

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALIS ODONATOLOGICA AND THE U.S. NATIONAL OFFICE

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September 1, 1984

NORTH AMERICAN
ODONATA COLLECTORS MEETING

by

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The second biennial meeting of North American Odonata Collectors was genially hosted by Dr. K.J. Tennessen and his wife Sandra at Florence, Alabaga on 15-17 June Twelve other odonatologists from 6 states of the U.S. plus Ontario, Canada, were in attend-Participants from the U.S. ance. included George and Juanda Bick, Carl Cook, Jerrell Daigle, Thomas Donnelly, Sidney Dunkle, Rosser Garrison, Clark Shiffer, Timothy Vogt, and Minter Westfall. David Walker and his bride from Ontario used the meeting as part of their honeymoon, and I am glad to report that they are still happily married.

The meeting began with a gettogether on Friday evening 15 June, with informal discussions, delicious refreshments, and an excellent slide show on the local Odonata and their habitats by Ken Tennessen.

On Saturday and Sunday 16-17 June the group divided into several subgroups which collected and photographed Odonata at several localities in northern Alabama Tennessee. Sunny skies prevailed and a remarkable diversity of rare or unusual Odonata was collected and observed. including Tachopteryx maxwelli, thoreyi, Arigomphus Gomphus lineatifrons, G. sandrius, Hagenius brevistylus, Stylogomphus albistylus, Cordulegaster erronea, C. obliqua, Macronia alleghaniensis, flavida, Calopteryx Libellula angustipennis, Argia bipunctulata, Chromagrion conditum, and Amphiagrion saucium. Especially notable was the capture of an unforseen number of the elusive Ophiogomphus acuminatus, and the discovery of a new locality for this species.

On Saturday evening 16 June, participants partook of a tasty barbeque dinner, followed by fine slide presentations on Odonata and odonatologists by several attendees. Clark Shiffer showed slides taken during the first North American Odonata Collectors Meeting at Binghamton, New York, in 1982.

SELYSIA

A Newsletter of Odonatology

Compiled at
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by

Minter J. Westfall, Jr. and Margaret S. Westfall

This newsletter is designed to disseminate facts and news about the activities of Odonatologists and Odonatology. It is not intended as a journal nor an organ for the publication of articles or technical papers. The name is based upon that of the "Father of Odonatology", Baron Edmond de Selys Longchamps. Founded in 1963 by Dr. B. Elwood Montgomery at Purdue University, SELYSIA is now issued semi-annually, March 1 and September 1. With V. 13, #1 it was recognized as the official newsletter of the Societas Internationalis Odonatologica as well as the U.S. National Office of S.I.O.

All who have attended these meetings have greatly enjoyed them, and it is hoped that someone will step forward to host a similar meeting in 1986.

On the way to and from the Alabama meeting, some additional unusual Odonata were collected by several participants. Nick Donnelly and Clark Shiffer took some Gomphus brevis and Ophiogomphus mainensis in North Carolina, Carl Cook and Minter Westfall bagged some Gomphus sandrius and Ophiogomphus acuminatus in Tennessee, and Jerrell Daigle and Sid Dunkle collected some Gomphus modestus and Somatochlora ozarkensis in Arkansas.

Dr. M. A. LIEFTINCK'S 80th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

by

Philip S. Corbet

To mark the 80th birthday of S.I.O.'s Honorary President, Dr. M. A. Lieftinck. a special tribute number Odonatologica of presented to him on February 19, 1984 at his home in Rhenen, Holland by a "delegation" of members and Those able to attend were friends. Dirk Geijskes, Bastlaan and Marianne Kiauta, Janny van Brink, Rainer Rudolph, Philip Corbet, and Philip's daughter Katarina. (Rainer and Philip were able to bring greetings from their respective dragonfly societies in West Germany Britain.) For the occasion, S.I.O. had also invited Dr. Lieftinck's brother and sister, Professor Dr. G. I. Lieftinck and Mrs. C. W. van den Broek-Lieftinck. After a celebration in Maus Lieftinck's house, during which the Festschrift and a specially assembled album of photographs were admired, and during which a delicious cake, bearing the S.I.O. dragonfly emblem and made by Marianne, was consumed, the group repaired to a nearby restaurant for lunch. As usual, Marianne and her camera were there, expertly recording for the S.I.O. archives an event which will provide a happy and appropriate reminder of the affectionate esteem in which Maus is held by odonatologists.

