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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Ken Stewart** helped NABS members with stonefly nymph identifications at the Taxonomy Fair in Athens, Georgia at the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting in May, 2003, and will do this again at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, in June, 2004.

He also conducted a Stonefly Nymph Identification workshop for 36 Northwest Macroinvertebrate Taxonomists at Pacific University, Forest Grove Oregon on April 23,24. The workshop was sponsored by the Xerces Society.

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### **2006 North American Plecoptera Society Meeting**

Society members at the 2003 Gunnison, Colorado, meeting accepted an invitation by Don Webb and Ed DeWalt to hold their 2006 meeting in the beautiful Shawnee Hills of southern Illinois. The area is located about 3 hours travel time southeast from St. Louis, Mo. The exact dates have not been set, but will probably be either June 2-4 (Fri-Sun) or 9-11. Exact dates will be announced in future PERLAs or contact Don Webb or Ed DeWalt at the Illinois Natural History Survey, Natural Resources Bldg. Rm. 296a, 607 E. Peabody Dr. Champaign, IL 61820.

The University of Illinois runs the Dixon Springs Agricultural Experimental Station in the Shawnee Hills and hosts conferences. This facility offers dormitory style housing (some rooms with private baths), kitchen facilities, and a meeting hall. Don and I stay at this facility regularly and find its accommodations adequate, and the price is right! Rooms with private baths run \$17 per night per person, while semiprivate rooms cost \$15/night. The use of the entire complex is included in the room cost, so no other expenses will be incurred for facilities. There is room for up to 40 people. Other board may be had within 12 miles at Vienna where two moderately priced, new, motels exist. Mark Wetzel, an INHS aquatic oligochaete taxonomist, has offered to be cook during the conference. A small registration fee will cover meals and refreshments.

The Shawnee Hills provide the best stonefly collecting in the state. These vaulted bluffs of sandstone and limestone are home to some of the most important collecting locations of Frison and Ross. Lusk Creek, Bay Creek, Burden Falls, and Gibbons Creek are only short drives from Dixon Springs.

We will coordinate transportation to collecting locations and work to get a blanket permit from the state DNR and USDA-FS. Much of the area is contained within the Shawnee Hills National Forest; therefore, it has been largely protected over the past century. One could expect to collect a fauna similar to that found in the nearby Ozarks of Missouri and Arkansas.

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The XXII International Congress of Entomology will be held in Brisbane, Australia, August 15-21, 2004. For further information on the congress, accommodations, travel and registration, you can visit the congress website at: <[www.ice2004.org](http://www.ice2004.org)>

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The National Institute of Water and Atmosphere in New Zealand (NIWA) has a website of interest to plecopterologists and other freshwater workers. Included is a host of other interesting information. At <<http://www.niwa.co.nz>> is a guide to identification of NZ Plecoptera by Brian J. Smith and an updated checklist of NZ stoneflies by Ian McLellan.

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The North American Benthological Society is co-sponsoring the ASLO Aquatic Sciences meeting February 20-25, 2005 in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, along with Geological Society of America and The Nature Conservancy. Organizers of the ASLO meeting have invited members of these co-sponsors to submit suggestions for symposia topics and to submit specific topical oral or poster sessions papers for the meeting.

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A limited printing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. of "Nymphs of North American Stonefly Genera (Plecoptera)" is still available from Caddis Press. Contact Editor Brian Armitage at The Caddis Press, P.O. Box 21039, Columbus, Ohio 43221-0039.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Perla](#)

Jahr/Year: 2004

Band/Volume: [22](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Redaktion

Artikel/Article: [Announcements 23-24](#)