

Newsletter of the Association of Meiobenthologists

PSAMMONALIA is sent to individuals interested in the study of the minute biota of aquatic sediments.

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This document is not part of the scientific literature and is not to be cited, abstracted, or reprinted as a published document.

EDITORIAL

Firstly, an apology for the omission of the Constitution from the last issue. At the time the Editorial was written and duplicated I felt certain the draft Constitution would be ready. However, this proved not to be so.

The draft Constitution is included with this issue. It is vital that everyone should read this through thoroughly and report any corrections that are needed to me. With the help of the Board of Editors I will revise the draft and print the finalised version in the next issue.

For a number of reasons the Constitution assumes a strictly formal basis. This will help us over difficulties with tax problems in various countries and will, I believe, facilitate the development of our Association of Meiobenthologists. Not the least of the considerations in drawing up the Constitution was the need for a democratic organisation. I trust the draft herewith meets these requirements.

I would urge each and every one of you to consider this draft carefully and to bring to my notice corrections and ambiguities that need alterations.

* * * * *

The Editor relies heavily on the membership for contributions to Psammonalia. We have in the past printed some bibliographies on various taxa but this material has now been exhausted. If anyone has a bibliography to offer I would be happy to receive it.

I believe Psammonalia has a role to play in promoting a dialogue between workers. In order to stimulate a discussion I have invited a number of members to write short articles on "The future of meiobenthic research". I would welcome contributions on the topic and on any subject that is likely to provoke a discussion and stimulate new areas of research.

* * * * *

Cri de coeur. Working in a small establishment it is difficult to keep a coverage of all literature. Could I suggest that from time to time everyone sends in important citations that I have missed.

John S. Gray.
Editor.

CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MEIOBENTHOLOGISTS

Article 1. Name.

The name of the Association shall be the Association of Meiobenthologists.

Article 2. Purpose.

The objective of the Association shall be the general advancement and promotion of research in the study of meiobenthos in all its branches.

Article 3. Capital and Income.

The capital and income of the Association shall be devoted solely to the furtherance of its objective as stated in Article 2 and no portion thereof shall be paid to any officer or member of the Association except in respect of the repayment of any out-of-pocket expenses properly incurred, or reasonable and proper remuneration in return for services rendered to the Association.

Article 4. Dissolution.

In the event of the Association being dissolved for any reason, the surplus funds remaining after payment of debts and liabilities shall not be distributed among members, but shall be paid or transferred to some other institution or institutions, approved by the council having objectives similar to those of the Association. Any outstanding liabilities of the Association at dissolution, shall be shared equally among the membership.

Article 5. Dues.

Annual dues will be charged to cover expenses of the Association and will be the subject of a bylaw.

Article 6. Officers and Elections.

The elective Officers shall be a Chairman and up to four additional members comprising the Committee. The Chairman shall be elected every two years and shall then automatically become a Member of the Committee during the two years following his tenure as Chairman. The Committee shall be elected biennially and shall hold office for two years. The expiration date of the terms of office of the Committee shall be arranged so that only two members of the Committee will be elected in any one year. All newly elected Officers shall assume their duties at the beginning of the next calendar year following their election.

Article 7. Council.

The Council shall consist of the Chairman, the Committee and the Board of Correspondents.

Article 8. Chairman.

The Chairman shall act as Editor of the newsletter of the Association and as Treasurer of the Association, until such time as an official Editor and Treasurer shall be deemed necessary by the Council. The Chairman shall, in his capacity as Editor, be responsible for the publication of the newsletter of the Association. The Chairman shall keep the financial records of the Association and shall present an annual statement of the accounts at the end of each calendar year, to be published in the first issue of the newsletter of the Association of the succeeding year.

Article 9. Committee.

The Committee shall be responsible for the business affairs of the Association. It shall assist the Chairman in the production of the newsletter of the Association and it shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Chairman.

Article 10. Board of Correspondents.

The Board of Correspondents shall consist of up to twelve members of the Association, and shall be appointed by the Chairman with the advice and consent of the Committee. The Board of Correspondents shall retire automatically with the retiring Chairman.

Article 11. Nominations.

Nominations for any office may be made in writing by any two members of the Association not later than August 1st in an election year. The Council must certify that each candidate is willing to stand for office and serve if elected. The Council shall give due consideration to equitable representation of the geographical distribution of the membership of the Association. Additional nominations for officers may be made by the Council.

Article 12. Elections.

Should elections of Officers be necessary, these will be held by mail ballot. The Chairman, in his capacity as Editor, shall mail ballots to each member in an issue of the newsletter before October 1st in an election year. A brief biographical sketch of each candidate shall accompany the ballots. The Chairman shall count and record the votes received by November 1st. The candidate or candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to office. The Chairman shall notify the candidates for office of the vote by mail. In the event that a vote results in a tie, the members of the Council shall vote by mail to resolve the tie. Should a tie still result the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

Article 13. Finance.