> A CELEBRATION PARTY FOR ASAHINA ISSUE HELD

> > bу

Kiyoshi Inoue

As is well known, S.I.O. published a special issue of ODONATO-LOGICA, a tribute to S. Asahina for his 70th birthday. On this occasion, 16 colleagues living mostly in

Tokyo or nearby invited Dr. Syoziro and Mrs. Terue Asahina to a celebration party held on June 10, 1984 at Hitotsubashi Gakushi Kaikan (=Bachelors' Hall) in Tokyo hosted by K. Inoue. The Asahina Issue was presented to him by S. Eda, a celebration card signed by President M. J. Westfall, Executive Editor B. Kaiuta and Chairman of the National Office in Japan, K. Inoue, was presented by K. Inoue and a bouquet was presented to Mrs. Asahina by K. Miyakawa. A telegram "To Doctor Asahina Cordial Congratulations From the Council and Executive" arrived and was read. Greetings of thanks were given by Asahinas and they gave all attendants "Tombow brand" ball pens. A toast was proposed by J. Sawano. After lunch, Asahina had a short lecture on "Copera annulata composed of two different species!" etc. which was followed by table speeches of all attendants. Three cheers for Asahinas conducted by K. Hamada concluded this small but delightful party.

8th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM DATES SET

The 8th International Symposium of S.I.O. is to be held in Paris August 18-26, 1985. The chairman of the local organizing committee is Dr. Jean Legrand, Laboratoire d'Entomologie, museum national d'Histoire naturelle, 45 rue de Buffon, F-75005, Paris, France. Soon all members of S.I.O. will receive the Second and Final Circular with information about the sympopsium, along with registration forms.

TONY WATSON RECEIVES AWARD

A member of S.I.O., Dr. J.A.L. Watson, known to most of us as Tony, works at the CSIRO, Canberra, Australia. Word has been received that he was recently awarded the inaugural Ian Mackerras Medal, given

by the Australian Entomological Society for "excellence in entomology". Tony says the basis of the award was, in part, work on Odonata, the remainder being his various studies on termites and their caste systems. Congratulations Tony.

S.I.O. BANK ACCOUNT OPENED

Recently we have opened a checking account with interest for S.I.O. at the Big Empire of America in Gaines-The account number is 01 In the future, payments for 223940. dues and other invoices will be made to SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALIS ODONA-TOLOGICA and sent to me for deposit. For the present, if anyone desires to make a contribution to S.I.O., it can also be sent to that bank listing the account number. The address of the bank is P.O. Drawer FS, Gainesville, Florida 32602-9986. We have already received several contributions for the International Research Center. When the Center is full operation officially, separate savings account will be opened for it. (M.J. Westfall)

LIBELLEN-INVENTAR DER KANTONE ZURICH UND SCHAFFHAUSEN

Dr. B. Kiauta has written us about the above book by C. Meier, published in 1984. There are 128 pages with numerous maps. The publisher's address is Zürcher Libellenforum, Riedweg, CH-8606 Werrikon, Switzer-The price was not stated. Dr. Kiauta says it represents an inventory of the Odonata fauna of cantons, Zürich Swiss Schaffhausen, but the book does not include the detailed locality catalogue. The latter has 186 pages and is also available upon request from the above address.

