

1. Bill Shepard
2. Ollie Heth
3. Peter Harper
4. Dennis Heimdal
5. Dick Baumann
6. Ed DeWalt
7. Bill Stark
8. Jane Earle
9. Rachel Heth
10. Ken Stewart
11. Andy Sheldon
12. Don Webb
13. Scott Grutbs
14. Ignac Sivec
15. Boris Kondratieff
16. Charles Nelson
17. Kip Heth
18. Not shown
19. Mark Wetzel
- And Francene Stewart



ANNOUNCEMENTS



XII International Conference on Ephemeroptera
 XVI International Symposium on Plecoptera
 June 8 – 14, 2008 Stuttgart, Germany

The next International Joint Meeting will take place at the State Museum of Natural History in Stuttgart, Germany, from 8-14 June 2008.

Please note that the conference website has changed:

<http://www.jointmeeting08.naturkundemuseum-bw.de/>

This preliminary site will have a major update around the end of February. If you want to get notified when the site is updated, please subscribe to the conference newsletter. Just send an e-mail to

jointmeeting08.smns@naturkundemuseum-bw.de and you will receive a note as soon as the major update will go online.

The Joint Meeting will have an informal welcome party at the evening of June 8th. The conference will start on June 9th. There will be four days packed with talks and poster sessions – the best poster will be awarded at the conference dinner on Thursday night! On Wednesday 12th there will be a field trip to creeks and rivers of the Swabian Alps, linked to a visit to a medieval monastery and University town. The post conference tour on Saturday 14th will lead to the Black Forest.

Take the opportunity and meet your colleagues at the Joint Meeting 2008!

Dr. Arnold H. Staniczek, *Curator*, Department of Entomology, Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Germany

TRAVEL GRANTS WILL BE AVAILABLE, CHECK THE WEBSITE.

Current Research on Plecoptera

Ian McLellan

I am currently working on a number of projects. Steve Pawson (Canterbury University) has a grant to construct a website on New Zealand Plecoptera and of course, as the authority, I am very much involved in the scheme. So far he has data based on my collection and those in NZAC, OMNZ, CMNZ and AMNZ, recording in all 50,000+ specimens and about 6,000 localities. He has gathered copies of all literature including unpublished theses; many images and we are constructing a key to all NZ species. In between I work on new species of New Zealand notonemourids, gripopterygids, a eustheniid and South American gripopterygids. An on going job is identification of stoneflies for various institutions through out New Zealand.

Two Otago University students have started on theses that will involve New Zealand stoneflies. Andrew Sparrow (M.sc) is working on the interaction between aquatic and terrestrial organisms on a floodplain on the Kauri River inland from Oamaru.

Graham McCulloch (Ph.D) is constructing a DNA based phylogeny of New Zealand stoneflies.

Dr. Richard W. Baumann

Here are my stonefly goals for the next several years. Some studies are short term and others will take longer. I know that these are ambitious goals and that I cannot accomplish them without the help of many colleagues. This includes not only those individuals listed, but everyone that is willing

to help with encouragement, ideas and specimens.

A new species of *Taenionema* from Silverado Canyon with Riley Nelson

The *Capnia umpqua* Complex with Riley Nelson & Ken Stewart

Additions to the stoneflies of Alaska with Ken Stewart

The genus *Triznaka* with Boris Kondratieff

The *Alloperla severa* Complex with Boris Kondratieff

What is *Oemopteryx vanduzeei*? with Boris Kondratieff

The genus *Lednia* and *Megaleuctra* with Boris Kondratieff

The *Sweltsa tamalpa* Complex with Bill Stark

The *Sweltsa lambda* Complex with Bill Stark

A new *Paraleuctra* from Canada with Bill Stark

The genus *Perlomyia* with Bill Stark

The genus *Chernokrilus* with Boris Kondratieff & Jon Lee

A new *Paracapnia* from California with Jon Lee

A new *Isoperla* from California with Jon Lee

LARGER PROJECTS:

The stoneflies of New Mexico with Jerry Jacobi

The stoneflies of the Columbia River Gorge with the late Gene Fiala & Boris Kondratieff

The stonefly fauna of the Great Basin with Andy Sheldon

Stonefly zoogeography in the Great Basin with Andy Sheldon

The Nemouridae of eastern North America with Scott Grubbs

The stoneflies of Atlantic Canada with Boris Kondratieff & Peter Harper

The genus *Malenka* with Boris Kondratieff

The stoneflies of Ohio with Ed De Walt and others?

