in Grapevine.

hadsec@aas.org



The 2017 Osterbrock Prize

The Historical Astronomy Division's Donald E. Osterbrock Book Prize is awarded once every two years to "the author(s) of the book judged to best advance the field of the history of astronomy or to bring history of astronomy to light." The 2017 award will be presented to Thomas Hockey, Editor-in-Chief of *Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers* (Springer, 2014), at the Grapevine meeting in January. The award also recognizes the seven editors who contributed enormous amounts of effort to completion of this monumental work:

Virginia Trimble, Thomas R. Williams, Katherine Bracher, Richard A. Jarrell, Jordan D. Marché II, JoAnn Palmeri, and Daniel W.E. Green. Also included in this award are the 430 contributing authors to the set of books.

For readers who may not be familiar with it, the *Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers* (ISBN 978-1-4419-9916-0) is a four-volume reference work containing approximately 1850 biographical sketches of astronomers, spanning antiquity to the modern era. The individual entries, provided by authors in forty countries, range in length from about 100 to 1500 words. The first (2007) edition was reviewed in the April 2008 issue of *HAD News* (#72) by Donald K. Yeomans. In his review he said "After six years of effort, the 1341-page *Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers* has finally been published. It was worth the wait." The second edition, grown to 2434 pages in length, adds approximately 300 biographies and corrects and updates many of this in the earlier edition. Many HAD members who recommended it for the Osterbrock Prize praised it as an exceptionally valuable reference work.

The *Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers* is not inexpensive ($1200 for the print edition), but it belongs in every astronomy library! Members attending the January HAD meeting in Grapevine will have an opportunity to examine it.

I would like to close by thanking the members of the HAD Prize Committee: Jay Pasachoff (Chair), Marc Rothenberg, Woody Sullivan, and Virginia Trimble. These individuals spent countless hours reading, reviewing, and deliberating! The task was not an easy one, as eight highly worthy books were nominated for the award.

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Tom Hockey, Editor-in-Chief of this year's Osterbrock Prize-winning *Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers*.

The January 2017 HAD Meeting

Ken Rumstay, Valdosta State University

The Historical Astronomy Division will next meet in January, in conjunction with the winter AAS meeting in Grapevine, Texas. Two special sessions will highlight the meeting, with additional sessions for contributed oral and poster presentations. Please note that this January the AAS meeting runs Tuesday through Saturday (January 3-7), as opposed to the usual Sunday through Thursday.

On Tuesday we'll begin at 2:30 pm with a session devoted to the winner of the 2017 Osterbrock Book Prize, the *Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers*. The session will begin with the awarding of the prize to Editor-in Chief Thomas Hockey by Jay Pasachoff, Chair of the HAD Prize Committee. Tom will then present the Osterbrock Prize Lecture, titled "The Coming to Be of the Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers." This will be followed by two invited talks: "Keeping the Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers Relevant for a Generation", by HAD Chair Marc Rothenberg, and "Reading BEA II in Irvine (And Elsewhere)", by Virginia Trimble. The session will conclude with a panel discussion. A copy of the *Biographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers* will be available for inspection throughout the session.

The following Wednesday we shall reconvene at 10:00 am for a second invited session. Chaired by David DeVorkin, "Some Notes on the History of Infrared Astronomy from Above the Atmosphere" was conceived and organized by Martin Harwit of Cornell University. Three talks will be presented: *From Single Pixels to Many Megapixels: Progress in Astronomical Infrared Imaging from Space-borne Telescopes* (by Judith Pipher), *NASA's Kuiper Airborne Observatory 1974-1995 - Twenty One Years of Discovery* (by Edwin F. Erickson), and *Small Can Be Beautiful: The NASA Lear Jet and the Initiation of Astronomical Far-Infrared Fine-Structure-Line Spectroscopy*, to be presented by Dr. Harwit.

