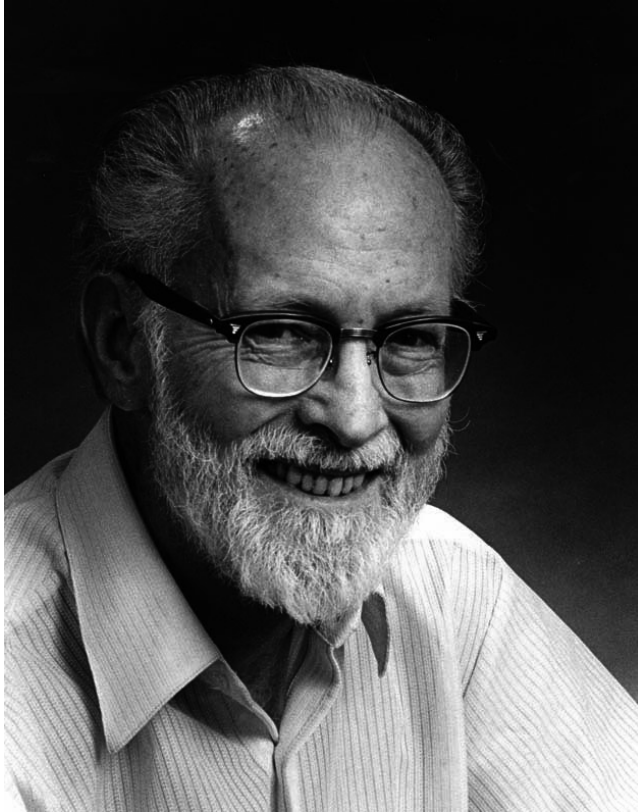


## Harley P. Brown

(13 January 1921 – 6 June 2008)



Harley Procter Brown, Jr., was born in Uniontown, Alabama, the second of six children. Even as a child he showed evidence of interest in insects, his mother noting he could catch anything “even a fly”. His childhood was filled with wanderings through the countryside, and accounts of his discoveries later frequently made it into his lectures on biology. After a long and wonderful life he died of complications of Alzheimer’s disease, at the age of 87.

Harley received his BA and MA in 1942 from Miami University, Ohio. His thesis described the life history of *Climacia areolaris* (HAGEN) (Neuroptera: Sisyridae), a neuropteran “parasitic” on freshwater sponges. He received his PhD in 1945 from The Ohio State University where his dissertation involved the electron microscopy of the protozoan flagellum. He taught at the University of Idaho, Moscow (1945–1947); Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, Charleston (1946); Queens College, Flushing, New York (1947–1948); and the University of Oklahoma (1948–1984).

While at the University of Oklahoma (OU) he taught the following classes: Advanced Invertebrates, Animal Kingdom-Invertebrates, Aquatic Invertebrates, Field Entomology, Introductory

Zoology, Invertebrate Zoology, Literature of Zoology, Natural History of Invertebrates and Protozoology. Harley was the consummate teacher. His classes were always full with students eager to experience this Renaissance man. His lectures were mainly accounts of his research on an astounding breadth of freshwater invertebrates, amply augmented with comments on colleagues' research as well. Laboratory "exercises" were mainly field trips to collect whatever presented itself, followed by laboratory observations on those invertebrates that could be returned to the lab. He believed in helping students discover knowledge rather than imparting it to them. Additionally, Harley could always be counted on to help students by providing transportation for any student who didn't have a car or gas money. Although Harley taught zoology, his knowledge extended to botany, geology, astronomy and other natural sciences. During my stay at OU, I spent six years fruitlessly trying to find a subject about which he had no knowledge. Recently I learned that students after me called him "Encyclopedia Brown". In addition to his teaching, Harley was curator of invertebrates for Stovall Museum of Science and History (now Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History) from 1962 to 1984.

After his early research with Sisyridae and protozoan flagella, Harley began studying riffle beetles (Coleoptera: Dryopoidea), a group of non-swimming, stream-inhabiting insects found in mountain streams throughout the world. He was introduced to these beetles in the early 1950s by a request for help with a large study conducted by Milt Sanderson, then at the Illinois Natural History Survey. His interest was completely captured and he began to publish immediately (see bibliography). Very quickly he became one of the few world authorities on the group, and remained so until his death. His publications on riffle beetles included studies on taxonomy, ecology, distribution, behavior, and morphology. To support his research, he traveled and collected throughout the New World, developing a large research collection, mostly prior to the availability of research funding for such activities. And Harley usually drove to regional and national scientific meetings, often taking several students with him, collecting along the way there and back, of course. Several of his students at OU, including me, followed his example and conducted research with riffle beetles. Harley also mentored many other students from various universities around the world, leading to many coauthored papers. By himself or with others, Harley described and named nine genera and subgenera, and 35 species of dryopoid beetles. Nine species of water beetles were named after him (see below). During his long research career he authored and co-authored more than 110 publications.