Dr. R. Edward DeWalt

R. E. DeWalt¹, D. W. Webb¹, S. A. Grubbs². Conservation Status of Stoneflies of the Till and Drift Plains of the Midwest, USA.

¹Illinois Natural History Survey, 1816 S Oak St., Champaign, IL, 61820. ²Western Kentucky University, Biological Sciences, Bowling Green, KY 42101.

Since late 2005, the authors have been investigating the status of stoneflies in Midwest to determine if the devastating losses seen in Illinois are representative of areas with similar glacial and cultural history. Changes in the assemblage are being studied at two scales: local and regional. Locally, some 26 sites have been identified where historic data are abundant, allowing for head-to-head comparison with our recent efforts. The regional study will use more diffuse museum specimen data to reconstruct the historical assemblage, stratified by level 3 USEPA ecoregions and stream size. These "expected" assemblages will form the basis to compare large numbers of recent sampling efforts that yield "observed" values. The ratio of observed/expected species richness will provide an index of "intactness"

for each site. A recent resubmission of an NSF Biotic Surveys & Inventory proposal asks for funding to conduct this work over a 3-yr period. The proposed funds also will support a PhD student at the University of Illinois and a MS student at Western Kentucky University. Preliminary results of this work further support the loss of Perlidae with slow single and multi-year life cycles. Intactness of the assemblage of large streams has been drastically altered throughout Illinois and Indiana, with the exception of wooded drainages in the southern portions and cooler streams in drift plain habitat in the extreme north of these states. Ohio appears to have retained much of its large perlid fauna, but till and lake plains of the west and northwest show similar losses to that of Indiana and Illinois. Museum specimens have been borrowed from the Bean Museum (BYU), Canadian National Collection, Guelph University, Purdue University, Michigan State University, University of Michigan, Notre Dame University, Ohio State University, Ohio EPA, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and from the private collection of Fred Kirchner. Other materials are being sought; please let us know of material in your collections from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Ontario, and Wisconsin.

Heilveil, J.¹, R. E. DeWalt². Conservation Genetics and Reintroduction of *Acronuria frisoni* Stark & Brown to Central Illinois. ¹Fayetteville State University, Department of Natural Sciences, 1200 Murchison Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28312. ²Illinois Natural History Survey, 1816 S Oak St., Champaign, IL, 61820.

Acronuria frisoni Stark & Brown has historically been known from throughout Illinois and was once thought of as the most abundant large perlid stonefly in much of the Midwest. It was highly abundant in the now agricultural till plains of the northern 2/3 of Illinois. Of course, that was before its populations crashed throughout much of the Midwest in the 1950s. In the Midwest, its range has shrunk to the more heavily wooded areas in southern Illinois, southern and extreme NE Indiana, eastern and southern Ohio, into southern Ontario, presumably into middle and northern Wisconsin and Michigan. The distance between improved habitat and remaining isolated populations makes recolonization of streams of improving quality extremely unlikely within a human lifetime. They will require help. Efforts are now underway to determine the haplotype variation for a mitochondrial gene of regional populations to determine which one would serve as a pre-adapted parent for reintroduction into eastern Illinois. We now have specimens from eight locations in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois and are seeking additional ones from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri. Once a candidate population is found, it is presumed that eggs collected from gravid females at light will serve as the life stage for reintroduction.

L. Fennema¹ & R. E. DeWalt². Historic Assemblage, Range Loss and Extirpation of *Acroneuria* Stoneflies in Illinois. ¹School of Life Sciences, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL 61820. ²Illinois Natural History Survey, 1816 S Oak St., Champaign, IL, 61820.