The HAD Town Hall will convene at 12:45. Division officers will report on Division activities and finances, and members will have a chance to voice any concerns they may have. The meeting will conclude with installation of the new officers: March Rothenberg will pass the gavel to Pat Seitzer, and add his name to the list of past Chairs

on the HAD plaque. Allan Hirshfeld will assume the office of Vice-Chair, and Pedro Raposo and Robert Stencel will join the HAD Committee.

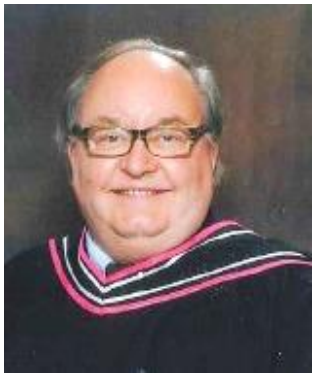
At 2:00 we will enjoy a session of contributed talks, starting with one by Andrew Oaks, winner of this year's HAD Student Travel Award. Nine talks are scheduled: an excellent showing, but one which will limit each speaker to just ten minutes (including questions from the audience). Topics will range from archaeoastronomy to NASA's Search for Origins Program!

Throughout that day, HAD will have a poster session featuring seven contributions, perhaps a record! I encourage everyone to have a look at these; the 5:30-6:30 pm hour will be devoted exclusively to posters (with of course a cash bar). The entire meeting schedule, with links to the abstracts, may be viewed on the meeting website at https://aas.org/meetings/aas229/schedule-and-plenary-speakers).

HAD will maintain a table at the American Astronomical Society booth throughout the AAS meeting. Adorning our space will be two large banners picturing famous astronomers; these were prepared by Crystal Tinch (AAS Communications Manager) with input from the HAD Committee. Again, if you would be willing to supervise the HAD table during a coffee break or poster session, please let me know as soon as possible!

The 2017 HAD meeting will conclude with our traditional mini-banquet on Wednesday evening. The venue will be a restaurant, yet to be selected, in downtown Grapevine. I hope you will join us!

hadsec@aas.org



Andrew Oakes, a Ph.D. student at the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (University of Toronto), is the recipient of the HAD Student Travel Award. He will give the first contributed talk at the HAD meeting.

One of two new banners which will grace the HAD exhibit at future meetings. The other one is of similar design, but features Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin, Edward Pickering, Harlow Shapley, Charlotte Moore Sitterly, Otto Struve, and Beatrice Tinsley.

The Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center in Grapevine, Texas, site of the January 2017 AAS and HAD meetings.

HAD at the DPS/EPSC Meeting

Jay Pasachoff, Williams College and Caltech

The AAS Division of Planetary Sciences met with its overseas counterpart, the European Planetary Science Congress, in Pasadena on October 16th through the 21st. Through the efforts of HAD Past-Chair Jay Pasachoff an oral and a poster historical session were featured at that meeting. It has now been arranged that the DPS will have a historical session at each meeting, including next year's in Provo, Utah, on 2017 October 15-20. The 2018 meeting will be in Knoxville, TN, and that in 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland). Co-chairs for the Pasadena session were Jay Pasachoff, of Williams College and Caltech (representing the DPS) and Susan McKenna-Lawler, professor emerita at Maynooth University in Ireland and principal investigator for a variety of spacecraft experiments (for the EPSC).

The session, held on the 19th, was titled "History: Pluto Mission and Atmospheric Studies; Jupiter's Moons; Planetary Atmospheres." The first speaker for the first hour's Pluto session was Michael Neufeld (National Air and Space Museum), who has written a long article (with a shorter version published in *Physics Today*) about the genesis of New Horizons and its unfunded predecessors to Pluto, based on the ideas of Alan Stern from the Southwest Research Institute. He was followed by Leslie Young (Southwest Research Institute), who was on the Kuiper Airborne Observatory as part of Jim Elliot's team that discovered the atmosphere of Pluto. She spoke, with several co-authors, about the process of setting science goals for the New Horizons mission. Amanda Bosh (Lowell Observatory and MIT), who was also on that KAO flight, spoke about the history of the study of Pluto's atmosphere by watching it occult distant stars from the KAO in 1988 and NASA's SOFIA aircraft in 2015. Finally, Bruno Sicardy (of the Observatoire de Paris) spoke about his own European-based team's occultation observations, and how occultation measurements of Pluto's atmosphere complement the recent spacecraft observations. Alan Stern was able to add his comments to each paper.

