

BY LAWS OF THE MID HUDSON ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be Mid Hudson Astronomical Association. (Herein called the "Association").

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The object of the Association shall be to increase knowledge of astronomy among members of the general public; to allow persons with a keen interest in astronomical topics to share their experiences and benefit from the common discussion; to promote the enjoyment of exploring the universe for persons of all ages; and to affiliate with other similar groups both local and national.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERS

Section 1 The membership of this Association shall be open to all persons interested in astronomy. Both amateur and professional astronomers as well as persons who have only an interest in astronomy are welcome to membership.

Section 2 Membership will be conferred on any person who pays the annual dues of the Association. Membership must be renewed each year. The annual dues will be determined each year by the membership at the November meeting for the next calendar year. Dues must be paid to the Treasurer by January 30. Upon payment of dues a membership card for the new calendar year is issued. Persons who fail to renew their membership will be dropped from the newsletter mailing list. Dues are pro-rated to when a new member joins; 1/12 of the annual fee is due for each full month left in the calendar year.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

Section 1 The officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Chairperson and Newsletter Editor. These six persons plus four additional Association members called Directors will constitute the Steering Committee. These ten offices shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Association.

Section 2 At the regular meeting in October a Nominating Committee will be elected by the Association to draw up a list of candidates for an election of officers. Said list will be announced at the November meeting and elections held at the December meeting.

Additional nominations from the floor may be made by members at the November meeting.

Section 3 The officers shall be elected by ballot to serve for one year or until their successors are elected, and their term of office shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

Section 4 No member shall hold more than one office at a time.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1 The regular meetings of the Association shall be held on the third Tuesday of each month throughout the year unless otherwise ordered by the Association or by the Steering Committee.

Section 2 The regular meeting in December shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and for other business that may arise.

Section 3 Special meetings may be called by the President or the Steering committee and shall be called upon the written request of ten members of the Association. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in cases of emergency, at least one week's notice shall be given.

Section 4 Fifteen members of the Association shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VI - STEERING COMMITTEE

Section 1 The officers of the Association, including the four Directors, shall constitute the Steering Committee.

Section 2 The Steering Committee shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Association between its business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Association, and shall perform such other duties as are specified in these bylaws. The Steering Committee shall be subject to orders of the Association, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Association.

Section 3 Unless otherwise ordered by the Steering Committee its meetings will immediately precede or follow the regular monthly meetings of the Association. Special meetings of the committee may be called by the President and shall be called upon written request of three members of the Steering Committee.

ARTICLE VII - COMMITTEES

Section 1 A Finance Committee composed of the Treasurer and two other members shall be appointed by the President promptly after each annual meeting. It shall be the duty of this committee to prepare a budget, for the fiscal year beginning the first day of March, and to submit it to the Association at its regular meeting in February. The finance Committee may from time to time submit supplements to the budget for the current fiscal year.

Section 2 A Program Committee of three members headed by the Vice President shall be appointed by the President promptly after the annual meeting. The committee's duty shall be to plan the year's program for the Association. This committee's report shall be submitted to the Association for its approval at the February meeting.

Section 3 An Auditing Committee shall consist of the four directors of the Association. The committee's duty shall be to audit the Treasurer's accounts at the close of the fiscal year and to report at the annual meeting.

Section 4 Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the Association or the Steering Committee shall from time to time deem necessary to carry on the work of the Association. The President shall be ex officio a member of all committees except the Nominating committee.

ARTICLE VIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules or order the Association may adopt.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws contained may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION OF ASSOCIATION

The Association will be considered dissolved if 3/4 of the Steering Committee approves a 'Motion To Dissolve' The Association at a Steering Committee Meeting.

Advance notice to make a 'Motion to Dissolve' must be given to each Steering

Committee member before the meeting.

In the event of Dissolution, The Association's assets will be distributed to non-profit organizations that the Steering Committee deems would benefit from such assets. Assets may include telescopes, computer equipment, cash, CDs, Bonds, and any other possessions that the Association owns.

Suggested (but not required) recipients are libraries, schools, colleges, The International Dark Sky Association, The Astronomical League, other local Astronomical Associations, etc.

Revised as per vote of 06/20/2007 business meeting.