The expenses of the Association shall be paid from the funds of the Association within the limits in the budget of the Association. The Chairman shall authorize all payments.

Article 14. Bylaws.

Bylaws to augment this Constitution may specify details and less fundamental provisions, but shall not alter the intended meaning of the Constitution or circumvent its provisions.

Additional Bylaws may be proposed in writing by any two members in good standing and shall be adopted if a majority of the members are in its favour as shown by a mail ballot.

Bylaws may be amended upon recommendation by the Council, by a majority vote of members of the Association in good standing in a mail ballot.

Article 15. Amendments.

This Constitution can be amended only by a two-thirds majority of those members in good standing voting in a mail ballot.

Amendments may be proposed by any member in writing to the Chairman who shall submit such proposal to the Council for consideration and vote. Any amendment that five members of the Council deem worthy of consideration shall be submitted to the members of the Association for vote.

Article 16. Enabling Article.

This Constitution and its accompanying bylaws shall be adopted in full force and effect from January 1st 1971.

BYLAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Bylaw 1. Annual Dues.

Annual dues of three dollars shall be payable in advance before January 1st to the Association. Payment of annual dues shall be made preferably in International Money Orders.

Bylaw 2. Membership Rights.

No membership rights shall be continued longer than six months from the date notifying arrears.

Bylaw 3. Newsletter.

The Newsletter of the Association shall be called 'Psammonalia'. Its purpose shall be to promote the objects of the Association as defined in Article 2.

FINANCIAL REPORT

	£.	s.	d.
Cost of duplicating and mailing issue No.9	12	18	9
Subscriptions received	52	13	9
	<hr/>		
Balance	39	15	0
	<hr/> <hr/>		

We are rather fortunate in having a duplicating machine at the Wellcome Marine Laboratory, which is keeping the cost of Psammonalia low. In addition, the postal service in Britain is such that mailing Psammonalia abroad costs 3d. and mailing Psammonalia within Britain costs 4d. per copy. Thus, we should be able to accumulate a surplus whilst the editorship is here. However, any surplus may render us liable for income tax and thus I will investigate the status of the Association in relation to the tax laws.

The biggest chore in publishing Psammonalia is addressing copies. With your approval I hope to purchase a small addressing machine for £25 which will considerably aid future editors. If anyone has any comments on this proposed purchase please do not hesitate to write.

NEWS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

"Free-living Marine Nematodes of Sevastopol".

The second half of Filipjev's 1918/21 publication has been translated from Russian to English and is available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Clearing House for Federal Scientific and Technical Information, Springfield, Virginia, 22151, U.S.A. Cost \$3.00 per issue.

DUANE HOPE.

HJALMAR THIEL - I am still working on the meiobenthos of the deep sea. I hope to publish a paper shortly on the meiobenthos of the Iceland-Faeroe ridge and then a paper on the meiobenthos of the Iberian deep sea. In September I will be on 'Meteor' again sampling the deep bottom of the Mediterranean.

E. SCHOCKAERT - I am working on a revision of the Kalyptorhynchid turbellarian family Polycystididae. I would be most grateful for material, either described or undescribed. Please send specimens to : Ernest Schockaert, Institut voor Dierkunde, Laboratorium voor Merfologie en Systematik, Ledeganckstraat 35, B-900, Ghent, Belgium. Thank you.

NEIL HULINGS - Two publications resulting from the meiofauna conference in Tunis, July 1969, will appear in early 1971. Both are being published by the Smithsonian Institution Press and will be available for sale through the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C. The two publications are as follows :

HULINGS, N.C. & J.S. GRAY. 1971. A Manual for the study of Meiofauna. Smithsonian Contributions to Zoology. Number 78.

HULINGS, N.C., Editor. 1971. Proceedings of the First International Conference on Meiofauna, Smithsonian Contributions to Zoology. Number 76.

Upon publication, more detailed information will be given on price etc.

Second International Conference on Meiofauna.

Preliminary thought is being given by a number of meiofauna researchers to the objectives of the next meiofauna conference to be held in two to three years. It seems appropriate to present some of the ideas that have been expressed and solicit comments on these and others.

Certainly one objective should be the presentation of papers to update our knowledge of systematics and ecology of meiofauna. A second should be a revision of the manual to update topics covered in the present manual and include topics not covered. A third, and the most involved, is the preparation of taxonomic keys to meiofauna taxa. Such keys should be as inclusive as possible, i.e., world-wide in scope, but restricted to the generic or a higher taxonomic level if the generic level is not feasible. For example, it may not be feasible to construct keys to the generic level of groups such as Turbellaria and Nematoda, whereas smaller groups, in terms of number of taxa, should pose no problem. Furthermore, the keys should be constructed in such a way as to be of use to the beginning as well as the experienced investigator whether he be ecologist or systematist. Critical morphological features should be presented in the form of line drawings suitable for publication. It is anticipated that the compilation of keys will be published as a separate publication rather than including them in the revised manual. At this stage it is visualised that the revision of the manual and the preparation of the keys will be completed prior to the conference. It is realised that preparation of the keys is a tremendous undertaking and will require the cooperation of many individuals. Certain groups will have to be split among several systematists in order to accomplish the desired goal.