During the final half hour of the session Ralph Lorenz (JHU/APL) spoke about the origins of measurements of planetary temperatures. Capping off the session, Jay himself (working with last year's Doggett Prize recipient, Albert Van Helden of the University of Utrecht), spoke about who actually discovered the "Galilean satellites" of Jupiter: Galileo or Simon Marius. The moons now have names given to them by Marius, and the question comes down to the quality of early telescopes that were available to him.

The poster session, with posters available for viewing all week (with one featured afternoon stint), offered four posters with an historical focus. Julie Rathbun (with co-authors) presented a poster about *Historical Trends of Participation of Women Scientists in Robotic Spacecraft Mission Science Teams*. Louise Prockter (and her co-authors)

Audience members enjoy the talks at the history session at the DPS/EPSC in Pasadena earlier in October

presented *The Value of Participating Scientists on NASA Planetary Missions*. Sanlyn Buxner then delivered a joint paper with Jarita Holbrook about the AAS Oral History Project; in connection with this oral histories were collected throughout the week. Finally, co-chair Susan McKenna-Lawler presented a poster featuring examples of studies of solar and lunar cycles carried out in Ireland in Neolithic times.

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The AAS Oral History Project: Drowning in Riches!

Jarita Holbrook, University of the Western Cape

The AAS Oral History Project is a major project designed and run by Historical Astronomy Division members. At the AAS/IAU 2015 meeting in Hawaii, we rolled out our Oral History 'Booth': two rooms dedicated to collecting oral history interviews from among the conference attendees. This model has worked very well leading to a backlog of interviews that have yet to be transcribed! The process goes as follows: people volunteer to be interviewed via the online signup sheet, their interviews are voice recorded, the recordings are given to AAS and AIP for transcription, the transcripts are edited by the interviewees, and finally, the transcripts are placed in the AIP online oral history archive. The entire process takes about two years for each interview.

Why so long? The slow-down occurs at two points: (1) The transcription of the interviews and (2) the interviewees reviewing and approving the final transcript. The first has been addressed by the AAS contracting to have some of the interviews transcribed, relieving the backlog at AIP, but the second is harder to solve. The interviews are rich in detail and often capture the complicated/ challenging relationships between and among astronomers. Sometimes there is nervousness about having such details revealed in such a public manner. However, there is the option of not releasing parts of the interviews until a future date. This caveat has sped up the editing and approval time somewhat, but not entirely.

We are excited to have such a rich collection of interviews and to date we have only recorded the stories of a small fraction of the AAS membership! Please consider volunteering to be interviewed at one of our future AAS meetings. We had a dedicated oral history room at the 2016 DPS/EPSC Pasadena meeting, and will have ones at the 2017 AAS winter meeting in Grapevine and the 2017 HEAD meeting in Sun Valley.

2017 AAS 229 Grapevine Signup Sheet:
http://tinyurl.com/OralAAS229

The HEAD signup sheet is forthcoming. Both the winter and summer 2017 AAS meetings are in Texas, thus we are not sure if we should have an oral history room at the summer AAS 230 meeting in Austin. Please take a moment to do a one-question survey so that we can determine whether we should come to Austin:

https://had.aas.org/oral-history-2017-survey

We look forward to getting your opinion!

