

Bob Evans: His Many Nova/Supernova Awards

In the period from 1981-2008, Bob Evans discovered 42 supernovae visually through the eyepiece of a telescope. Many of his discoveries were made through his 16inch Dob (shown below) or his 12inch Dob at Hazelbrook in the Blue Mountains. He would work systematically through a few hundred galaxies in just the one session. A complete list of his supernovae discoveries can be found in the document “Bob Evans Record Supernovae Discoveries”.



Bob Evans at Linden Observatory 2006 – Photo by Nick Lomb

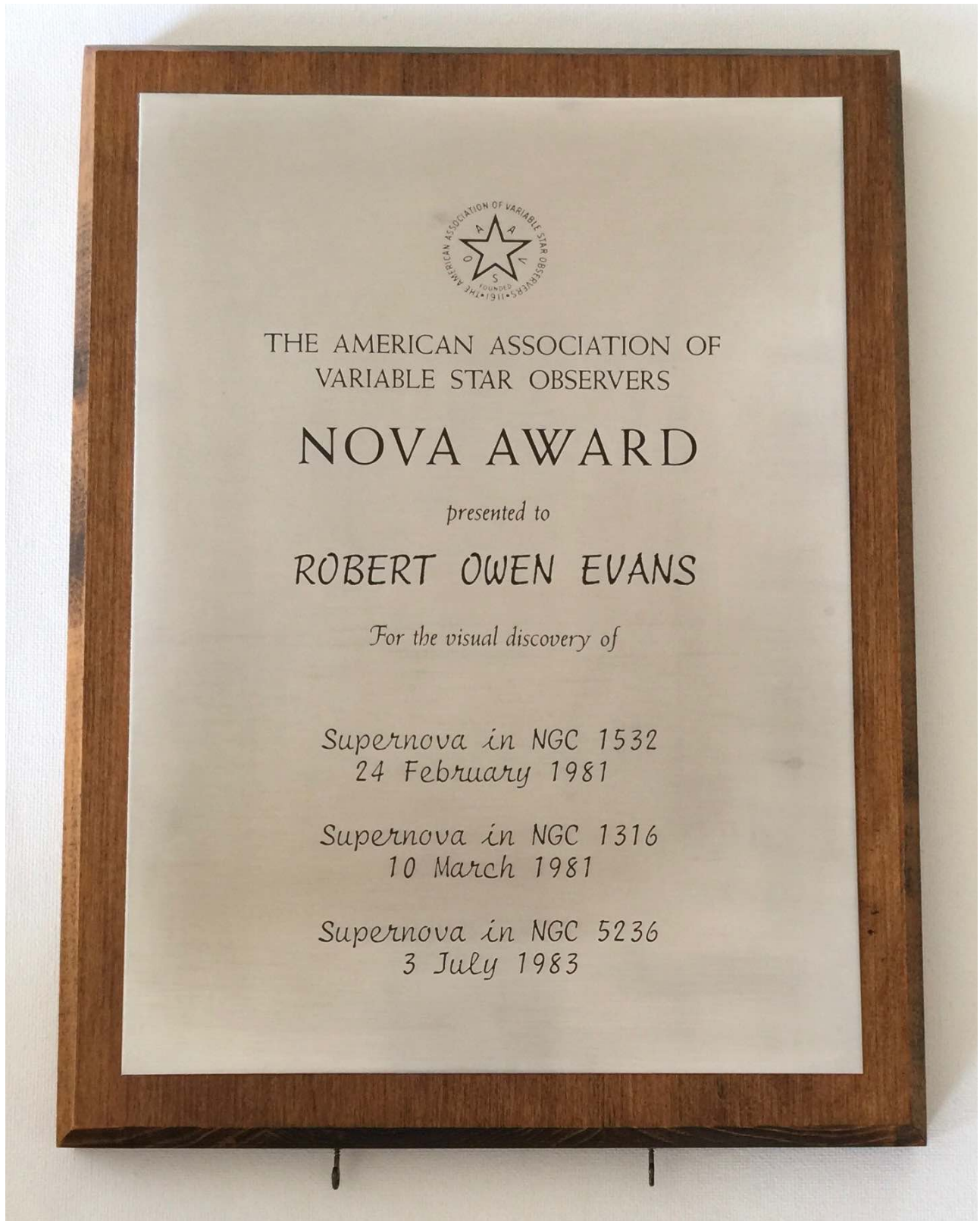
In 1928, an annual Nova Award Medal was instituted by the AAVSO to encourage and recognize the visual discoverers of novae. It was replaced by the Nova Award Plaque, which was also awarded to visual discoverers of supernovae. The Nova Award Plaque eventually became the Supernova Award Plaque for visual discoveries of supernovae. The award has been given out 69 times between 1934 and 2007. On a rough average, one Nova/Supernova Award was given out each year. These days, supernovae are discovered routinely through computer-processed digital images of galaxies.

