

### PHOENIX Society Meeting

During the 1997 Maribor Symposium, a number of informal meetings were held, attended by Symposium participants eager to form a new international society, a society that became affectionately known as PHOENIX. At these meetings a lot of suggestions were put forward, many ideas were aired and the belief grew that a truly democratic society was about to be born.

On 17 July 1997 a large number of enthusiasts clustered round five or six tables on the verandah of the hotel and a more formal meeting was convened, chaired by Jill Silsby, with Vicky McMillan as Minute Recorder. All suggestions that had been put forward were examined and various important decisions were taken. The following is a shortened version of the proceedings:

1. It was agreed to found a new international dragonfly society and to call it, temporarily, PHOENIX (it later became the Worldwide Dragonfly Association).

2. It was agreed that PHOENIX be officered by [Mike Parr](#), [Jill Silsby](#), [Henri Dumont](#) & Heinrich Lohmann, all of whom had received substantial majorities in the postal ballot sent out to SIO members in Selysia 25/1. And that [Jean-Guy Pilon](#), as Past President of SIO, be the fifth officer and [Wolfgang Schneider](#) the sixth. Various proposals for the filling of a Treasurer's post were made, and it was agreed that vigorous action be taken to find such an officer.

3. It was agreed that an account be opened with Lloyds Bank Plc ("the Bank") in the UK and that the Bank be given instructions according to legal requirements, the correct wording being used.

4. It was agreed that accounts could be opened with banks in countries other than the UK for the purpose of (a) receiving subscriptions by Regional or National Representatives prior to transmitting them to the UK account; (b) receiving gifts or donations from sponsors, prior to transmitting them to the UK account. It was further agreed that the requirements of the individual banks be satisfied, along the lines given above.

5. It was agreed that, following the 1999 Colgate Symposium in the USA, past custom should be followed and the 2001 International Symposium of Odonatology should be held in Europe/Africa and not Asia/Australia. This being the case, it was agreed to accept the offer of Goeran and Anna Sahlen to host the 2001 Symposium in Sweden. It was further agreed that many members had been impressed by Dr Anatoly Haritonov's presentation and might like to visit Siberia; and that Anatoly might be persuaded to host the 2003 symposium - it being by then the turn of Asia/Australia.

The Meeting ended with many expressions of goodwill towards the new society - PHOENIX.

Signed: Vicky McMillan (Minute Recorder)

Jill Silsby (Chairman)