astroholbrook@gmail.com

The Heavens Going Digital

Pedro Raposo, Adler Planetarium

It is well known among the members of the AAS that the Adler Planetarium is home to a world-class collection of scientific instruments, rare books and works on paper. Since 2014, Adler staff has been digitizing a wide selection of items relating to celestial cartography, including: more than 236 rare books and atlases; 97 works on paper; globes and other artifacts, amounting to 58 objects; and approximately 3,750 Carte du Ciel prints. This work has been carried out under the auspices of the Celestial Cartography Digitization Project (CCDP), which is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The list of items being digitized under CCDP covers a historical period from the 15th to the 20th century. It comprises atlases, charts and globes by the most prominent authors and cartographers, and a wide array of celestial maps from popular and didactic publications. The list also includes some splendid examples of Chinese star charts and Islamic celestial globes. CCDP is thus a project with a wide cultural scope. The high-quality digital images resulting from this project will help further our understanding of how celestial cartography developed in a variety of historical contexts and geographical areas, and how celestial charts and globes were used in the past to teach and popularize astronomy.

As I write, 373 items have been digitized, and 5,439 digital images have been created. The CCDP will continue through 2017. The images will be made available through Adler's online collections catalog as the project develops (see our website at http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/collections). They are certain to constitute a valuable resource for historians of astronomy and astronomers interested in historical data, and will very likely appeal to other groups of users such as science teachers, educators and writers, historians of art, visual artists, and amateur astronomers.

This digital repository also has an enormous potential for Adler programs. As part of the outreach component of CCDP, Adler collections staff has started to lead sessions about the history of constellations using images from the project.

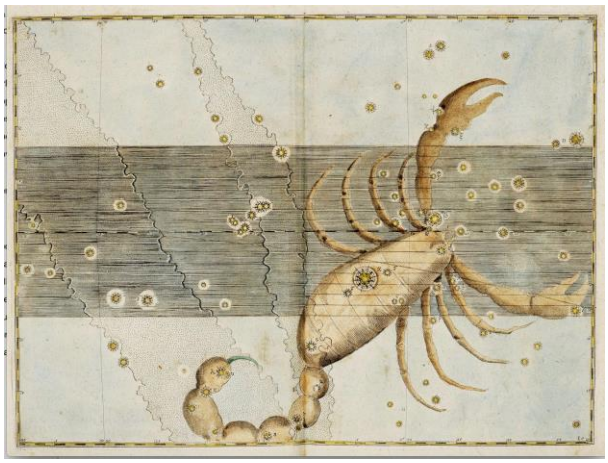
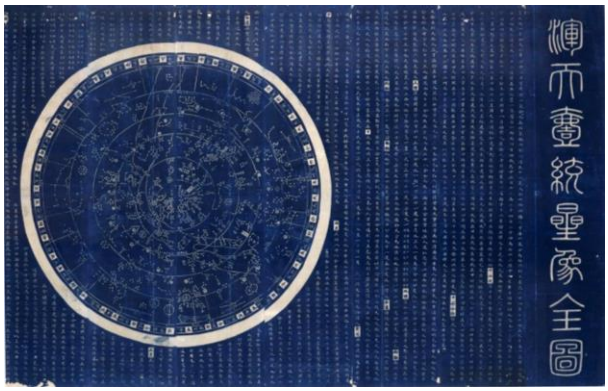
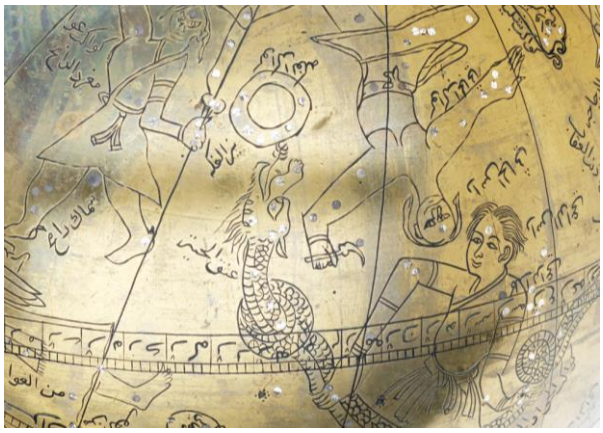


