

BRAUERIA (Lunz am See, Austria) 29:6 (2002)

# Obituary - Dr. Michael L. Mathis



Dr. Michael L. Mathis, a long-time trichopterist, passed away of heart failure on 28 October 2001 while vacationing in Thailand. He was 44 years old. Mike was born in Würzburg, Germany to a military family and grew up near a number of cities including El Paso, Texas, Huntsville, Alabama, and Waynesville, Missouri. Mike's education included a B.S. from South West Missouri State University, a M.S. from Southwest Texas State University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas where he studied under Dr. Eugene Schmitz. Mike's primary research interests involved the taxonomy, morphology and ecology of Trichoptera, and general stream ecology. He published numerous papers in these subject areas, particularly on the caddisflies of the Interior Highlands of Arkansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. His work on the primary setation of larval caddisflies is an example of the outstanding work that he produced. Until recently, Mike served on the faculty at the University of Central Arkansas where he trained several Master's level students. The quality of Mike's mentoring is reflected by several of these students who are now employed as biologists or pursuing doctoral degrees at major aquatic ecology programs. Mike had a lifelong passion for nature and outdoor activities such as camping and fishing, and travel. He also was actively involved in nature education, and he taught aquatic biology to thousands of youth through the Arkansas Audubon Society's Halberg Ecology Camp and Wet-n-Wild Camp. Mike is survived by his mother Oralea Mathis of Cape Girardeau MO, brother Ron Mathis of Springfield MO, and sister Joy Ellington of Springdale, AR. His Father, Billie Mathis, preceded him in death.

There was a very special kindness, gentle nature, and sincere enthusiasm about Mike that drew people to him. Family, friends, and colleagues will sorely miss him.

Mike's family has requested that memorial contributions in his name be given to the Arkansas Audubon Society - Halberg Ecology Camp, c/o Barry Haas, 804 Konrad Court, Little Rock, AR 72223, U.S.A.

David Bowles, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, San Marcos, Texas, USA. - Charles Knight, Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, Jackson, Mississippi, USA

## The Publications of Michael Mathis

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- BOWLES, D.E., and M.L. MATHIS. 1992. A preliminary checklist of the caddisflies (Trichoptera) from Oklahoma. Insecta Mundi 6:29-35.
- BOWLES, D.E., and M.L. MATHIS. 1992. Variation in the terminalia of male *Neohermes concolor* with a key to males of *Neohermes* in eastern North America (Megaloptera: Corydalidae). Insecta Mundi. 6:145-149.
- BOWLES, D.E., M.L. MATHIS, and S.W. HAMILTON. 1993. A new species of *Polycentropus* (Trichoptera: Polycentropodidae) from Arkansas. Entomol. News. 104:31-34.
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- MATHIS, M.L., and D.E. BOWLES. 1990. Three new species of microcaddisflies (Trichoptera: Hydroptilidae) from the Ozark Mountains, USA. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Washington 92:86-92.
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- MATHIS, M.L. 1997. Primary setation of caddisfly larvae (Trichoptera) with emphasis on limnephiloids. pp. 293-302. In, R. W. Holzenthal and O. S. Flint, Jr. [eds.], Proc. 8th Int. Symp. Trichoptera, 1995. Ohio Biological Survey, Columbus, Ohio.
- MATHIS, M.L. 1999. Life histories of three limnephiloid caddisflies (Trichoptera: Limnephilidae, Uenoidae) inhabiting a temporary spring in the Ozark mountains, U.S.A. pp. 43-52. In, H. Malicky and P. Chantaramongkol [eds.], Proc. 9th Intl. Symp. Trichoptera. Chiang Mai, Thailand.

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Autor(en)/Author(s): Bowles David E., Knight Charles

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