

45 Years of Heck in Professional Astronomy

by Joe Hube

The logo for Vengeance, featuring the word "Vengeance" in a blue, sans-serif font. A small yellow star is positioned above the letter 'V'. Below the word, there is a faint, light blue circular graphic element.

Vengeance

ISBN 978-2-9542677-3-9
All rights reserved
for all countries
© Vengeist 2016
5 rue des Mésanges
F-67120 Duttlenheim, France
vengeist.books@gmail.com
<http://www.vengeist.org/>

Table of Contents

Foreword	1
Coming to Astronomy	3
Verviers	8
Liège	14
The University Studies	18
Liège Institute of Astrophysics	27
Joining Pol Swings' Group	32
Paris Observatory and the Gestation of CDS	39
Dismantling and Packing the Meridian Instrument	44
First Contact with the Observatories in Chile	48
Discovering Comet 1973a	50
Total Solar Eclipses in Africa	56
The PhD Degree	64
The 'Modern' Statistical Methodology	67
Photometric Observations	68
President of the Liège Astronomical Society	76
A Career in Full Momentum	82
When Belgian Politics Meddles In	86
The International Ultraviolet Explorer	91
Building an Observatory from Scratch	97
IUE Science Operations	106
Deputy and Acting Director	113
Linking CDS to the Space World	116
Other Scientific Activities	120
Parallel Activities	126
"Wherever You Wish, Dr Heck"	130
First Years in Strasbourg	139
The Tortuous Way Towards Being Tenured	141
Statistical Methodologies	149

Ultraviolet Stellar Classification	152
The ProfDSc and HDR Degrees	157
The ProfDSc degree	158
The HDR degree	163
Helping to Put CDS onto the Worldwide Scene	164
Other Scientific and Parallel Activities	173
Anni Horribiles	181
The Directorship of Strasbourg Observatory	184
Weird Visitors, Death Threats, and Other Events	188
Passing on the Torch	190
Parallel Activities	195
The Star*s Family and Relatives	207
The First Star*s	210
The StarPages	216
Maintenance, Rights and Other Facets	220
Organizational Studies and Other Research	227
The Editor-Catalyst and the Historian	239
The Information Flow	242
The OSA Volumes	248
The Stroobant Prize	251
Where was Publishing Going?	256
Historical Investigations	260
Black Holes, Gravitational Mirages, and Supernova Impostors	271
The Exceptional Class	275
Scheduling the Retirement	280
Launching Vennggeist	286
Continuing Activities	292
Over the Last Passes into Serenity Valley	296
Epilogue	305
General Bibliography	307
Documents	315
Brief Curriculum Vitae	337
Biographical Notices	344
NDBA Biographical Notice (2006)	344
Stroobant Prize Press Release (2007)	346

Selected Citations	348
References	353
Collaborators	363
Missions	369
Meetings, Conferences, Seminars & Lectures	383
Publications by A. Heck	401
Presentation	401
Main Papers	403
Secondary Professional Publications	415
Books Produced	435
Monographs	437
Atlases & Catalogues	439
Directories	441
Edited Newsletters & Proceedings of Scientific Meetings	443
Bibliographical Reviews	445
Public Outreach Papers	453
Column "Les Potins d'Uranie"	461
Databases	473
Summaries of a Few Publications	475
Distance Scale Algorithmica	475
RR Lyrae Stars	476
Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram	476
Photometric Data Reductions	479
Interface Between Photometric and Spectroscopic Data	480
Space Operations	482
Ultraviolet Spectral Classification	482
The Very Slow Nova RR Tel	483
The Irregular Variable Star V348 Sgr	484
Cosmic Medley	485
Electronic Information Handling	488
The Star*s Family	489
Socio-strategical and Organizational Studies	491
Historical Investigations	494
Tables of Contents of Books Produced	497
List of Illustrations	517

Abbreviations	523
----------------------	------------

Indices	535
----------------	------------

Index of Dates	537
Index of People	551
Index of Places	567
General Index	577