

AMATEUR ASTRONOMY IN YUGOSLAVIA

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Abstract. Amateur astronomy in Yugoslavia is connected with activities of five astronomical societies located in Belgrade, Novi Sad, Niš, Kragujevac and Zrenjanin.

Astronomical Society "Rudjer Bošković" from Belgrade was first amateur astronomical society in Balkan. It was founded in 1934 as "University's Astronomical Society". The founders of the Society were eight students from Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade. It was active till 1941. After the Second World War, the Society has continued activity since 1952 with the present name. Today the Society "R. Bošković" is the biggest one in Yugoslavia, it has about a thousand members and it disposes the so called People's Observatory located in Despot's Tower within the medieval Belgrade fortress "Kalemegdan" and a planetarium in down part of "Kalemegdan". Also, the Society is publishing the periodical "Vasiona" which contains popular astronomical papers (for more details see Popović 1997).

Astronomical Society "Novi Sad" – ADNOS from Novi Sad was founded in 1974. The Society disposes a small observatory located in a building in the Petrovaradin fortress. The Society has over 200 members (for more details see Francisty 1997).

Astronomical Society "Belerofont" from Kragujevac was grown from a small observatory called "Belerofont" with Meniskus Cassegrain Spiegel telescope 150/2250 that was opened in 1986, during the Halley comet event. This Society has about a hundred members (for more details see Babović 1997).

Astronomical Society "Alpha" from Niš was founded in 1996, and it operates in Niš. The Society has about fifty members and it is plaining to built a city opservatory (for more details see Sekulčić 1997).

Astronomical Society "Milutin Milanković" was founded in 1996 in Zrenjanin. The society has about a hundred members, manly students. Also, the Society is going to build a small observatory nearby Zrenjanin. The programme of the Society includes cooperation with primary and secondary schools (for more details see Naumovski and Bracić 1997).

References

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