

American Arachnology

Number 16

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B. Vogel, Editor 6323 21st Ave. N. E. Seattle, WA 98115

AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGY # 16

American Arachnology is the newsletter of the American Arachnological Society and is sent twice a year to all AAS members and subscribers.

Contributions to American Arachnology--as well as announcements, exchanges, requests, etc.--should be sent to the Editor, B. Vogel, 6323 21st Ave. N. E., Seattle, WA 98115.

Back issues of AA are available for \$4.00 for numbers 1-10, 50¢ each for numbers 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, or other single issues. Orders should be sent to Nan Lawler, 1753 Grand Avenue, Santa Barbara, CA 93103.

Good News!

The Journal of Arachnology is still alive, and reportedly back in production. Oscar Francke, who moved to Lubbock this summer is a new Assistant Editor and helping remove the log jam. Last minute report is that one issue (vol. 3, no. 2) is in Austin being printed, a second issue will be sent to Austin as soon as proofs are returned by authors, a third typeset and a fourth edited and ready for typesetting. We are optomistic about the Journal's future.

The Overload Response

American Arachnology began as a line of communication between isolated workers. Many of us thought 15, even 10, years ago, that each was the only one working on spiders. The main disadvantage of isolation is lack of stimulation from others with similar ideas and interests. There is no question that arachnology took a great leap forward when we began to pool our intellectual resources. Collectively, we've come a lot further than we would have singly.

But, while a certain amount of information coming from others stimulates one's work, what happens when too much information comes flooding in? In my case, the circuits get jammed, work grinds to a halt, mail piles up, unanswered, and even unread. I suspect this happens to a number of my colleagues, judging by the response lag.

Is there such a delicate balance between enough communication and too much? Perhaps there is. How do we achieve the balance of keeping information flowing throughout the network without overloading the circuits and blowing fuses? The future of the Society may be in jeopardy because of communications breakdowns. Perhaps we are not functioning as a communications network, but overloading a few major trunks. Is there a way to diffuse the pathways, and still permit adequate flow of information? Establishing a membership secretary is an attempt to reduce one overload.

How do you re-set a blown fuse? How do you elicit a response from a non-communicating member? Well, as one who has felt overloaded several times in the past couple of years my best advice is "try again." Don't just say "to hell with 'em," but after a decent month write again (not just me, your basic non-respondent). Write a 3rd time. Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with a yes-no check list of items you need answered. It either embarrasses or relieves, but usually gets action. If all else fails, phone. It's cheap after 11 pm or before 8 am. Differences in time zones don't make these hours as impossible as they first sound. Keep your call short. Above all, don't give up. If communications break down, the Society won't survive.

Bea Vogel, Editor

1977 Meetings

- American Arachnological Society, Eastern Section: June 24-26 at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723, Fred Coyle and John McCrone, hosts.
- 2 Seventh International Congress of Arachnology will be at Exeter, England, 27 June to 4 August. The International Congress is held every 3 years. Exeter is southwest of London, and the Congress will be held in the University of Exeter. The meeting includes 4½ days of papers and discussion and 2 days for excursions. If you are interested in attending and have not previously expressed your interest, correspond immediately with:

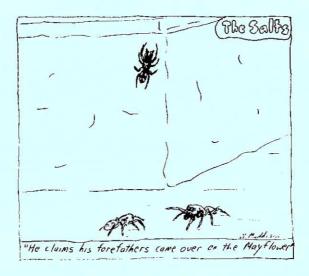
Dr. J. M. Anderson Hatherly Laboratories Prince of Wales Road Exeter EX4 4PS, ENGLAND

3 AAS, Western Section: August 18-20, Provo, Utah, Dorald Allred, host. An all-day mite workshop has been tentatively scheduled to be held the day before the meeting.

Details of the AAS meetings and preregistration forms will be included in the next newsletter, if not mailed out by the hosts before.

New Feature

The cartoons are supplied by Wayne Maddison and eagerly and happily received by the Editor. More will appear in future issues of the newsletter.