GUIDE DES LIBELLULES D'EUROPE ET D'AFRIQUE DU NORD. (A subscription announcement).* This well illustrated guide (13 photographs, 27 watercolors, over 200 sketches, 125 distributional maps) is intended for general readers as well as for amateur and professional naturalists. It covers the 131 species of dragonflies known in western Europe and North Africa. The book contains an extensive introduction to the ecology of Odonata followed by clear and precise identification Finally, a detailed description of each species is provided together with ethological and biogeographical information. It is hoped that publication will be possible in time for the Paris Sympsoium of S.I.O. and, especially, the post-Symposium tour.

*One thousand subscriptions are required for publishing this guide. Subscription leaflets are available at the following address: J.-L. Dommanget, 7 Rue Lamartine, 78390 BOIS D'ARCY, France.

The subscription rate is FF 138 (not including mailing fee). NO MONEY SHOULD BE SENT BEFORE RECIEPT OF AN INVOICE.

ENDANGERED U.S. SPECIES

by

George H. Bick 1928 SW 48th Avenue Gainesville, Florida 32608

In the Federal Register (Vol. 49, #100:21664, May 22, 1984), the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service presented their list of endangered or threatened invertebrates. Odonata listed are as follows.

Two species for which substantial information is on hand to propose threatened or endangered status: Ischnura gemina, Cordulegaster sayi.

Twenty-seven species for which current information indicates that threatened or endangered status is possibly appropriate but for which conclusive data are not available: Megalagrion -12 species (3 not collected since 1963 may extinct), Enallagma recurvatum, Neurocordulia clara, Somatochlora hineana, S. margarita, Williamsonia lintneri, Gomphus carolinus, G. consanguis, G. sandrius, G. septima, G. townesi, Ophiogomphus edmundo (not collected since 1963, may be extinct), O. howei, 0. incurvatus alleghaniensis, Progomphus bellei, Macromia wabashensis.

Two species of <u>Megalagrion</u> for which there is evidence of extinction.

One taxa not meeting definition of species under the Endangered Species Act: Gomphus adelphus.

Comments are requested by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Contact J.L. Spinks, Office of Endangered Species, Fish & Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.

REPRODUCTIVE BEHAVIOUR BY PANTALA FLAVESCENS OVER RUNNING WATER

by

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Since coming to Mafikeng (Bophuthatswana) in January 1983, I have made observations of Pantala flavescens showing reproductive activity over running water at four different sites in S.E. Botswana and Bophuthatswana. The activities witnessed included territorial flights by males, copulation, intandem flying and oviposition in association with rivers and streams.

Pantala flavescens is normally regarded as a pool breeder (especially small or temporary pools) so that the observations mentioned above seem worthy of publication.

Is oviposition and other reproductive behaviour associated with running water by P. flavescens a Southern African phenomenon only, or has it been missed in other areas? Or is it a recently acquired habit which is not widespread?

I would be grateful to receive any records of reproductive behaviour of P. flavescens over running water, from any part of this species' range.

MITES FOUND ON ODONATA WANTED

Dr. R.A. Baker of the Department of Pure and Applied Zoology, University of Leeds, U.K. is interested in the mites which are found externally on Odonata and would be pleased to receive specimens and details of any mites found. The mites should be preserved in 70% alcohol. The name and sex of the dragonfly, the position of mites on the host and an indication of the numbers found per host would be valuable information.

NEW ODONATOLOGICAL PERIODICALS

GOMPHUS, published quarterly in Belgium in Dutch and in French. The first issue was published in March, 1984, followed by the second in May, 1984, and the third in July, 1984. GOMPHUS is a publication of the Belgische Libellenonerzoekers, and replaces the earlier newsletter, MEDEDELINGER LIBELLENVERSPREIDINGS-ONDERZOEK.

The bulletin will serve primarily as a newsletter, containing news items either in Dutch or in French. The first issue is entirely in Dutch, and it contains an "Editorial" (N. Michiels), two notes on the

1983 progress of the Belgian Odonata mapping scheme (A. Anselin), two notes on the 1984 work in this field (N. Michiels), and a single article concerning Anax imperator and Anax parthenope. A list of addresses of the 60 members is added in conclusion.

