



**Dr. Beate Wolf**  
**(6 April 1960–10 May 2018)**

**Beate Wolf** was born in Bremen, in the north German lowlands, but spent most of her life in the foothills of Hesse, mainly at Schlitz. When she asked me for a Diploma thesis (a former equivalent to a bachelor degree) she impressed me with her vivid interest in biology and her broad knowledge; we soon agreed on a subject. However, before she left she told me she suffered of an incurable respiratory disease. I could hardly believe this because I saw how after our conversation she mounted her bike and rode up the hill in front of the Limnologische Flusstation. There, almost everybody else needs to get off and push his bicycle – not she. Her strength, her optimism, her firm will and ability to overcome problems, in good spirits, were characteristic of her. She led a life-long hard battle against Mucoviscidosis and later several additional serious diseases but remained active and cheerful even under the most difficult conditions.

In her diploma thesis, Beate Wolf documented the plurivoltinism of *Nemurella pictetii* for the first time. Her doctoral thesis on the phantom crane fly *Ptychoptera paludosa* in the Breitenbach near Schlitz remains one of the very few studies on the ecology of these exceptional Diptera. However, eventually her physical strength declined. For some time Beate continued field work and faunistic studies on Plecoptera, Ephemeroptera and Trichoptera from nearby mountain streams of the Vogelsberg, occasionally with some helper. She closely followed the return of the threatened *Brachyptera* and *Taeniopteryx* species to the river Fulda. Usually, she won a kind of competition we had on who would observe the first specimens in late winter / early spring. When her health restricted her to desk work, she studied collections made by others, mainly recently collected material from nature reserves that was given to the Senckenberg Museum at Frankfurt. Her own specimen collection of Plecoptera and other aquatic insects will now also be deposited there.

Beate Wolf was married to Thomas Gregor, a botanist. They lived in a very old half-timbered house that needed repair and reconstruction; Beate supervised the necessary works. As member of several societies, she was engaged in environmental issues. For example, for a number of years she served as treasurer of the Botanische Vereinigung für Naturschutz in Hessen, belonged to the Society for the Protection of Endangered Habitats at Schlitz, Germany. She was also a member of the society that supported the Hessian Music Academy at Schlitz. Beate Wolf kept in contact with neighbours and former colleagues. Several times, she also organised and held at her home the annual meeting of ex-students of the Flusstation. The last time in September 2017 when the photograph was also taken.

We miss Beate Wolf and will keep her in very good memory.

**Peter Zwick**

Dr. T. Gregor is thanked for additions to the bibliography

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## MEMBER NEWS

### Devastating California Fire Affects Colleague

You may have heard about the recent devastating fires in California, especially the Paradise blaze that resulted in at least 86 deaths and destroyed more than 18,000 buildings, leaving thousands of persons homeless. The Camp Fire as it was called, is the deadliest and most destructive wildfire in California history to date. This disaster is considered one of the deadliest wildfires in the United States since 1918 and is high on the list of the world's deadliest wildfires (<https://abc7news.com/before-and-after-views-of-camp-fire-destruction-in-paradise/4918064/>). One of our own, **Dr. John Sandberg**, was caught in that fire, but thankfully escaped in the nick of time! He lost all possessions including one of the best *Isoperla* collections of western North America. John is now getting back on his feet. He has a place new place to live and still has his position at Chico State University. John is a resilient soul and will take this difficulty in stride. Please join us in wishing John a much better 2019! **Dr. Sandberg** is well-known for his innovative research on stonefly communication and was the late **Dr. Kenneth W. Stewart's** last PhD student.

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