Plate from a hand-colored copy of Johannes Bayer's *Uranometria* (1661 edition), Adler collections QB65 .B29 1661 OVSZ



'Hun T'ien Yi T'ung Hsing Hsiang Ch'uan T'u' (General Map of the Stars Gathered in the Immense Sky), China, c. 1826, Adler collections P-69



Detail of celestial globe, probably Lahore, c. 1650, Adler collections M-14.

The sessions are hosted at the Adler's Space Visualization Laboratory during regular museum hours and are open to all visitors; for information please see http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/whats-here/dont-miss/space-visualization-lab). Our next step will involve using the WorldWide Telescope (http://www.worldwidetelescope.org) to produce presentations using images from historical atlases, charts and globes in the Adler's collections.

A third and very promising avenue is to further explore these images through the Zooniverse platform (https://www.zooniverse.org). Last April, the Adler's Webster Institute for the History of Astronomy concluded an exploratory project titled Digital Historic Skies (DHS), which was also sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. DHS resulted in a prototype for a Zooniverse interface that, when implemented after some improvements, will allow citizen scientists all over the world to help identify and tag stars and constellations in historical sky charts. This might lead, for example, to the first comprehensive database of historical renditions of constellations.

Just like the stars in the images produced by CCDP, the possibilities are immense! To learn more about the Adler Planetarium collections visit http://www.adlerplanetarium.org/collections. You can also follow the Adler's Webster Institute for the History of Astronomy on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/webster.Institute .

Finally, I would like to thank Adler Planetarium's archivist & librarian, Sara Gonzales.

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This Month in Astronomy

Teresa Wilson, Michigan Technological University

In July, the American Astronomical Society launched a new column, *This Month in Astronomical History*, which revisits significant historical astronomical events. That first article described Comet Shoemaker-Levy's collision with Jupiter in 1994, August's celebrated Asaph Hall's discovery of the moons of Mars, and September's commemorated the death of Edwin Hubble with a brief biography. Each month is an exciting new adventure into the archives of astronomy history!

But before I continue any further, I would appreciate some feedback to ensure my writing is reaching the largest audience possible. Please follow the link provided below to participate in a brief (five to ten minute) questionnaire about the style and content of this monthly feature. Also, I invite you to submit any suggestions you may have for future topics! Thank you!

https://goo.gl/forms/Lhwl2aWJl2Vkoo7v1

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A Petition to Honor Hypatia

Ari Belenkiy,Vancouver BC

The murder of the Alexandrian philosopher Hypatia by a clique of Bishop Cyril's zealots remained a 1,600-year old puzzle with no clue of why it happened. Recently, I suggested a scenario in which an unorthodox position of the Novatian Church on determining the time of the Easter and early Passover celebration in 414 triggered the chain of events leading to Hypatia's murder. This scenario places the murder in March 415 and offers a unique time frame for all the related events. Here Hypatia displays astronomical skills that justify her subsequent historical reputation. I also shed light on the immediate circumstances of her murder, specifically suggesting it happened on the day when she was making the equinoctial observations. Finally, I propose instituting a

memorial day for Hypatia on the day of the vernal equinox.