1976 Meetings

AAS, Western Division, Meeting San Francisco, 19 June 1976

Treasurer's Report: (1) Mel Thompson reported a current balance of \$7179.42, about 3/4 of which he is presently maintaining in a savings account. The Society received, as income from dues, between June 1975 and June 1976, \$3948, and in addition it collected \$3040 as dues for the BAS and the CIDA and dispersed it to those societies. We collected \$1058 for reprints ordered and paid \$1580 for reprints. Operating expenses (postage, stationery, etc.) amounted to \$1050. No money was spent on the Journal itself. Paper stocks had been bought in advance, and there has been no publication since last summer. (2) The Society is officially a non-profit organization (federal) now, since the three years' probation period has ended.

New Business: (1) The AAS has been invited to become an associate member of the Association for Systematics Collections. (Dues will be \$25.00 a year for the Society.) As provided for in the by-laws (Art. II, Sec. 12), the executive committee has been polled and it recommends the Society's affiliation. (It will not be official, however, until a membership vote is taken. At that time it will be passed by default unless 10% of the membership votes negatively within a month after the ballot mailing.)

- (2) The multiple tasks and frustrations of the secretary's job have become excessively burdensome, and in an effort to relieve the pressure, the executive committee acted to separate the duties of the office. The present elective secretary will act as corresponding secretary who will take care of matters pertaining to answering general inquiries, maintaining Society "archives," and mailing the newsletter, dues notices, etc. The secretary heretofore has also maintained the membership list and addresses and responded to all matters concerning dues and memberships, a task hereafter to be performed by an appointive membership secretary. (Although the officer was appointed by the executive committee as an interim measure, it is proposed to make it a permanent elective office by appropriate amendment of the by-laws. Norman Platnick accepted the appointment to act as membership secretary.)
- (3) The executive committee also recommended changes in the election of officers to provide for a greater continuity. It was recommended that the office of vice-president be changed immediately to that of president-elect so that the present vice-president will assume the presidency for the succeeding term of office. Further it was recommended that the president-elect, the treasurer, and one board member be elected in the odd-numbered years (i.e., '77, '79, '81, etc.) and in that year the outgoing president-elect would become the president for two years and the outgoing president would automatically become a board member for two years. On alternate years (i.e., even-numbered years) the secretary and the third board member would be elected. (The present by-laws provide that an officer or board member may be renominated, but may not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.) The foregoing will provide for gradually changing officers, two new ones being elected each year and five members of the executive board with at least one year's experience continuously.

(4) The Western dividion considered three invitations for their 1977 meeting and voted by a large majority to accept the invitation of Dorald Allred at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. Details will be announced later. The International Congress of Arachnology will convene next year in Exeter, England, and AAS meetings should, if possible, avoid conflicting dates.

- (5) A suggestion was made from the floor that the Society offer its expertise to the California Academy of Sciences to recommend uses and priorities for the Frizzell Fund for Arachnological Research which the Academy controls. Although the Academy is under no obligation to accept the Society's offer, and it was not known how it might react to the suggestion, a committee of Pat Craig (chairman), Bea Vogel, Herb Stahnke, and Norman Platnick was appointed to formulate guidelines if and when the Academy indicates that such would be welcome.
- (6) The Journal of Arachnology, quality publication that it undeniably is, is fraught with problems. The principal symptom of its troubles is its late and erratic publication schedule. No member of the Journal staff was in San Francisco, but Bob Mitchell reported by phone that two issues were ready for press, although their dates of publication were indeterminate. Many aspect of the Journal were discussed:

cost, logistics, editorial and compositor policies, initiating page charges, along with others--all defying any ready resolution. A call was issued for anyone with the technical knowledge who could offer help.

