

# PSAMMONALIA

Newsletter of the  
International Association of Meiobenthologists



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*This Newsletter is not part of the scientific literature for taxonomic purposes*

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## EDITORIAL

### *Summertime*

The "dog days," (i.e., the lazy days) of summer are obviously here. This issue of *Psammonalia* is very lean. Summer issues always are. Summer is the time for intensified field research, a trip to your favorite collecting spot, teaching that summer course at a field station, or just taking time off for a well deserved vacation. Even us hard working Meiobenthologists deserve a break during the summer. But, I am curious. Please send a short note to *Psammonalia* about what you did this summer.

Planning is well underway for NIMCO '95, we will begin to report on it and start our call for papers in the fall issue. If you haven't already sent the preliminary questionnaire to Alain Dinet, please do so. It is attached to the back of this newsletter.

I would like encourage people to donate funds to the Swedmark Fund. The purpose of the fund is supply travel funds for those in need to attend the triennial conference. The funds should come from earnings, and not the corpus. Unfortunately, we only have about \$85 US that is available. At the current rate of earnings and deposits it may take a decade or two before we have enough to start offering awards. As a society, we need to address this issue. What are the options available? Should we initiate a fundraising drive to increase the fund? Please let me know your thoughts.

### NIMCO '95 NEWS

So far, 63 responses to the preliminary questionnaire have been received, but answers are still arriving daily. Given the trend in IMCO attendance, especially when organized in Europe (see *Psammonalia* #93), we can probably expect participation from around 120 people. All "traditional" scientific fields are covered by the questionnaire respondents. Three proposals for symposia or special sessions have been received. The topics are: "The importance of meiofauna in aquatic ecosystems" (suggested by Paul Montagna), "The relationship between sediment biogeochemistry and meiofauna distribution" (suggested by Magda Vincx), and "Feeding biology, gardening, and structuring of biocenoses by meiofauna" (suggested by Hans-Uwe Dahms. More suggestions are welcome. The local organizing committee is composed of J.Y. Bodiou, F. de Bovée, N. Coineau, L. Guidi, S. Villora Moreno, P. Albert, and chairperson A. Dinet.

## NEWS FROM MEMBERS

### *Tidbits*

Chris Hakenkamp writes they have looked high and low for Mark Schramm - unsuccessfully. Does anyone know where he is or is anyone else making Irwin Loops? They are down to their last loop and things are looking quite desperate. You can reach Chris at his e-mail address listed later in this newsletter.

Bill Hummon reports that he is on a Senior Fulbright Research Fellowship in Alexandria, Egypt, studying the marine Gastrotrich fauna of the coasts of the Red and Mediterranean Seas. He is trying to determine whether or not members of this meiofauna phylum have migrated between the two seas, and if so in which net direction. It is not an easy task, since historical information is lacking. So far he has about 650 site records from the eastern Mediterranean Sea (including previous work in Greece and Israel) and some 200 from the Red Sea (including my previous work in Israel). He will be finished in November. His e-mail address until November is 'hummonw@intouch.com'.

Bruce Coull reports that he is on a sabbatical leave to Australia. He is stationed at the Department of Zoology, University of Queensland, Brisbane 4072, QLD, Australia. His e-mail address until the beginning of November 1st "b.coull@mailbox.uq.oz.au."

Nicole Coineau, Editor for *Vie et Milieu*, reports that there will be a special thematic issue devoted to meiobenthos at the end of the year. The issue will focus on the importance of meiofauna in trophic webs. Manuscripts will address feeding and diet of meiofauna, microbial interactions, energetic fluxes, and impacts of predation on meiofauna. *Vie et Milieu* aims at being one of the European journals emphasizing the fields related to meiofauna research.

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#### NEW MEMBERS

Fiona Hannah  
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Fiona's interests are in the ecology of benthic foraminifera.