In order to get your ideas as to the feasibility and desirability of preparing the taxonomic keys, would you fill out the form below and return it to John Gray.

- offshore meiobenthic nematodes.
- R.P.HARRIS - Seasonal changes in the interstitial population of an intertidal sand beach.
- J.G.ANDERSON & P.S.MEADOWS - The ecology of microorganisms in sediments.
- J.S.GRAY & R.VENTILLA - Pollution effects on meiofauna : preliminary results.
- J.R.DATE - Ecological studies on micro- and meio-fauna from fine sand beaches with reference to the effect of domestic pollution.
- P.J.S.BOADEN & R.J.BLEAKLEY - Effects of oil spill remover on beach meiofauna.

Enquiries to : Dr. P.J.S. Boaden, Department of Zoology,
Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

2. Biology of the Turbellaria (Libbie Hyman Memorial Symposium),
Chicago, Illinois, December 28, 29, 30.

Programme includes :

- J.G.KARLING - Aspects on Anatomy and affinities of the turbellarian groups.
- EVELINE MARCUS - On Brazilian Turbellaria.
- A.ANTONIUS - Turbellaria Acoela of East Venezuelan coasts.
- E.RUFFIN-JONES - Some Turbellaria of the eastern U.S.
- R.RIEGER - Migrations of Turbellaria in intertidal sediments, a worldwide phenomenon.
- W.STERRER - Viviparity in marine Turbellaria.
- J.B.JENNINGS - Gut structure and digestive physiology of Turbellaria.
- VALERIA MACK-FIRA - The turbellarian fauna of the Rumanian littoral waters of the Black Sea and of its annexes.
- C.DEN HARTOG - Salt marsh Turbellaria.
- E.VOZLOFF - Selection of food, feeding and digestion in an acoel turbellarian.

Enquiries to : Dr. N.W.Riser, Northeastern University, Marine
Science Institute, East Point, Nahant, Mass.
01908, U.S.A.

MISCELLANY

D.J.ZINN. "Beachcombing psammonologists abound,
 In examining lacunae profound.
 Between grains of fine quartz
 Ooze beasts of all sorts,
 A taxonomists nightmare unwound ! "

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

NEIL C. HULINGS,
 Department of Biology,
 American University of Beirut,
 Beirut,
 Lebanon.

BRUCE C. COULL (from August 15)
 Department of Biology,
 Clark University,
 Worcester,
 Mass. 01610, U.S.A.

An up-to-date membership directory will be printed with the next issue.

NEW MEMBERS

JAMES A. BLAKE,
 Assistant Professor of Zoology,
 Pacific Marine Station,
 Dillon Beach,
 California 94924, U.S.A.

DENNIS M. DEVANEY,
 Bernice P. Bishop Museum,
 P.O. Box 6037,
 Honolulu,
 Hawaii 96818.

DAVID JAY HARTZBAND,
 Department of Zoology,
 Morton Hall,
 Ohio University,
 Athens,
 Ohio 45701, E.S.A.

CARLO HEIP,
 Lab. von Mer ^{Ecologie en} Systematik,
 Le deganckstraat 35,
 B-9000,
 Gent,
 Belgium.

Interest : Taxonomy of
 benthic Copepods

Interests : Ecology of benthic
 Harpacticoids and
 ostracods.

R.K. SASAKI,
 Dept. of Biological Sciences,
 University of Delaware,
 Newark,
 Delaware 19711, U.S.A.

HJALMAR THIEL,
 Institut für Hydrobiologie,
 Universität Hamburg,
 2 Hamburg 50,
 Palmaille 55,
 Germany.

Interests : Deep sea
 Meiobenthos.

10 - July 1970

8.

Addenda to the Bibliography on Gastrotricha
supplied by - Dr. Liliana Fornens

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WATER POLLUTION ABSTRACTS

I apologise for the omission of the address of this in the last issue. We were unfamiliar with our duplicating machine !

To reiterate the scope of this abstract is far wider than just pollution. There are sections on : - "Analysis and examination of water and wastes", with titles, e.g.

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Other sections include Effects of pollution, Trade Waste waters etc., and include detailed abstracts. 216 abstracts appear in the February 1970 issue.

Price 5/6d. per copy. Available from : Her Majesty's Stationery Office, P.O.Box 569, London, S.E.1., or British Information Services 845 Third Avenue, New York 22, U.S.A.

RECENT LITERATURE

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