(7) Suggestions regarding meetings were offered from various sources. Stan Williams advocates the arranging of credit or non-credit short courses to be offered in conjunction with meetings. Other suggestions centered on the practicality and interest in work-shops and field trips during the meetings. There was a question regarding the advisability of formulating a pattern for meetings to follow. The by-laws say that "the membership shall be informed of the date, time, and place of the annual general meeting at least three months prior to the meeting" with no other stipulations. It was generally agreed that other than the announcement already provided for, because of the differences in the institutions where meetings could be held, the host should determine the character of the meeting with which he is concerned.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35, whereupon the hosts served cheese and wine in quantity sufficient to homogenize the membership present.

AAS, Eastern Division, Meeting Carbondale, Ill., 31 July 1976

In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Joe Beatty, the host, chaired a brief business meeting. The minutes of the Western Division meeting were read to the members attending.

- (1) The Eastern Division considered two invitations for their 1977 meeting with no concensus in favor of either. (This matter has since been resolved-see page 2.)
- (2) The changes in the election of officers proposed by the executive committee was discussed. The provision for continuity of president-elect to president was approved of in general, but some objection was expressed regarding the advisability of one individual serving as an officer for six consecutive years, i.e., president-elect to president to board member.
- (3) An extended discussion of the Journal and its problems included recommendations to initiate page charges and employ an assistant editor among other things. No member of the Journal staff was present nor was there anyone who could give authoritative information about the status of the Journal. A motion (resolution) was passed recommending that the executive committee appoint a "fact-finder" or "expediter" and authorize up to \$1000 of Society funds to send him to Lubbock as a means of getting the Journal operational again.

CHANGES

NEXT 3 PAGES

PROPOSED REVISIONS -- CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The Executive Committee has proposed several changes to provide for greater continuity, as explained in the minutes of the Western Division meeting. The actual changes are presented here for clarity.

The complete text of the Constitution and By-laws follows on the next three pages. Words, phrases, and sections to be deleted are crossed out: delete Words, phrases, and sections to be added are underlined: additions

PROPOSED REVISIONS

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I Name

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be: The American Arachnological Society Corporation.

Section 2: Similar groups or organizations which are willing to abide by and uphold the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society may be incorporated as branches of the organization.

ARTICLE II Purposes and Objectives

Section 1: To promote the study of arachnids the Arachnida.
Section 2: To achieve closer cooperation and understanding between amateur and professional arachnologists.

Section 3: To publish the Journal of the American Arachnological Society

Arachnology.

Section 4: The general purposes and powers are to have and exercise all rights and powers conferred on nonprofit corporations under the laws of California, including the power to contract, rent, buy or sell personal or real property, provided, however, that this corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the primary purposes of this corporation.

Section 5: No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distribution of statements) on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE III Membership

All persons interested in the objectives of the Society shall be eligible for membership.

ARTICLE IV Meetings

There shall be an annual meeting open to all members.

Section 1: The elective offices shall consist of President, Vice-President; President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Membership Secretary, and a three member Board of Directors.

Section 2: The officers shall be elected by a majority of votes cast. In case of no majority (a tie) the Executive Committee will choose between (among) the tied nominees.

ARTICLE VI Amending the Constitution

Section 1: The constitution or any part thereof may be amended, suspended or repealed by a two-thirds majority of those voting in a mail ballot, provided there is a two months notice of the proposed change.

Section 2: Any member in good standing may propose, in writing, an amendment to the constitution to the Executive Committee. Such a proposal, if approved by a majority of the Executive Committee, shall be submitted with a recommendation to the members. A proposed change to the Constitution not recommended by the Executive Committee must be submitted to the members of the Society if five or more members re-submit it.

ARTICLE VII Non-profit purposes

This corporation is organized pursuant to the General Non-Profit Corporation Law of the State of California and does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members thereof and it is organized for non-profit purposes.

ARTICLE VII Principal office

The county in the State of California where the principal office for the transaction of activities of this corporation is Los Angeles County.