For information concerning subscriptions, readers may write to Mr. F. Dumortier, Libellenwerkgroep, Overzetweg 25, B-8510 Kortrijk-Marke (Editor: Mr. N. Michiels, Renier Smiedersstr. 73, B-2300 Turnhout).

RUNDSCHREIBEN (DER) GESELLSCHAFT ODONATOLOGEN, DEUTSCHPRACHIGER newsletter of the German Odonato-Prof. Dr. logical Society, Rudolph, Editor. This newsletter will be issued at irregular intervals, free to the membership. Some of the contents of this first issue (May 15, 1984) include information about the Symposia of the German Odonatological Society, an announcement of an exhibit of dragonfly photographs, the 1984 publications program of LIBELLULA (the Society's journal), and a membership list.

Information about this publication (and the journal, LIBELLULA) may be obtained from Prof. Dr. R. Rudolph at this address: Biol. Didaktik, Univers. Münster, Fliednerstr. 21, D-4400 Münster, Federal Republic of Germany.

INFORMATION REQUESTED ON SOMATOCHLORA FLAVOMACULATA

LINDENIA No. 2, (June 1, 1984), the Newsletter issued from the National Office in Italy, included the appeal of Drs. G. Carchini and Carlo Utzeri for information and/or material concerning the species SOMATOCHLORA FLAVOMACULATA, especially from southern Italy, the Balkans, or from any other regions in Europe. Those having such infor-

mation should contact Dr. Utzeri at this address: Dipartimento di Biologia Animale e dell'Uomo, Universita di Roma, Viale dell'Universita 32, I-00185 Rome, Italy.

Included also in this June 1, 1984 of LINDENIA are various administrative communications news items concerning the Italian SIO membership and Odonata workers. Among the other contents are the formal congratulations from small odonatological population in Italy" to Dr.S. Asahina on his 70th birthday; a book review, CURRENT TOPICS IN DRAGONFLY BIOLOGY by P.S. Corbet; and a book announcement. GUIDE DES LIBELLULES d'EUROPE et d'AFRIQUE DU NORD by J. d'Aguilar and J.L. Dommanget.

CURRENT ISSUES OF PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED PERIODICALS OF OUR AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

- LIBELLULA, Vol. 3, No. 1/2 (February, 1984)
- JOURNAL OF THE BRITISH DRAGON-FLY SOCIETY, VOL. 1, No. 3 (April, 1984)
- CONTACTBLAD NEDERLANDSE LIBEL-LENONDERZOEKERS, No. 7 (May, 1984).

SIO PERIODICALS

Published:

- FRASERIA, No. 6 (June, 1984)
- LINDENIA, No. 1, (January, 1984) No. 2, June 1, 1984
- SOC. INT. ODONATOL. RAPID COMM. (SUPPL.) No. 2: P.S. Corbet: Current Topics in Dragonfly Biology. Price: Hfl. 20.

In Press:

- ADVANCES IN ODONATOLOGY, Vol. 2.

Edited by Gordon Pritchard,
containing the Calgary proceedings. Date of publication: late fall, 1984; price
will be fixed later.

- SOC. INT. ODONATOL. RAPID COMM.

 (SUPPL.) No. 3: D.A.L. Davies & P. Tobin: The Dragonflies of the World. A Systematic list of the Extant species of Odonata. Vol. 1: Zygoptera. Anisozygoptera. XII + 128 pp. Date of publication: September 1984. Price to be fixed later.
- No. 4: P.S. Corbet, C.M. Scrimgeour and B. Kiauta, Author Odonatological for Index 1-4225, from **Abstracts** volumes 1-12. Odonatologica Date of Publi-VI + 64pp. cation: October, 1984. This Index will appear simultaneously with another, larger booklet: "Classified Subject for Odonatological Index Abstracts 1-4225. This is now in a very advanced stage of manuscript preparation, will be issued as No. 5 of this series. It will be sold together with No. 4. price of the two numbers is not yet fixed.