The full list of Nova/Supernova Award winners to 2007 can be found on the AAVSO website here ... <https://www.aavso.org/novasupernova-award>

The AAVSO has awarded Bob their Nova/Supernova Award (herein abbreviated to SN Award) on no less than 15 separate occasions. Some of the awards include several supernova discoveries over a few years.

Bob's first SN Award was the AAVSO's 14th Award given out. It was awarded to Bob for the following visual discoveries of supernovae:

SN 1981A in NGC 1532, SN 1981D in NGC 1316, SN 1983N in NGC 5236 (M83)



Bob also discovered SN 1983S in NGC 1448 after the above plaque had been made but before it had been presented and several more supernovae in the two years after. For these, he received additional hanging plates to go under his first award. SN 1983V in NGC 1365, SN 1984N in NGC 7184, SN 1984J in NGC 1559, SN 1984L in NGC 991, SN 1985P in NGC 1433



In 1986, the AAVSO changed the policy, and decided to give a plaque each time an award was made. If two discoveries came close together, then the two supernovae would be listed on the one plaque e.g. both SN 1986A and SN 1986G.

The AAVSO's 17th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 1986A in NGC 3367 and SN 1986G in NGC 5128 (Centaurus A), which is not listed on their website but was actually put on the plaque.

The AAVSO's 20th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 1986L in NGC 1559, SN 1987B in NGC 5850, SN 1987N in NGC 7606

The AAVSO's 23rd SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 1989B in NGC 3627 (M66), SN 1990K in NGC 150, SN 1990M in NGC 5493, SN 1990W in NGC 6221, SN 1991X in NGC 4902

The AAVSO's 30th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 1992ad in NGC 4411B, SN 1992ba in 2082, SN 1993L in IC 5270

The AAVSO's 41st SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 1995G in NGC 1643, SN 1995V in NGC 1087

The AAVSO's 46th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 1995ad in NGC 2139, SN 1996X in NGC 5061, SN 1996al in NGC 7689

The AAVSO's 53rd SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 1997bp in NGC 4680

The AAVSO's 59th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 2000cj in NGC 6753

The AAVSO's 61st SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of –
SN 2001du in NGC 1365



THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
VARIABLE STAR OBSERVERS

NOVA AWARD

presented to

ROBERT O. EVANS

For the visual discovery of

SUPERNOVA 2001du IN NGC 1365
August 24.7 UT

The AAVSO's 65th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 2001ig in NGC 7424

The AAVSO's 66th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 2003B near NGC 1097, SN 2003gd in NGC 628 (M74), SN 2003gs in NGC 936, SN 2003hn in NGC 1448



THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
VARIABLE STAR OBSERVERS

SUPERNOVA AWARD

presented to

ROBERT O. EVANS

for the visual discovery of

*SUPERNOVA 2003 B near NGC 1097
January 5.5 UT*

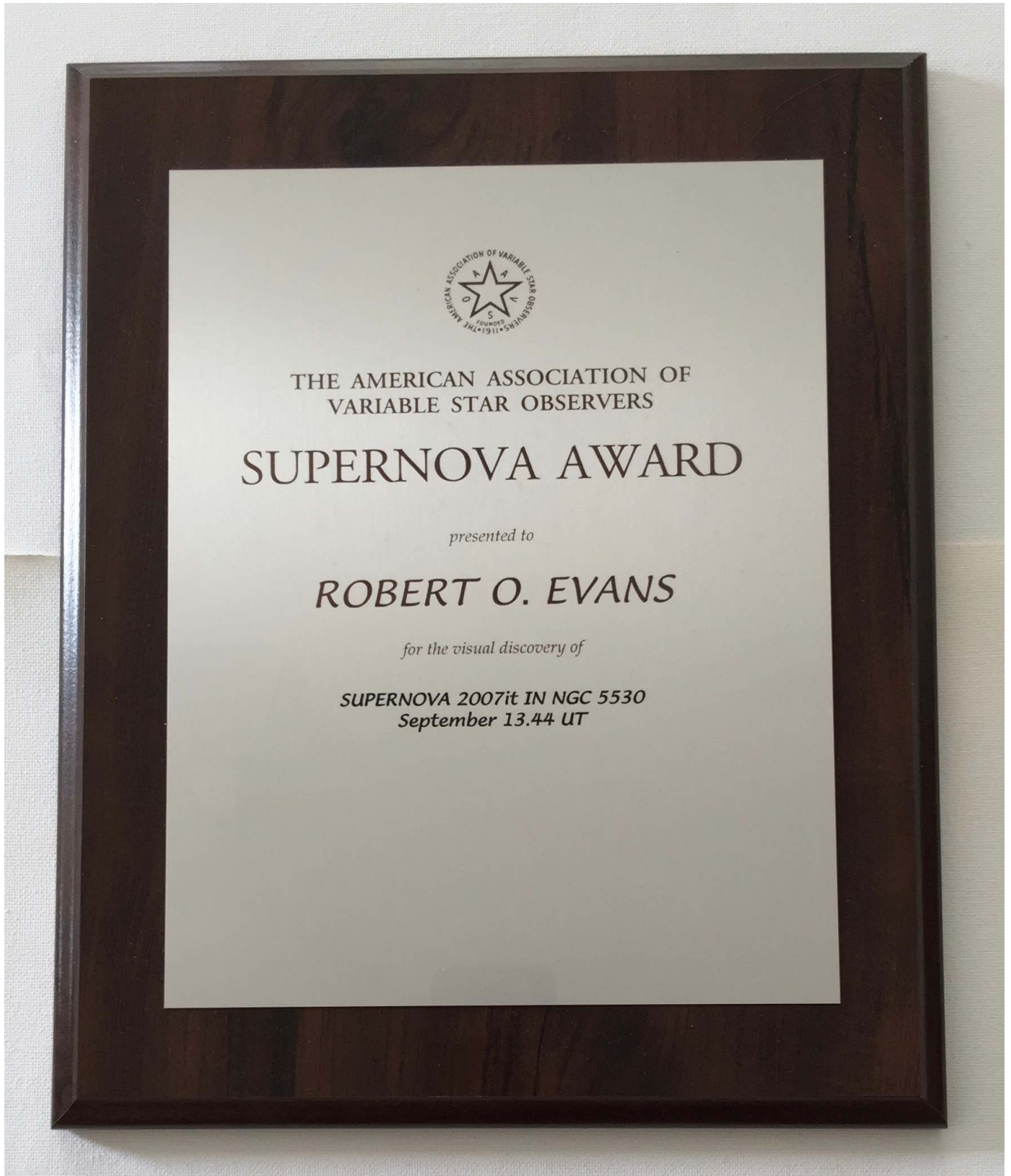
*SUPERNOVA 2003gd in NGC 628 (M74)
June 12.82 UT*

*SUPERNOVA 2003gs in NGC 936
July 29.75 UT*

*SUPERNOVA 2003hn in NGC 1448
August 25.70 UT*

The AAVSO's 67th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 2005df in NGC 1559

The AAVSO's 69th SN Award was awarded to Bob for the visual discovery of – SN 2007it in NGC 5530



Rob Horvat (May 2016)