ARTICLE IX Dissolution

The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to arachnological purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this organization shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private individual. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation its assets remaining after payment of, or provision for payment of, all debts and liabilities

of this corporation, shall be distributed to a non-profit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for arachnological purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The non-profit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for arachnological purposes shall be named at the time of dissolution by the Executive Committee or vote of membership. If this corporation holds any assets in trust, or corporation is formed for charitable purposes, such assets shall be disposed of in such manner as may be directed by decree of the superior court of the county in which the corporation has its principal office, upon petition therefore by the Attorney General or by a person concerned in the liquidation, in a preceeding to which the Attorney General is a party. The purposes contained in this paragraph are limited to those meeting the requirements for welfare exemption under Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I Membership

Section 1: Membership shall be open to all persons who make formal application and pay the prescribed dues, and who are willing to abide and uphold the Constitution and By-laws of the Society.

Section 2: Institutions may not become members, but may subscribe to publications.

Section 3: Membership dues shall be established by recommendation of the Executive Committee at the annual meeting and shall be ratified by a majority vote of the members attending the meeting. Dues shall be paid upon receipt of an annual bill.

Section 4: All members in good standing have the right to vote.

Section 5: Any member in good standing is eligible to hold office.

Section 6: A member whose dues have not been paid within a reasonable period of time will forfeit the privileges of membership. Such members may be reinstated upon payment of delinquent dues.

Section 7: The services and privileges of membership shall include the following:

1. Subscription to all publications

2. Vote in accordance with the By-laws

3. Participation in all activities and functions of the Society.

Section 8: A class of Honorary Membership shall be established. An individual may be elected at the annual business meeting by the proposal of the Executive Committee. The number of Honorary Members is not to exceed 5% of the total membership.

ARTICLE II Officers

Section 1: The elective offices shall consist of: President, Vice-President; President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Membership Secretary and a three member Board of Directors.

Section 2: The officers and Board of Directors of the Society shall serve as the Executive Committee. Fifty percent of the Executive Committee represents a quorum.

Section 3: The officers and Board of Directors shall be elected by a majority of votes cast in a mail ballot.

Section 4: Officers and Directors shall serve for two years, or until their successors are elected. Beginning in 1977 and every other year thereafter, the incumbent President-Elect shall assume the presidency, and the incumbent President shall continue on the Executive Committee as one of the Directors. A new President-Elect, the Treasurer, and one Director shall also be elected in these, the odd-numbered years. On the alternate, even-numbered years, beginning in 1978, the Secretary, the Membership Secretary, and one Director shall be elected.

Section 5: An officer or Board of Directors member may be renominated but may not serve for more than two consecutive terms in the same office except for the Editor. The Editor may be reelected as long as he is willing to serve in that office.

Section 6: The President shall preside at meetings of the Society and Executive Committee. He shall appoint all committee chairpersons as the need arises. The Executive Committee shall appoint all committees.

Section 7: The Vice-President President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President in his absence at meetings, and shall become president in the event of death, resignation or disability of the President. In the event of the absence of both President and Vice-President President-Elect at a meeting, a temporary Chairperson may be chosen to preside at that meeting by the members of the Executive Committee attending the meeting.

Section 8: The Secretary, or his delegate shall keep minutes of the proceedings of all Society meetings, conduct official correspondence and keep membership records

maintain an on-going record of Society affairs.

Section 9: The Treasurer shall keep the financial records, accept dues and monies, issue bills, pay bills, maintain the bank account and report annually to the members. The account shall be subject to annual audit by a committee appointed by the Executive Committee.

Section 9a: The Membership Secretary shall keep membership records, issue dues renewal notices, and accept dues and transmit them to the Treasurer for deposit.

Section 10: Publication policy shall be the responsibility of the Executive

Committee, which shall also appoint the Editor of the Journal.

Section 11: Election of officers and Board of Directors shall be held every two years as provided for in Art. II, Sec. 4 of these by-laws by a mail-in ballot. The ballots shall be counted by three members appointed by the President. The nominees for each office shall be selected either by a nominating committee or may be nominated by any member in good standing. Write-ins on ballots will be permitted. Nominees must state, in writing, to the Nominating Committee their willingness to serve if elected.