DRAGONFLY T-SHIRTS STILL AVAILABLE

Several persons have written to ask if the dragonfly T-shirts produced in Gainesville several years ago are still available. artist-producer, Stephen L. Sickerman, has moved to Lubbock, Texas where he and his wife have a business called "Second Skin Studios". They have just sent me their "Insectary Directory". This catalog gives pictures of the insects printed on their shirts. The Perithemis tenera shirts are still available in both gold and black. A new design just done is of Hetaerina americana, with wings spread and showing the details of venation. From the illustration in the catalog it looks good, but I have not seen the shirt. The ink colors are said to be white, dark red, rose and amber printed on a

black shirt. Both designs are available in sizes S(34-36), M(38-40), L(42-44) and XL(46-48) at \$8.50 each, with reductions for quantities over six. Postage and handling for first shirt is \$1.00, .30 for each additional shirt in U.S. **Foreign** postage is \$2.00 for first shirt and \$1.00 for each additional shirt. Texas residents add 5% sales tax to cost of shirts. If you are interested, write to Second Skin Studios, P.O. Box 5261, Lubbock, Texas 79417. (M.J. Westfall).

COPIES OF 1955 MANUAL STILL AVAILABLE

A letter just came from the University of California Press to tell me that they still have 370 copies of the 1955 Manual of the Dragonflies (Anisoptera) of North America by Needham and Westfall. This is the second reprint edition, and I am sorry to say that they quoted the current price as \$62.00. The address of the press is 2120 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, California 94720. (M.J.W.)

DR. WILLIAM H. CROSS KILLED IN MEXICO

I was indeed saddened to hear of Bill's untimely and tragic death. Many years ago I helped Bill while he was working on the Odonata of northwest Florida at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida for his master's degree. We collected together in northwest Florida and he visited me many times in Gainesville. I have a copy of his thesis in my library. He published several papers on Odonata, presented many specimens to the FLORIDA STATE COLLECTION OF ARTHROPODS. visited us several times in recent years, keeping up his interest in the Odonata. In 1977 I wrote about collections of Bills' in Arkansas (Selysia, Vol. 7, #2, p.4).

In April and May we received communications from the Department of Entomology, Mississippi State University, and the Mississippi Entomological Museum at Mississippi State, Mississippi. One from T.J. Helms, Head of the Department of Entomology reads as follows:

"I have been asked to correspond regarding the death of Dr. William (Bill) H. Cross. Bill was employed as Research Leader for the USDA's Boll Weevil Biosystematics and Descriptive Ecology Research Unit and he was also active in our graduate program via his appointment as Adjunct Professor of Entomology.

"Bill was a widely recognized authority on the biology of the boll weevil and an outstanding natura-At the time of his death, Bill was on a collecting trip into He was killed by western Mexico. close-range gunshots on or about 6 near Durango, Mexico. graveside Private services conducted at Marianna, Florida on April 17 and a public memorial service was held on the M.S.U. campus on this same date.

"Many have inquired about the availability of a memorial fund for perpetuating the memory of Bill Because of Bill's tireless Cross. efforts, we now have a Mississippi Entomological Museum in the Department of Entomology. Therefore, it is fitting that proceeds from a perpetual fund should sponsor museum Although it is related activities. not official yet, our intent is to conduct annual "William H. Expeditions" with each specimen bearing a label denoting the title and year of the expedition. We have, of course, consulted Bill's family and will have further discussions with them prior establishment of this or activities.

"Contributions may be made to:

Entomology Memorial Scholarship Fund (W.H. Cross Sub-Fund) P.O. Drawer EM Mississippi State, MS 39762

"Persons wishing to correspond with Bills's family should write to his widow, Mrs. Lou Cross, 116 Forest Hill Drive, Starkville, MS 39759.

"Please share this information with others in your organization who may have known Bill Cross." (M.J.W.)

