IOTA’s 29th Annual Meeting Minutes

Quick Summary

Richard Nugent
The International Occultation Timing Association's Annual Meetings

The Annual Homer F. DaBoll Award

Annual Meetings  1998  1999  2000  2001  2002  2003  2004  2005
               2006  2007  2008  2009  2010  2011

The Founding of IOTA

A history and beginnings of IOTA is covered in Chapter 12 of the free e-book: "Chasing the Shadows: The IOTA Occultation Observer Manual". IOTA was unofficially started in 1962 by David Dunham, when he made the first prediction of a grazing occultation of 5 Tau that was successfully observed by another observer Leonard Kapil near Carson junction, California. Following this observed graze, David Dunham began making predictions of lunar grazing occultations and over the next 12 years began sending them out regularly to hundreds of active observers worldwide who were hungry for these rare types of scientifically valuable observations.

By 1974, Dunham's mailing list was so huge that the costs of computing predictions, photocopying instructions, and postage exceeded the budget of either his personal finances or what he felt he could obtain from any institution with which he was affiliated. So after years of resisting a formal structure, in 1974 he was compelled to start a quarterly Occultation Newsletter (renamed Journal of Occultation Astronomy in 2010) for an annual subscription fee, which included the cost of local graze predictions. The first editor of Occultation Newsletter was Homer F. DaBoll. DaBoll was the person that coined the term 'IOTA' as the International Occultation Timing Association. Homer F. DaBoll had a long history with IOTA right up until his death on March 10, 1990 at the age of 69 in Saint Charles, Illinois.

DaBoll was born on May 75, 1875. He was a major observer/issuance leader for numerous partial occultations in the Chicago area during 3 decades from the 1860's to 1900. He edited Occultation Newsletter for 18 years from its first issue.
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**IOTA’s Annual Meetings**

Scotty Degenhardt, 2011 Homer F. Daboll Recipient
First ever recorded asteroid occultation from Iraq:
2011 April 1, 554 Peraga

Observers: Paul Maley, Ashy Hasan, Rojgar Hamid
Korek Observatory
Occultation chord resolution is ~200 meters/video frame.
90 Antiope, 2011 Jul 19
The meteors that arrive late in this shower tend to be brighter than the early ones. Minor activity has been reported as much as a week before and after the peak date; this needs to be monitored too.

Asteroid Occultations

Among the asteroid occultations that will cross North America in January, just waiting for you to time them, three stand out for the brightness of the stars that will wink out:

- On the evening of January 8th, the faint asteroid 75 Eurydice will cover up an 8.3-magnitude star in Auriga for up to 3 seconds along a track from North Carolina through Texas.
- On the morning of January 19th, 911 Agamemnon will occult an 8.0-magnitude star in Lynx for up to 9 seconds along a track from the Washington, D.C. region northwest across most of the Great Lakes.
- On the evening of January 29th, 1746 Brouwer will occult a 7.0-magnitude star in Aries for up to 4 seconds along a path from Oregon through the Minneapolis/St. Paul area to Massachusetts.

For finder charts, path maps, and further information, see asteroidoccultation.com/IndexAll.htm. Here you’ll also find many more asteroid-occultation predictions worldwide.

For all about observing and timing these events, see asteroidoccultation.com/asteroid_doc.htm.

For more past results, see asteroidoccultation.com/observations/Results.

Occultation by Antiope A and B
July 19, 2011

SkyandTelescope.com January 2012 51
IOTA-VTI

http://www.videotimers.com
Bruce Berger, John Broughton and David Dunham presented the design and specifications of the “Ultra-Portable Telescope for Occultation Expeditions” i.e., suitcase telescope.
IOTA Officers Meeting Agenda

- 2nd IOTA Award
- BAILY’S BEADS SCIENCE CONTINUATION
- FUNDING EFFORT FOR FUTURE HARDWARE NEEDS
- TRANSITION OF OLDER OFFICERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- COMBINE WEB SITES TO MAKE A SINGLE SITE