Section 12: Procedural matters shall be passed by a default system. If less than 10% of the membership send negative remarks to the Secretary within a month of mailing, the motion will pass. If 10% or more reply with negative comments, a general mail vote will be taken, with a majority of votes cast determing the issue.

ARTICLE III Meetings

Section 1: There shall be an annual general meeting of the Society open to all members. The date, time and place to be designated by the Executive Committee determined by the host(s) and coordinated by the President-Elect.

Section 2: The membership shall be informed of the date, time and place of the

annual general meeting at least three months prior to the meeting.

Section 3: Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President.

Section 4: An annual business meeting open to all members will be held in conjunction with the general meeting at a time to be designated by the President.

Section 5: Additional meetings may be called by the Executive Committee or by the request of twenty or more members.

ARTICLE IV Dues

Section-1: A charter membership will be available for the sum of \$20,00 for the period of one year beginning June 1, 1973 and ending June 1, 1974;

Section 2: Annual dues will be \$10.00 \$12.50 per calendar year.

Section 3: Institutional dues subscriptions shall be \$10.00 per calendar year. Journal subscriptions may be exchanged with other professional societies that publish a journal.

Section 4: Student membership will be \$5.00 \$7.50 per calendar year.

Section 5: Honorary membership will be gratis and must be bestowed by the vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 6: Associate membership for low income workers or for countries where it is not possible to send money will be gratis and must be bestowed by the Executive Committee.

Section 7: Records relating to the Society funds shall be published annually, and shall be open for inspection to any member at any time.

ARTICLE V Amending the By-laws

By-laws may be adopted, amended, suspended or repealed by a two-thirds majority of those voting in a mail ballot, provided there is a two months notice of the proposed change.

ARTICLE VI Parliamentary Authority

If not contrary to the Constitution or By-laws, procedures to be followed in meetings of the Society shall be those established in "Roberts Rules of Order Revised," Seventy-fifth or later editions.

Voting

Two items are hereby stated for consideration by the membership of the American Arachnological Society. According to the By-laws, Art. II, Sec. 12, the items will be passed (separately) by default unless 10% of the membership writes to the secretary against an item.

Item 1: That the American Arachnological Society become an associate member of the Association for Systematics Collections.

Item 2: That the Constitution and By-laws of the American Arachnological Society be changed as indicated in pages 5-7 of American Arachnology # 16.

Any votes against either item should be expressed in writing and sent to:

Nan Lawler, Secretary 1753 Grand Avenue Santa Barbara, CA 93103



Announcements, Exchanges & Requests

OFFERED:

Condensed reports of current research to be published in AA. Robert Wolff offers to collect information about current arachnological research to enable others to be aware of what is being done, and to prevent duplication of results. Of special service to graduate students who need to select a thesis topic or who are currently working on a degree. To be effective there should be a large response. Send a line or card to: Robert J. Wolff

Zoology Department Southern Illinois Univ. Carbondale, IL 62901

GROUP PICTURE of the 1976 Western Division meeting, San Francisco. 8 x 10" black and white, \$3.00; color, \$5.00. Pat Craig

1911 Haste Berkeley, CA 94704

SPIDERS AND THEIR KIN, by H. W. Levi has been out of print for some time (but apparently not out of stock in the provinces. -- Ed.). Herb Levi has a small stock of the library, hardcover, large size (5.2 x 7.7") for sale for \$4.00, including postage. H. W. Levi

Museum of Comparative Zoology Harvard University Cambridge, MA 02138

REQUESTED:

A HEARTFELT CRY for a copy of AMERICAN SPIDERS, by W. J. Gertsch for my private use. It appears to be totally unavailable over here. Dr. R. A. Jarman

9 Rivers Rd. Teynham, Sittingbourne Kent ME9 9T0 Great Britain

Pellenes, live specimens, especially adult males, or any already preserved material. Needed as models for color habitus drawings for a handbook on Canadian spiders. Wayne Maddison