PROF. DR. SEPTIMA CECILIA SMITH DIES

Word came to me recently from Martha Sue Parr of Fort Worth, Texas that Septima Smith died July 9, 1984 in the #1 Nursing Center in Fort She was a native of Dallas, Texas, but moved to Fort Worth when she was 2 years old. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas in Austin, and her Ph.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. While teaching in the Maryland. Zoology Department at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, she became the first woman to become a full professor in the College of Arts and She retired in 1968 and Sciences. moved back to Fort Worth to live with her niece, Martha Sue Parr, until 13 months before her death when she was transferred to the nursing center because of her severe arthritic condition.

While in Alabama, Dr. Smith and Dr. Aobert S. Hodges collected, reared, and studied Odonata extensively, having the help of many interested students, some of whom they termed "The Dragonets". Both Dr. James G. Needham and I visited them independently in Tuscaloosa several times. I discovered a new species in their collections and named it Gomphus (Gomphurus) septima

in her honor. After the death of Dr. Hodges and the retirement of Septima Smith, Ken Tennessen, then a student of mine, and I went to Tuscaloosa at the request of Dr. Smith to transfer the large collection of Odonata and their library to the University of Florida in Gainesville where the collection became a part of the FLORIDA STATE COLLECTION In 1937 these two OF ARTHROPODS. workers published a short account of their collecting in Alabama entitled Dragonflies (Odonata)" "Alabama (Journal of the Alabama Academy of Science, IX:21-22). During their years of study they corresponded with many of the leaders in the field.

Ken Tennessen and I spent a couple of days there and visited some of the collecting sites referred to in the Smith-Hodges field notebooks. Because of the extensive pollution of the Big Warrior River and the damming of the North River these areas had been altered greatly since their Odonata collections were made.

Her niece wrote, "I had private duty nurses with her and she was cheerful and bright until the last moment. She was so pleased that her Smith-Hodges Collection of Dragon-flies was in such good hands. She had great fun while in the nursing center trying to teach all the young staff helpers the fancy scientific names that only she could pronounce". Septima Smith will be missed by her many friends and former students. (M.J. Westfall)

NEW CODE NOT YET PUBLISHED

IN SELYSIA, v.13, p.12 we announced from information given us that a new Code was to be published by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature early in 1984. Dr. Perry Turner wrote me that he sent an order for it but was informed that it had not been printed yet.

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO LIST OF S.I.O. MEMBERS (See SELYSIA, V. 11, #1, #2; V. 12, #1, #2; V. 13, #1)

(Starred * names are those of new members.)

ARGENTINA

- *Agopian, Silvia Susana Lituania 5422 4° A 1431 - Buenos Aires
- *Rodrigues Capitulo, Dr. Alberto Instituto de Limnologia CC55 1923 Berisso Provincia de Buenos Aires

BANGLADESH

*Chowdhury, Dr. Shafique flaider Professor of Zoology University of Chittagong Chittagong

BOPHUTHATSWANA

(Republic of B., Southern Africa)

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- Cloarec, Mme. Ann
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 F-35042 Rennes Cedex
- *Gauthier, M. Alain 8 rue Brossolette F-31120 Portet / Gne
- *Jacquemin, M. Gilles
 92, Cours du 19 Novembre 1944
 F-57380 Faulquemont
- *Krejci, M. Eric 11 Rue de Cercay F-94440 Villecresnes

GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC (Bundesrepublik Deutschland)

- *Baierl, Herrn Edgar Neisser Strasse 10 D-4030 Ratingen
- Franzel, Dr. Urs Langwartweg 101 D-5300 Bonn
- *Grenz, Herrn Manfred Westerlandstrasse 15 a D-4590 Cloppenburg
- *Piper, Herrn Werner Mansteinstrasse 16 D-2000 Hamburg 20
- Rasper, Manfred, Jr. Am Stadtbahnhof 5 D-3252 Bad Münder

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and Margaret Sy Weagfall' Department of Zoology, University of Floring Deimesville, Florids, 2001., U.S.A.