

題名 [See] ISWI Newsletter – Vol. 5 No. 027
 差出人 maeda@serc.kyushu-u.ac.jp

```
*****
* ISWI Newsletter – Vol. 5 No. 027                                03 March 2013 *
*                                                                 *
*       I S W I = International Space Weather Initiative          *
*                   (www.iswi-secretariat.org)                     *
*                                                                 *
* Publisher:      Professor K. Yumoto, ICSWSE, Kyushu University, Japan *
* Editor-in-Chief: Mr. George Maeda, ICSWSE (maeda[at]serc.kyushu-u.ac.jp)*
* Archive location: www.iswi-secretariat.org (maintained by Bulgaria) *
*       [click on "Publication" tab, then on "Newsletter Archive"] *
* Caveat: Under the Ground Rules of ISWI, if you use any material from *
*       the ISWI Newsletter or Website, however minor it may seem *
*       to you, you must give proper credit to the original source. *
*****
```

Attachment(s):

- (1) "A", 626 KB pdf, one page.
- (2) "B", 724 KB pdf, 2 pages.

```
-----
:                               Re:
:                               Professor Dr. Donat G. Wentzel
:
```

Dear ISWI Participant:

The following note is from Prof. Hans Haubold at UNOOSA.
 (Two obituaries on Prof. Wentzel are also attached.)

+++++

Dear George:

We have received the sad news that
 Professor Dr. Donat G. Wentzel passed away on
 22 February 2013. It was Don Wentzel who agreed,
 at the General Assembly of the IAU at Kyoto in 1997,
 to write a book titled "Astrophysics for University
 Physics Courses" for the UNBSSI. This book was
 published in 2003 as a United Nations document
 (ST/SPACE/12; 1150 copies) in print and accessible
 on the world wide web:
 <<http://neutrino.aquaphoenix.com/un-esa/astrophysics/index.html>>

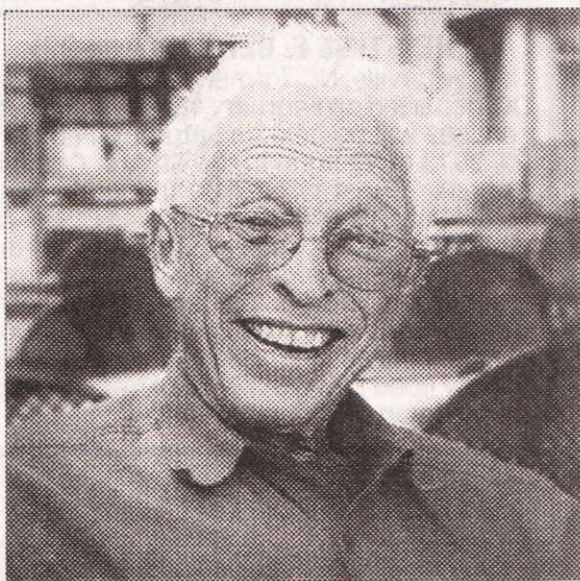
This book was one leg of the UNBSSI TRIPOD that consisted
 of an astronomical telescope (donated by Japan),
 observing programmes for variable stars (provided by
 the American Association of Variable Stars Observers),
 and teaching material (Astrophysics for University Physics
 Courses). This TRIPOD concept for basic space science
 (1991–2004) was later adopted by the IAU in its Strategic
 Plan 2010–2020 "Astronomy for the Developing World –
 Building from IYA 2009"
 (http://iau.org/static/education/strategicplan_091001.pdf).

Since 2005 the UNBSSI is pursuing a TRIPOD for space weather
 consisting of a space weather instrument, instructions for
 the operation of the respective instrument, and education
 material for space weather. This information is for the
 ISWI Newsletter. Hans

+++++

Forever cordially yours,
: George Maeda
: The Editor
: ISWI Newsletter

WENTZEL



DONAT G. WENTZEL, Ph.D. "Don"
June 25, 1934 – February 20, 2013

After experiencing the first signs of cancer only two months ago, Don's journey to die with dignity came to a peaceful end on February 20 at the home of his only child Tania DuBeau, son-in-law Ed DuBeau and grandson Dylan (15) in Glenwood, MD with the gentle care and support of Gilchrist Hospice. He was born the only child of Gregor and Anny Wentzel in Zurich, Switzerland in 1934 and came to Chicago, IL as a young teen beginning to learn his English from comic books. Although he met the future love of his life soon after coming to the US, it was not until 1959 when he married Maria Mayer. After earning Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the University of Chicago, he spent a year studying in Leiden in The Netherlands while Maria was studying in Germany. It was upon their return to Chicago that he married her and then in 1960 earned his Ph.D. in Physics at the University of Chicago. After teaching for 6 years at the University of Michigan, they moved with their daughter to Lanham, Maryland where they raised her. From 1966 until his retirement in 1994, he was an astronomy professor at the University

of Maryland. While there, he shared his passion for making astronomy interesting for non-science majors and was instrumental in developing the first Astro 100 course which was later offered at other US colleges and taken by thousands of Terps students over the years. He further enhanced astronomy and solar physics education for college students in scientifically developing countries around the world, including China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Vietnam and Iran through teaching classes, coordinating and presenting at international conferences, and serving in several capacities with the International Astronomical Union, International School for Young Astronomers, American Astronomical Society (AAS), and American Association for the Advancement of Science. His book "The Restless Sun" was named Book of the Year in 1989 by the Astronomical Society of the Pacific and in 2003 he was awarded the George Van Biesbroeck Prize by the AAS for his extraordinary contributions.