4108 Apple Valley Lane Burlington, Ontario Canada L7L 1G2

TARANTULAS and/or Trap Door Spiders, live. Either American or foreign genera. Will purchase and pay for their transportation. Mark O'Donnell

6238 Ventura Cyn. Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91401

AVICULARIIDAE, living, not preserved or mounted. Would prefer adults but will accept baby specimens in exchange for Latrodectus geometricus babies, and L. hesperus-mactans hybrids. Tommy Slattery

112 Ascan Ave. Forest Hills, NY 11375

EDITOR'S TWO BITS: Has anyone discovered a good way to transport live adult tarantulas? We tried shipping some to Russ Gabel about 5 years ago, following his packing instructions and placing each spider snug in a cardboard tube. Six of 8 arrived ruptured, shaken about too much by the post office, although the outside of the package showed no signs of rough handling. Has anyone tried United Parcel?

New Listings

ARROYO, Mrs. Mercedes NG P. O. Box 2072 Balboa, Canal Zone

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CANTLAY, Robert 30672 Paso Del Niguel Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

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Address Changes

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TOOLSON, Eric C. Univ. of New Mexico Dept. of Biology Albuquerque, NM 87131

VOGEL, Beatrice 6323 21st. St. N. E. Seattle, WA 98115

van WINGERDEN, Walter K.R.E. IVL-V. L. -V. U. Keizefsgracht 418 Amsterdam, HOLLAND

WISE, David Dept. of Biological Sci. Univ. of Md. Baltimore Co. 5401 Wilkens Ave. Baltimore, MD 21228

WOLFF, Robert John Zoology Dept. So. Illinois Univ. Carbondale, IL 62901

YEARGAN, Kenneth Dept. Entomology Univ. of Kentucky Lexington, KY 40506

ZEPP, Donald B. Cornell Univ./ Dept. Ent. Comstock Hall Ithaca, NY 14853

Book Reviews

Pfletschinger, Hans. 1976. Einheimische Spinnen (Native Spiders). Bunte Kosmos Taschenführer, Kosmos Verlag, Franckh'sche Verlagshandlung, 7-Stuttgart 1,72 pages. DM 8.80 (\$3.50).

In this German paperback, each of the 30 right-hand pages has four colored spider photographs, and each left-hand page has the corresponding common and scientific names and natural history comment. Reproduction is excellent. There are two pages of introduction, an index to scientific names and one to common German names. Though the author appears to be a photographer, most spiders are correctly determined and the natural history observations are accurate; on the other hand, the author is not up-to-date on the latest taxonomic and behavior research. Considering the modest price and the excellent printing job, I can recommend this book.

Herbert W. Levi

Stern, Horst and Ernst Kullmann, 1975. Leban am seidenen Faden. Die rätselvolle Welt der Spinnen. (Life on a silken thread; the mysterious world of spiders.) 300 pp. C. Bertelsmann Verlag, Munich. 85 DM (\$33.75).

This large sized volume includes 94 pages of color plates, many double-page spreads, 77 pages of black and whites, including about 45 scanning electron micrographs of spiders and spider parts. The superb illustrations and the knowledge are Ernst Kullmann's, the writing that of Horst Stern, known for German biology television programs. Kullmann is well known for his web-spider research and, following this book, as a photographer. He is professor at the University of Kiel and also director of the Cologne Zoological Garden. Stern's writing is journalistic and, despite anthropomorphism (of which he repeatedly warns), readable and interesting. Co-author Kullmann's researches and observations predominate Stern's text at the expense of others. But much of the text includes researches often overlooked in English-language literature. One has to be on guard throughout for small errors; the text cannot be completely trusted. The scanning electron micrographs are unique and so are the color photographs, two-page spreads of a face view of a dinopid, of Eresus, Archaea, Stegodyphus with young, Theridion, and eresids feeding their young and also a smaller one of a Eresus mother being devoured by her well-fed offspring, one of the short-cuts in energy conservation evolved in spiders.

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