I approached UNESCO with this proposal, but they argued that the petition must first be adopted by a national body. I am therefore asking each of you to sign a petition requesting that the Canadian parliament recognize March 20th as Hypatia Day in honor of her sacrifice. The petition may be found at https://www.change.org/p/canada-s-parliament-commemorating-the-first-female-astronomer-hypatia-of-alexandria .

ari.belenkiy@gmail.com

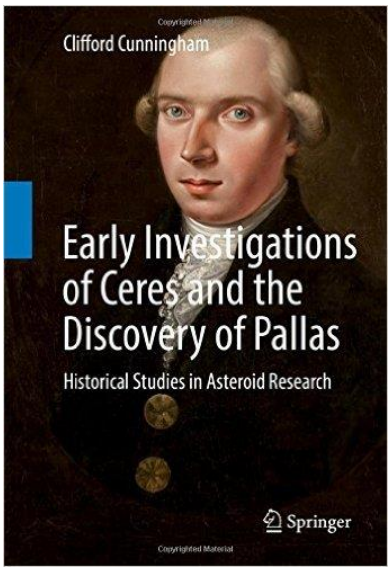
Jay Pasachoff suggests that readers will want to see the movie Agora (2009), starring Rachel Weisz as Hypatia.

Historical Studies in Asteroid Research

Cliff Cunningham, University of Southern Queensland

HAD member Clifford Cunningham is writing a four-volume history of early nineteenth century asteroid studies. The first two volumes in his *Historical Studies in Asteroid Research* series have recently been published by Springer.

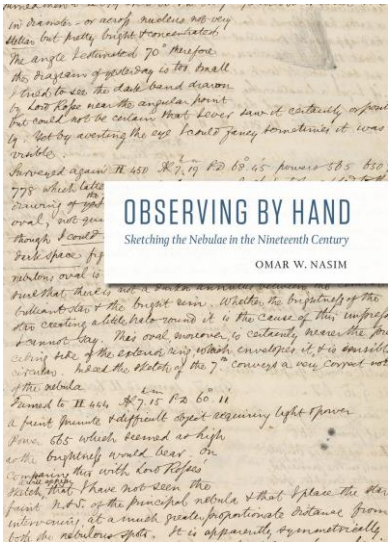
Discovery of the First Asteroid, Ceres (ISBN 978-3-319-21776-5) is the first text to give equal credit to Piazzi and Cacciatore for the discovery of Ceres in 1801 and includes all of the Ceres-related correspondence between Europe's astronomers in 1801 and 1802. The story of Ceres is continued in *Early Investigations of Ceres and the Discovery of Pallas* (ISBN 978-3-319-28813-0) where all of the scientific papers from this period are published. The author's discovery of who created the word 'asteroid' is given here, along with an exploration of the philosophical background to the great drama that surrounded the study and discovery of Ceres and Pallas. The four-volume set, twenty-five years in the making and consisting of 750,000 words, will also include a study of Juno and Vesta.

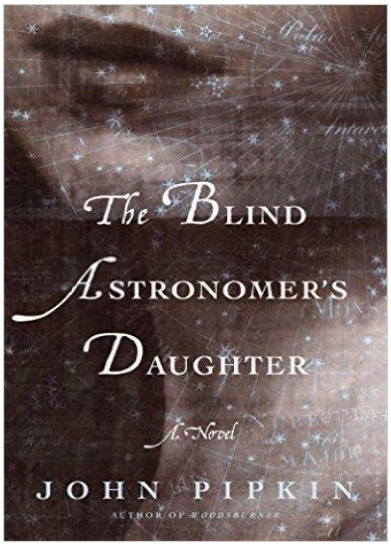


Book News

Ken Rumstay, Valdosta State University

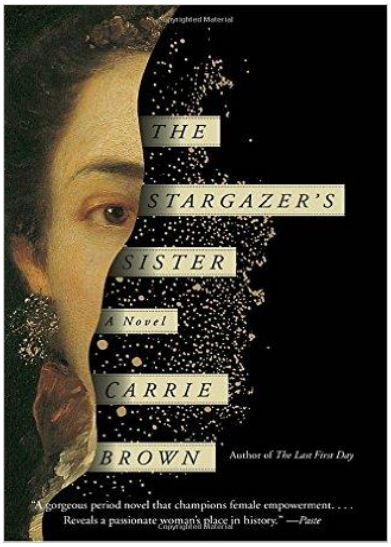
Omar Nasim (University of Regensburg) has won the History of Science Society's 2016 Pfizer Book Award. This award was established in 1958 through the generosity of Pfizer, Inc. to recognize an outstanding book in the history of science. Dr. Nisam received the prize for his 2014 book *Observing by Hand: Sketching the Nebulae in the Nineteenth Century* (University of Chicago, ISBN 9780226084374). The book is copiously illustrated on high-quality paper (resulting in unusually fine reproduction), and includes a twenty-page list of sources. Congratulations to Dr. Nasim!