Most of all, Harley is remembered as a gentle man who possessed an abiding faith in others, who was often first to help those struggling, and who thoroughly enjoyed the natural world and shared it with all interested parties. He was an outstanding family member, community member, and teacher and colleague. His memory lives with all who knew him. I miss you Harley. We all do.

His research collection now resides in the Invertebrate Collection, Sam Noble Museum of Natural History, 2401 Chautaugua Avenue, Norman, Oklahoma 73072-7029, USA.

### **List of new taxa described by Harley P. Brown**

#### **Dryopidae:**

*Elmoparnus mexicanus* BROWN, 1970

#### **Elmidae:**

*Austrelmis* BROWN, 1984

*Elsianus shoemakei* BROWN, 1971 (= *Macrelmis* MOTSCHULSKY, 1860)

*Heterelmis comalensis* BOSSE, TUFF & BROWN, 1988

*Heterelmis stephani* BROWN, 1972

*Hispaniolara* BROWN, 1981

*Hispaniolara farri* BROWN, 1981

*Huleechius* BROWN, 1981

*Huleechius carolus* BROWN, 1981

*Huleechius marroni* BROWN, 1981  
*Hydora annectens* SPANGLER & BROWN, 1981  
*Hydora lenta* SPANGLER & BROWN, 1981  
*Leptelmis philomina* BROWN & THOBAS, 1984  
*Neocylloepus arringtoni* BROWN, 1970  
*Neocylloepus boeseli* BROWN, 1970  
*Neocylloepus* BROWN, 1970  
*Neocylloepus hintoni* BROWN, 1970  
*Neocylloepus petersoni* BROWN, 1970  
*Neocylloepus sandersoni* BROWN, 1970  
*Ovolara* BROWN, 1981  
*Parapotamophilus* BROWN, 1981  
*Parapotamophilus gressitti* BROWN, 1981  
*Pseudodisersus* BROWN, 1981  
*Pseudodisersus coquereli* BROWN, 1981 (synonym of *P. goudotii* GUÉRIN-MÉNEVILLE, 1843)  
*Stenelmis cheryl* BROWN, 1987  
*Stenelmis gammoni* WHITE & BROWN, 1976  
*Stenelmis lignicola* SCHMUDE & BROWN, 1992  
*Stenelmis occidentalis* SCHMUDE & BROWN, 1991  
*Suzevia* BROWN, 2001 (subgenus of *Zaitzevia* CHAMPION, 1923)  
*Xenelmis sandersoni* BROWN, 1985  
*Zaitzevia posthonia* BROWN, 2001

#### Lutrochidae:

*Lutrochus arizonicus* BROWN & MURVOSH, 1970

#### Psephenidae:

*Alabameubria* BROWN, 1980 (synonym of *Dicranopselaphus* GUÉRIN-MÉNEVILLE, 1861)  
*Alabameubria starki* BROWN, 1980 (synonym of *Dicranopselaphus variegatus* HORN, 1880)  
*Mataeopsephus taiwanicus* LEE, YANG & BROWN, 1990  
*Psephenus arizonensis* BROWN & MURVOSH, 1974  
*Psephenus montanus* BROWN & MURVOSH, 1974  
*Psephenus murvoshi* BROWN, 1970  
*Psephenus texanus* BROWN & ARRINGTON, 1967  
*Schinostethus flabellatus* LEE, YANG & BROWN, 1993  
*Schinostethus junghuaensis* LEE, YANG & BROWN, 1993 (synonym of *S. satoi* LEE, YANG & BROWN, 1993)  
*Schinostethus minutus* LEE, YANG & BROWN, 1993  
*Schinostethus niger* LEE, YANG & BROWN, 1993  
*Schinostethus satoi* LEE, YANG & BROWN, 1993

### Harley P. Brown Patronyms

*Austrolimnius browni* HINTON, 1971 [Coleoptera: Elmidae]  
*Dubiraphia browni* HILSENHOFF, 1973 [Coleoptera: Elmidae]  
*Dubiraphia harleyi* BARR, 1984 [Coleoptera: Elmidae]  
*Hexanchorus browni* SPANGLER & SANTIAGO-FRAGOSO, 1992 [Coleoptera: Elmidae]  
*Hydraena browni* PERKINS, 1980 [Coleoptera: Hydraenidae]  
*Limnichites browni* WOOLDRIDGE, 1977 [Coleoptera: Limnichidae]  
*Ochthebius browni* PERKINS, 1980 [Coleoptera: Hydraenidae]  
*Optioservus browni* WHITE, 1978 [Coleoptera: Elmidae]  
*Psephenopalpus browni* ARCE-PÉREZ, 2004 [Coleoptera: Psephenidae]

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Prof. Dr. William D. SHEPARD

Essig Museum of Entomology, University of California, 201 Wellman Hall #3112, Berkeley, California 94720-3112  
USA (william.shepard@csus.edu)



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