

battle with lymphoma. All of us who ever had to borrow material from the USNM remember her with great fondness for her helpful attitude and professionalism.

MARGARET THOMSON

The death occurred in England on 30 December 2005, of Margaret Thomson aged 95. In the early 1930s Margaret worked on the sole austroperlid *Austroperla cyrene* for her thesis at Canterbury University College, Christchurch, New Zealand. Although she abandoned Entomology for the successful production of natural history documentary films in Britain her thesis has been a corner stone in the study of New Zealand Plecoptera.

Publications

THOMSON, M. S. 1934. An Account of the Systematics, Anatomy and Bionomics of *Austroperla cyrene* NEWMAN. Unpublished thesis (MSc & Honours), Canterbury, University College, Christchurch. New Zealand. (by Ian McLellan)

GEORGE F. EDMUNDS, JR.

George F. Edmunds, Jr., the internationally recognized mayfly systematist and biogeographer passed away on March 4, 2006 at the age of 85. The scientific legacy of Professor Edmunds is well established. His contributions to mayfly systematics and also to aquatic entomology as a whole were enormous. He authored or co-authored more than 200 scientific papers and a book. He named numerous genera and species of mayflies from several continents and islands.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF STONEFLY RESEARCH



A new on-line journal, *Illiesia*, **International Journal of Stonefly Research** is being published by Mississippi College, Clinton, Mississippi, USA and the Slovenian Museum of Natural History. The journal publishes

papers dealing with any area of plecopteran research. The Journal is published on the World Wide Webb and it is free.

individuals and institutions, and provides an alternative to excessively priced scientific journals. Before a paper is accepted for publication on the internet, it is subjected to rigorous peer review under the direction of the Advisory Board. Editors are Professors Ignac Sivec and Bill P. Stark. The Advisory Board includes Professors B. Kondratieff, S. Szczytko, K. Stewart, R. Baumann, C. R. Nelson, W. Graf, J. Brittain, and T. Shimizu. Any questions can be directed to illiesia@pms-lj.si

Issues of the journal are posted on the internet at <http://www2.pms-lj.si/illiesia>.

Illiesia EDITORIAL (reprinted 2006 Editorial with permission)

Lidija Andreevna Zhiltzova - 80 years



Although publication of high quality papers dealing with stoneflies remains the focus of our journal, from time to time we do want to address important contemporary issues in an editorial format. Consequently, on the occasion of the 80th birthday of Lidija Andreevna Zhiltzova in February 2006, the editors and editorial board of *Illiesia* join with colleagues from around the world in saluting Lidija for her marvelous contributions to the knowledge of stoneflies.

The scientific work of Dr. Zhiltzova is based primarily on her personal collection and extensive fieldwork in the Ukraine, Carpathians, Caucasus, Central Asia, Mongolia and Russian Far East including Magadan, Sakhalin, Kuril Islands and Primorye. Working at times with other Russian and western European investigators she has authored, or co-authored more than 130 papers and monographs dealing with stoneflies including a very recent paper on genus *Agnatina* and several major book chapters. Her 2003 publication, "Fauna of Russia and neighboring countries. Insecta, Plecoptera, Group

Euholognatha", is considered one of the major publications on stonefly systematics.

Lidija is one of the most respected scientists to have studied stonefly systematics, morphology and faunistics and her numerous contributions include the description, accompanied by beautiful illustrations, of more than 150 species or genera of stoneflies. In 1998 she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Association of Plecopterologists in recognition of her contributions and life-long dedication to the study of Plecoptera. We are delighted that Lidija remains working actively on stonefly projects and wish her continued health and success.

Articles/Notices

Visit to Cheryl Kraft, the Wife of Gerald Kraft, in Yachats, Oregon

In June of 2005, while on a collecting excursion to the Coast Range of northern California, Oregon and Washington, Dick Baumann and Boris Kondratieff visited Cheryl Kraft in Yachats, Oregon. We visited her at her home that is located where the Yachats River enters the Pacific Ocean. The setting is extremely beautiful and it is easy to see where Jerry gained his inspiration and excitement for life. We arrived in the afternoon but could not visit long because Cheryl was getting ready for a piano recital to honor her students. Consequently, we spent the night in Yachats and did some extra collecting in the Yachats River drainage.

The next day we met with Cheryl and a friend and went through the total of Jerry's aquatic insect holdings. Jerry's downstairs office looks out over the Ocean and is an ideal spot for the study of insects and life in general. We essentially helped her clean up what was left of Jerry's professional things after Dave Wisseman took the literature and collection to Corvallis. Many boxes were sorted, books arranged and equipment inventoried. We even went through his desk and removed everything from insect pins to his microscope and fiber optics lamp.

Cheryl is a regal lady and the privilege we had to meet her and see the home that she and Jerry shared was a special experience. Presently, his literature is at North Texas State University with Ken Stewart and his collection is at Brigham Young University being curated. So even though Jerry Kraft was not able to realize his dreams for the stoneflies of Oregon and Washington, his dream will live on through the use of his collections.

R. W. Baumann

Change of address for Professor Peter Zwick

Towards the end of 2006, I will retire from work, and the Limnologische Fluss-Station Schlitz will be closed at the same time. My present institutional address, phone, and e-mail-address will all become obsolete as of November 30, 2006.

My home address remains as before, I can be contacted at:

Schwarzer Stock 9, D-36110 Schlitz, Germany;
phone *49 6642 6266

My new e-mail address will be communicated in due course.

In my retirement, I hope to continue with, or rather resume, work on Plecoptera taxonomy. Please keep me on your mailing lists for your Plecoptera publications!

The stonefly collection of the Schlitz institute (specimens and literature) which the late J. ILLIES and myself gathered will be kept in my home for some years, until eventual deposition in a museum.

Peter Zwick

Where do Plecoptera belong ?

Among extant insects, Plecoptera as an order are unmistakable, but there are only few apomorphies to place them in a phylogenetic system of insects. Their relationships with other Neoptera remain uncertain, and widely divergent opinions have been published. OLIVER ZOMPRO, one of the authors of the recently discovered order Mantophasmatodea has now presented his view of the case:

Zompro, O. (2005): Inter- and intraordinal relationships of the Mantophasmatodea, with comments on the phylogeny of polyneopteran orders (Insecta: Polyneoptera). – Mitteilungen des Geologisch-Paläontologischen Instituts der Universität Hamburg 89: 85-116.