



This number of our newsletter is issued without much preamble as a gesture to get back on our regular schedule of two a year. We are facing, with no little satisfaction, our third year as an organized society. In spite of small ups and downs, and barring unforeseeable financial disaster (which looms over all of us these days), our future looks good.

As we begin another field season for spidering, the big excitement is of course our first international arachnology meeting on this continent. Read the latest information about it under "Meetings."

And the bad news is--an unfortunate error was made in AA #12 regarding the C.I.D.A. dues. They have doubled this year because of rising costs, so the annual contribution is now \$10.

Contributions for American Arachnology should be mailed to the Editor, B. Vogel. Items received before 31 September will be included in AA #14.

Read on.

## C. I. D. A.

ATTENTION--All who have paid 1975 membership, and all those who have not!

An error was published in AA #12 regarding the subscription rate. It was decided at the 1974 meeting that annual dues would be raised to 40 FF, US \$10, not \$5 as stated in our last issue.

If you have not yet paid your 1975 dues note this change. If you already have paid your 1975 membership, please send the balance right away. Send your additional payment to Mel Thompson, Whittier Narrows Nature Center, 1000 N. Durfee Avenue, South El Monte, CA 91733, with a word of explanation about what it is for.

## Exchanges & Requests

WAYNE MADDISON, 4108 Apple Valley Lane, Burlington, Ontario, L7L 1G2, Canada, would like any information on or specimens of any antlike jumping spiders of the genera Certschia and Peckhamia (and for European readers, any of the genus Synageles). He is working on Ontario spiders, and any specimens, living or preserved, and/or notes for comparison would be greatly appreciated. He is willing to pay postage or trade specimens.

DR. ELLIS G. MacLEOD, Department of Entomology, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801, is working on spider parasites of the neuropteran genus Mantispa. He is interested in seeing larvae and/or adults of Mantispa, and would appreciate information from any spider workers encountering these parasites.

## Meetings

The Third Annual and First International of the American Arachnological Society

By now most everybody interested should know of our first international meeting, 24 to 26 June at Warrensburg, Missouri. As this newsletter goes to press, about 75 arachnologists plan to attend, including not only North Americans, but also many from Europe, South America, and Asia. The meeting will start with an informal gathering on the evening of 23 June at Bill Peck's. The formal meeting will include a field trip and five sessions of papers covering phylogeny, morphology, synecology, and autecology of arachnids. It promises to be the finest meeting of the year and we hope that as some of you read this, you will change your mind at the last minute and make it to the meeting. If you do, write to W. B. Peck, Dept. of Biology, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

# American Arachnology

Number 13

April, 1975

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Billings, MT 59102

## MEETINGS (Con't)

## Seventh International Arachnological Congress

It was agreed at the 6th Congress in Amsterdam that the 7th Congress would be held in Britain in 1977. An Organising Committee has been set up by the British Arachnological Society, and it has been decided that the Congress would be held at Exeter from Wednesday, 27 July (registration) to Thursday, 4 August (departure). There will be about 4 1/2 days of lectures and discussions and 2 days for excursions.

Exeter is a small city situated in the south-west of England, and is readily accessible. The Congress will be held in the University, which is located on a very attractive site not far from the centre of the city. Those attending the Congress will be accommodated in the modern student quarters set in the University park. The south-west peninsula of England is an area of considerable natural beauty, which offers a wide choice of excursions.

The Congress Fee will be inclusive to cover all accommodation and meals, congress fees, day excursions, and a copy of the Congress Proceedings. It has been arranged that the Proceedings will be published in "Symposia of the Zoological Society of London." Congress languages will be English, French, and German. A preliminary Circular, giving more details of the proposed programme, etc., will be sent out later this year. Those interested are asked to take note of the Congress date.--A. F. MILLIDGE, B.Sc., Ph.D., Chairman, Organising Committee.

Secretary to the Organising Committee is Dr. J. Anderson, Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Exeter, Hatherly Laboratories, Prince of Wales Road, EXETER. Devon. England.