Historic *Acroneuria* (Plecoptera: Perlidae) specimens from the Illinois Natural History Survey and from other museums are being re-evaluated and their taxonomy updated. The assemblage consisted of six species.

Acroneuria abnormis, *A. evoluta*, and *A. perplexa* originally inhabited the largest streams, including the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, with *A. abnormis* also being found in somewhat smaller rivers. *Acroneuria internata*, *A. frisoni*, and *A. filicis* inhabited medium to small rivers and sometimes occurred in streams <5 m wetted width. Extirpations include *A. internata* and *A. perplexa*, while all other species have experienced severe range reductions. *Acroneuria frisoni* was widespread in Illinois, but now is relegated to extreme southern Illinois in the Shawnee National Forest. Most losses for all species occurred in the late 1940s through the early 1960s and resulted from agricultural modification, urbanization, and probably from indiscriminant pesticide (DDT) usage. Re-evaluation of the distribution of these species allows Illinois to add them to a list of species in need of conservation and allows aquatic biologists to know the extent of loss from pre-settlement times.

Dr. Scott A Grubbs

1. Continuing progress on the "Conservation Status of the stoneflies of the Glacial Till and Drift Plains" with Ed DeWalt and Don Webb. A revised proposal was submitted to NSF in January 2007. Collecting in 2007 will focus on revisiting sites mainly in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio where adequate historical data is available, and continuing the expansion of sites in Michigan and southern Wisconsin.
2. Continuing progress of the "Stoneflies of Talladega-Mount Cheaha region of Alabama" with Andy Sheldon. Collecting will continue through 2007, including an expansion into lowland streams.
3. Preparation of the "Nemouridae of eastern North America" book chapter with Richard Baumann. A target date for completion is summer 2007.
4. Launching a new study, "Stoneflies of the Northeastern Coastal Zone". This area is an E.P.A. Level-III Ecoregion in New England, and encompasses Rhode Island, most of Connecticut and Massachusetts, and the southeastern portions of Maine, New Hampshire, and New York. The northern Appalachians basically represent the boundary of this

region. Sampling started in summer 2006 mainly in eastern Connecticut and Rhode Island and at least two trips are planned for 2007.

Dr. Ken W. Stewart, University of North Texas.

1. The book "Stoneflies of Alaska and Western Canada" by K.W. Stewart and M.W. Oswood was recently published and is available from Caddis Press, P.O. Box 21039, Columbus, Ohio 43221.
2. Ken is working with Dick Baumann and Riley Nelson to describe two new *Capnia* species and clarify "What is *Capnia umpqua*?"
3. Dick Baumann visited Ken Stewart's UNT stonefly lab for a week in January 2007. The two "pseudoretirees" worked on organizing and further curating Ken's collection.
4. Ken continues his collecting and rearing of nymphs, for descriptions of additional species in genera whose nymphs are little known or to attempt description of all species within selected genera. Working with Bill Stark on *Sweltsa*, Eugene Drake on *Capnia*, *Calileuctra* and *Haploperla*, and Norm Anderson on the nymphs of Norm's intermittent Oak Burn stream in Oregon. Other genera being studied are *Taenionema*, *Strophopteryx* (with Jane Earle) and *Paracapnia*. A study of the stoneflies of Nunavut is in progress with Donna Giberson of the University of Prince Edward Island.

Luke Myers

I am continuing my research on the stoneflies of New York State particularly the Adirondack Park with Boris Kondratieff. If anyone has specimens please send them to Dr. Kondratieff
I am also describing the nymphs of *Cultus decisus decisus* (Walker) and *C. d. isolatus* (Banks).

Obituaries

GENE R. FIALA

Born: July 17, 1926

Burley, Idaho

Died: November 18, 2006

Gresham, Oregon

Gene Fiala was a friend, colleague and enthusiastic collector of stoneflies from 1983 to 2006. His many collecting excursions, usually with Lola, his wife of 60 years, resulted in the collection of thousands of stonefly specimens, most of which are deposited at the Brigham Young University Insect Collection.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

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