Don described his 46-year marriage to Maria as "precious and enduring" and devoted years to caring for her until she died in 2005. In memory of his mother and wife, he dedicated his last seven years to volunteering and serving as Board President and Vice President of Compassion and Choices of the National Capital Area to ensure that end of life choices exist for all. With Maria, he had shared a love for worldwide travel, intellectual conversations, good wine, theaters, visits to Switzerland, and their daughter and her family. During 2012, he continued to enjoy spending several months in Ascona, hiking in the Swiss mountains and traveling through Italy with Tania's family, visiting friends and family in Germany and Poland, and while back home in Rockville MD he spent weekends at his daughter's home attending Dylan's games, playing cards, and enjoying family and holiday dinners.

He will be buried beside his wife in Ascona, Switzerland. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you buy a good bottle of wine, share it with someone you love, and toast to your memories. Prost, Don, to a well-lived life and well-deserved rest. *Ciao.*

Donat G. Wentzel

The renowned plasma astrophysicist and teacher Donat Gotthard Wentzel died of a rapidly developing cancer on February 20, 2013 at the home of his daughter, Tania DuBeau, in Glenwood, Maryland. Don did research on cosmic magnetism and electrical currents flowing in interstellar space and on the Sun, kinetic plasma physics and radiation theory. But he considered his educational activities more important.

He received the Van Biesbroeck prize in 2003 for his long-term extraordinary and unselfish service to astronomy beyond the requirements of his paid position.



Don was born in 1934 in Zurich, Switzerland, where his father, Gregor Wentzel, was a professor of physics at the University. In the late 40s the family moved to Chicago before Don entered college. He quickly learned English and picked up what was needed to finish college and earn a PhD at the University of Chicago. During his graduate years, he spent a year in Leiden in the Netherlands and married Maria Mayer. After he finished his PhD in 1960, he worked for 6 years at the University of Michigan, becoming an associate professor in 1964. Finally, he and his family moved to Maryland, where Don was a professor in the Astronomy Department at the University of Maryland until his retirement.

Don's seminal work on cosmic-ray propagation made him known in a wide community. Proton resonant scattering by Alfvén waves led him to propose the concept of self-confinement of cosmic-rays in the Galaxy. In the 1970s, coronal heating caught his attention; he studied hydromagnetic surface waves, their coupling to other waves and their dissipation. He also became involved in kinetic problems of solar flare radio emissions and applied percolation theory to the development of solar active regions. Typical for his approach was the theoretical derivation of plasma phenomena from first principles. He did not just refer to the highly cryptic theories from laboratory plasma physics at that time, but wanted to understand physics thoroughly. There was always the question in his mind about how he would explain this to his students.

Combining his experience in science and teaching, he published a book on "The Restless Sun". It was named Book of the Year by the Astronomical Society of the Pacific in 1989.

A countless number of students remember Don fondly. He patiently supported young people struggling to enter science. Apart from his work with students and graduates in astronomy, he helped to develop an astronomy course for college students who would not be majoring in a science. This course at one time attracted over 3000 students per year at the University of Maryland. As part of this course, he developed student activities and lab courses based on astronomical photographs and other data. He stimulated similar courses nationally and internationally. This work took a large part of his time, therefore often only the summer months were left for research. Spending a half-year sabbatical in India opened his eyes to teaching astronomy in less privileged countries. He became involved with the Commission on Teaching Astronomy of the International Astronomical Union in the 1970s. As its president, starting in 1979, he was actively supporting the teaching of astronomy as a medium for science education in scientifically developing countries. This became a very important activity for him in the last years of his professional career. His main sponsor was the International Astronomical Union, for which he organized and/or participated as faculty of eight

International Schools for Young Astronomers. He supervised a visiting-lecturer program in Peru and Paraguay, and helped to develop astronomy in Vietnam, Morocco, Central America, and the Philippines. Tirelessly, he gave series of lectures during three-week visits in China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. He initiated programs, negotiated annual programs, and identified suitable advisors. His goal was a sustainable development in education, and in many countries his work had an impact that is still growing. He was an ambassador of Western astronomy to the rest of the world.

Don Wentzel was a joyful and peaceful person helping everybody he met along the way. He was also a connoisseur of good wine. In his honor, his family asks that you buy a good bottle of wine, share it with somebody you love, and toast to your memories. Prost, Don!

Arnold O. Benz
ETH Zurich
Switzerland