*Lycosa nostra*

Thanks to Mark Stowe, 3323X  
University Halls, Cornell  
University, Ithaca, NY 14853

## ANSWERS TO--

"WHERE IS MY JOURNAL?" AND OTHER QUESTIONS

(maybe)

To clarify matters, there are 3 numbers in each volume of the Journal of Arachnology. So far, one complete volume (Vol. I) is out, and everyone who paid dues in 1973 should have those 3 numbers. No. 1 of Vol. II is also out. Everyone who paid dues in 1974 should have that one and will get Nos. 2 and 3.

1975 dues will cover Vol. III. No issues of Vol. III have come out yet.

All arachnologists should be fully aware of the need for waiting. Just be patient --sooner or later all the bugs you can eat will fly into your web. Same with the Journal.

Also, two important changes have taken place recently, which should make the whole system work better.

The first is that Bob Mitchell has been relieved of the task of mailing out the Journals and answering queries concerning lost or back issues. Thus he can devote more time and energy to the TREMENDOUS job of editing the Journal.

The second is a change from computerized mailing to humanized mailing. The human being taking care of this is Nan Lawler, and if there are any problems, contact

## ANSWERS TO-- (Con't)

her directly at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta del Sol Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93105.

A REMINDER: The Postal Service is not very good at delivering mail with an inadequate or incorrect address. Please keep your address as short as possible (the labels hold only a limited number of lines), but be sure it is up-to-date and includes the correct zip code.

## Arachnologists

R. J. WOLFF, Biology Department, Western Michigan Univ., Kalamazoo, MI 49008, is working on his master's on ecology and biology of Lycosids. He has nearly completed a paper on Metafecenia radiata and will continue his work in this genus as well.

JOHN D. McMRONE announces that he will assume a new position of Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Western Carolina University. He hopes that the new position will allow more time for work on spiders, which he has missed.

WAYNE MADDISON is working on life history, behavior, and taxonomy of Ontario salticids.

ROBIN LEECH has moved back west to Edmonton, the first of 6 or 7 research scientists in Alberta Environment, a coordination center for environmental research in the province. Robin is in charge of terrestrial ecology. Others will be reclamation, limnology, atmosphere, etc. The job allows about 20-30% of time for personal research.

JOHN COOKE is still very much in the film-making business with Oxford Scientific Films. He plans to be in Arizona in August to film Pepsis wasps and tarantula burrows, and also finishing one on pollination mechanisms. Maybe we all shall be lucky enough to see one of John's films on Nova next year. Alas, the filming schedule does not allow John to attend the June meeting in Missouri.

MORE: See page 6

## ARACHNOLOGY AT THE AMNH 1974-75

This has been a busy year for us, marked by the start of a 5-year NSF grant for the curation of our immense entomological and arachnological collections. Most importantly, the grant provides for a full-time curatorial assistant for the arachnid collection, and Mr. William Rice joined us in January. Will has concentrated on the massive task of reconditioning the R. V. Chamberlin-University of Utah arachnid collection, now belonging to the AMNH, and this work is nearly completed. In addition, Will has been learning the spider families, and we hope that by the end of the grant period our entire collection, including the backlog, will be sorted to family level worldwide and to genus level for North America.

While sorting Florida specimens recently, Will asked if there was such a thing as a four-eyed spider, and said he'd found one, a small white thing, in the Florida samples. I assumed he had a Spermophila and told him to look at the lateral eyes carefully. Will insisted, and his specimen did turn out to be a female of Anapistula secreta Gertsch (Symphytognathidae), previously known from the Bahamas but not from the U.S. In addition to probably being the only four-eyed spider in the U.S., this is probably also the smallest U.S. species--our mature female measures a whopping half a millimeter!

Dr. Shadab has had to divide his time between spiders and hemiptera, but is still able to spend some time on producing his marvelous illustrations. He and Will are thinking of working on some of our attractive and almost totally unsorted salticids on their own time.

We had two volunteers during the year, both of whom came for training and experience in scientific illustration. Ms. Amelia Lau, from Guatemala, worked with us