

COMMISSION 26:**DOUBLE & MULTIPLE STARS/ETOILES DOUBLES ET MULTIPLES**

Report by Charles E. WORLEY
President 1994-97

Organizing Committee 1997-2000

PRESIDENT:	H. Zinnecker	Germany
VICE-PRESIDENT:	C. Scarfe	Canada
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:	C. Allen	Mexico
*	J. Armstrong*	USA
	W. Hartkopf	USA
*	R. Mathieu*	USA
	A. Tokovinin	Russia
*	M. Valtonen*	Finland
	C. Worley (ex-officio)	USA

* Incoming member of the OC

Membership**NEW MEMBERS:**

R. Hindsley (USA), C. Hummel (Germany), D. Jassur (Iran), E. Martin (Spain), R. Mathieu (USA), C. Prieto (Spain), G. Torres (USA), S. Soederhjelm (Sweden) & J. Wang (China PR).

CONSULTANT:

B. Mason (USA)

NECROLOGY:

I regret to inform you of the deaths of the following members: P. Baize, W. Luyten, A. Shul'berg & P. van de Kamp

Business Meeting

The attendance was small (9 members). Results of the mail ballot resulted in the election to office of those names starred above. As is customary, the former Vice-President, Dr. Zinnecker, succeeds to the Presidency.

There was a brief discussion of the future direction the Commission might take, and there was general agreement that this would undoubtedly involve the combination of the classical astrometry and spectroscopy of binary stars with rapidly growing and much more accurate modern techniques. Also, it was emphasized that a true understanding of the mechanisms of star formation cannot be attained without accounting for the large number of binary and multiple stars extant.

Two important meetings concerning binary and multiple stars occurred in 1995 (Calgary, Canada) and 1996 (Santiago de Compostela, Spain). Dr. Zinnecker tentatively proposed a future Symposium about the year 2000 on general topics of interest. Worley reported on the present status of the Washington Visual Double Star Catalog and the Orbit Catalog, as well as the progress of the speckle program and the Navy Prototype Optical Interferometer.