

studies. Consequently, I am very grateful to all those, all over the world, studying Stoneflies or other insects!

For today, I have finished my Masters degree 4 years ago, where I updated the previous list of recorded Stonefly species in Western Khentii, Mongolia. The past few summers have been spent at the “Khonin Nuga” field station with Prof.Dr. Michael Mühlenberg (Göttingen), where I have continued my study on Stoneflies. Most of my research material was collected from the field station.

I would be very interested to get in contact and possibly work with other scientists in my field, as I would like to further develop my skills in Stonefly research. Therefore, I would very much appreciate your help and advice! It would be great if you could provide me with relevant published materials about Mongolia and specimens collected from Mongolia by yourself or colleagues, for example from museum collections.

**Boris C. Kondratieff**

1. With Dr. Richard W. Baumann, the Nearctic species complex of *Kogotus* is being reviewed.

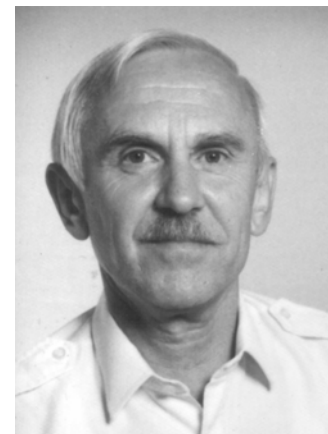
2. With Robert Zuellig and Ralph F. Kirchner, six species of Nearctic *Perlesta* are being described.

**Bob Zuellig, Barry Poulton**, and Boris Kondratieff are working on the stoneflies of Missouri. If anyone has specimens from Missouri, especially from areas north of the Missouri River, please send them to the address below so they can be included in our manuscript. All specimens will be well cared for and returned.

## Obituaries

In memoriam

**Dr. WOLFGANG JOOST** (6.12.1937-2.4.2004) <sup>1</sup>



We very much regret the early death of WOLFGANG JOOST, a good colleague and enthusiastic student of aquatic insects, mainly of Plecoptera and several families of Diptera. He leaves his wife MONIKA and three children.

WOLFGANG JOOST was born in rural Cobbelsdorf/Anhalt where he went to school. His father had died in war, his mother had to earn the family income and raised WOLFGANG and his two younger siblings. After elementary school he learned the profession of a ship-builder in the shipyard at Rosslau and worked in this profession until 1957. After work hours, he took adult education classes and obtained university entrance. From 1957 -1960 he was a student of museology and graduated at the Weißenfels highschool. In 1961, after a short time at the science museum in Chemnitz (then Karl-Marx-Stadt) WOLFGANG JOOST moved to the Museum der Natur at Gotha where he worked as Zoologischer Präparator. He continued his professional education at the same time and eventually became head of this department. Several large, very attractive models of insects (which are precise to microscopic details!) which he created during this time are splendid evidence of his ever increasing interest in entomology.

Parallel to his work in the museum he was an external student of biology at the Pädagogisches Institut Weißenfels and obtained the degree of a biology teacher in 1969. Already in 1970 he continued as an external student of

biology at the Humboldt University Berlin. WOLFGANG JOOST developed an interest in benthic biology and was inspired by work of Joachim ILLIES at Schlitz. Studies of the stream Emse earned W. JOOST the degree of Diplombiologe (MSc). Research on other streams in the Thuringian Forest followed, for example emergence trap studies on the stream Spitter, which were conducted with colleagues. WOLFGANG JOOST was instrumental in turning the Museum der Natur at Gotha into a center of mountain stream research. In 1978, he followed an invitation to work as scientific assistant, later as curator, in the department of taxonomy and ecology at the Karl-Marx University in Leipzig. However, again in addition to his professional duties, he continued his stream studies. In 1983, this work earned him and his colleague WOLFGANG ZIMMERMANN a Dr Sci.

WOLFGANG JOOST had a very strong interest in nature, great enthusiasm for science and worked very hard and ambitiously to achieve his goals. However, in some ways his life is also characteristic of the situation in post-war East Germany. For example, his step-by-step scientific education was not entirely his choice. When we first met, he bitterly complained that he had been denied permission to be a doctoral student, although later he was fortunately granted permission. Our first meeting was by chance while I visited the Naturkundemuseum der Humboldt Universität in East Berlin, with a tourist visa. One can see the Thuringian Forest near Gotha from the hills at Schlitz, but we were separated by the Iron Curtain and could not meet again. Later, citizens of the Federal republic were allowed day visits to bordering counties of the German Democratic Republic which allowed me day visits to the hospitable home of family JOOST. However, at that time I was asked to keep this a secret, and visits in the opposite direction were out of question.

During these few visits I learned of WOLFGANG JOOST's admiration of an early explorer, CASPAR SCHMALKALDEN, and the successful publication of his travel manuscript. For most of his life, WOLFGANG JOOST's own travels were restricted to socialistic brother countries. Together with his friend DIETRICH BRAASCH he produced a series of papers on the Bulgarian Plecoptera, several on Caucasian and other Soviet Republic stonefly faunas. After the Iron Curtain fell, WOLFGANG JOOST occasionally visited the Schlitz institute, by himself or with a group of graduate students. It was pleasant to observe how contagious his interest in nature was; over time, he successfully introduced several young people to science. In his late years, WOLFGANG JOOST was finally also able to fulfil his deep desire to see and explore the world during travels to tropical countries. South America was most dear to him, he visited it several times, also on his last trip; he died in his home the night after his return from Paraguay and Bolivia.

WOLFGANG JOOST will be missed much and be remembered as a family man, a friend, enthusiastic colleague, and fascinating teacher. His successful scientific work is reflected in numerous publications; a list of his Plecoptera papers is below. A complete list of W. JOOST's publications is available in Entomologische Nachrichten und Berichte 48: 146-150 (2004). His scientific collections have been deposited in the Museum der Natur, Gotha. I thank Frau MONIKA JOOST for the photograph and important information.

Peter Zwick, Schlitz

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## Obituary

**DR. H.C. HANS MENDEL** (5.1.1927-17.6.2004)



HANS MENDEL was the third of four children of HANS and EMMA MENDEL in Pirmasens. He went to school at Kempten where he spent most of his life. In 1944, shortly before finishing high school, he was called into the army and served in an anti-aircraft unit. He became captive of war but was released in July 1945. HANS MENDEL then turned to agriculture, took practical courses and learned the profession at various agricultural schools and highschools in Kempten and Landsberg. In 1951, he completed his school education at Landsberg with university entrance. After study, from 1953 on, he worked as a teacher and head of the Landwirtschaftliche Berufsschule in Landsberg county. HANS and ERNA MENDEL married in 1954, their daughters CHRISTINE and ELISABETH were born in 1957 and 1960, respectively. In 1959-1961 HANS MENDEL studied again and became a science teacher at secondary schools, teaching chemistry, biology and geography. Later he was also vice rector at the Kempten Mädchenrealschule. Health problems necessitated his early retirement in the summer of 1983. He survived a severe cardiac infarction in 1987 but needed very complex heart surgery again in July 2000. He died of sudden heart failure.

Music played an important role in HANS MENDEL's life. For three years, until 1961, he was the organist and director of the church choir at Issing in Landsberg County. From 1962 to 2001 he was head of the men's Volks-Chor Kempten.

HANS MENDEL's other important private activity was in biology. Over the years, he worked and published on several groups of organisms. He started