Greg T. Street  
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Greg's interest is in harpacticoid genetic variability; and disturbance ecology. Greg is a Ph.D. candidate working in Paul Montagna's laboratory.

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INDONESIA

Suhartati has worked for 8 years on benthic foraminifera, and has published more than 15 papers about taxonomy, statistics, distribution and morphological changes of foraminifera. Now he is trying to find indicator species for marine pollution.

Nigel Marley

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U.K.

Nigel has researched part time into a small meiofauna phylum - the Targrada. Although his research has mainly concentrated in the past on the terrestrial and freshwater species, he is now expanding his work into the diverse marine fauna.

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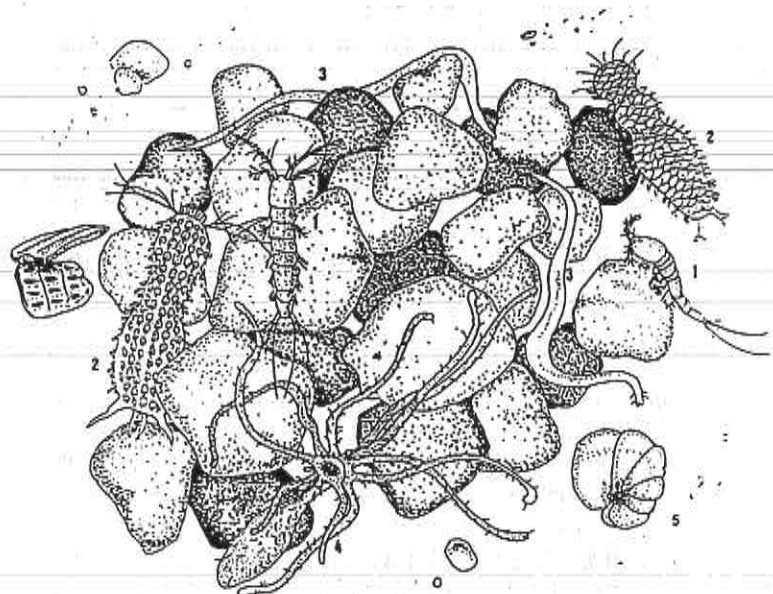
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## THANKS

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Gunter Arlt  
 Tapas Chatterjee  
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 Koen Martens  
 Mary E. Petersen  
 Beate Sopott-Ehlers  
 Greg Street  
 Donald J. Zinn  
 Zhang Zhinan



Meiofauna of sandy sediment

1. Harpacticoid copepod - in sand they tend to be long and thin.
2. Gastrotrich - flat and scaly or hairy.
3. Nematode - usually white, pointed ends, no segments.
4. Protohydra - a long and thin hydrozoan.
5. Foraminiferan - a protist with a snail-like test.

**International Association of Meiobenthologists**

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL

The International Association of Meiobenthologists is a non-profit scientific society representing meiobenthologists in all aquatic disciplines. The Association is dedicated to the dissemination of information by publishing a quarterly newsletter and sponsoring a triennial International Conference. The newsletter, *Psammonalia*, is published mid-month in February, May, August and November. The next International Conference will be July 3-7, 1995 in Perpignan, France.

Membership is open to any person who is actively interested in the study of meiofauna. Annual membership dues are \$10 US and you may pay up to 3 years in advance, i.e., \$30. New members will receive *Psammonalia* beginning with the February issue of the current year. If you are able, please add extra money to be contributed to the Bertil Swedmark Fund, which is used to help students or others who wish to attend the triennial International Conference.

Please check appropriate box:

- New member
- Renewing member
- Change of address

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**NIMCO '95 PRELIMINARY QUESTIONNAIRE**

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I plan to attend NIMCO and I shall be accompanied by \_\_\_ persons.

I intend to make an oral presentation.

I intend to present a poster.

Preliminary title or subject: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in a free visit to Carcassonne.

I am interested in a guided tour of Carcassonne and vicinities.

I would prefer a free day in Perpignan.