On the lighter side, astronomers Caroline and John Herschel are at the heart of American author John Pipkin's latest novel *The Blind Astronomer's Daughter*. (Bloomsbury, ISBN 9781632861870). An excerpt from the publisher's synopsis reads:

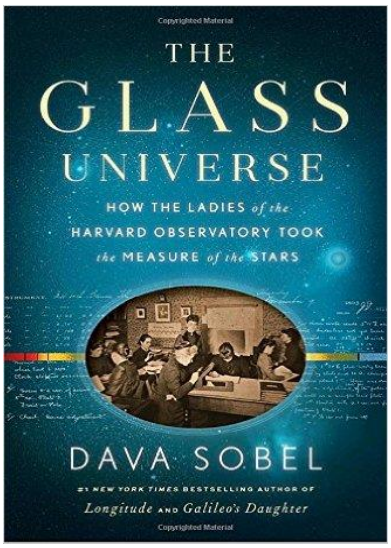
In late-eighteenth-century Ireland, Caroline Ainsworth is an accidental stargazer and an orphan. Her adopted father, the astronomer Arthur Ainsworth, lived a life of obsession, hunting an unknown planet near Mercury, often with his precocious daughter at his side. But his fevered search left him blind from staring into the sun; his love and livelihood lost to him, he chose death over a darkened life.



Another recent novel based upon the life of Caroline Herschel is Carrie Brown's *The Stargazer's Sister*, published by Pantheon (ISBN 978-0804197939). In this work Caroline herself is the protagonist.

I must confess that I have not yet read either of these novels. If any of you have and would like to provide a review for publication in *HAD News*, please contact me!

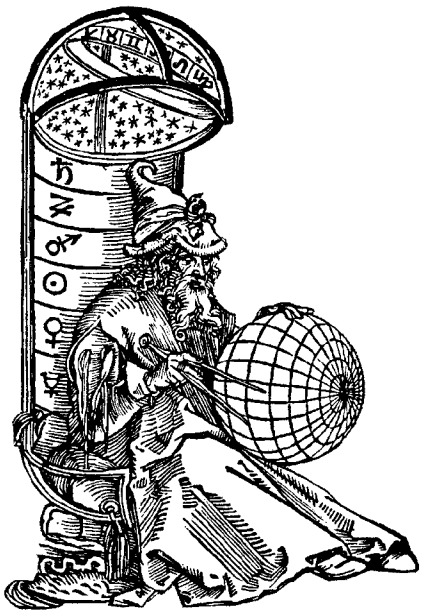
For a nonfictional account of the lives of the Herschels, I would of course recommend the excellent *Discoverers of the Universe: William and Caroline Herschel*, by Michael Hoskin (2011, Princeton University, ISBN 978-0691148335). Michael was the fourth winner of the HAD Doggett Prize, in 2004.



Finally, *The Glass Universe: How the Ladies of the Harvard Observatory Took the Measure of the Stars* by Dava Sobel (Viking, ISBN 978-067-001-6952) is scheduled for release on December 6th. This account of the female staff members of the Harvard College Observatory a century ago has as its theme the thousands of photographic plates that Anne Canon, Henrietta Leavitt and others used to make their transformative discoveries.

That's all for now. If you would like to see any new works in the history of astronomy featured in these pages, please let me know!

hadsec@aas.org



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A complete version of this newsletter, with color photographs and active links, may be found on the HAD website at http://had.aas.org/.

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