The Newsletter of the American Arachnological Society

NUMBER 57 April 1998

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--Dates & Deadlines--
◆ A.A.S. Research Fund 30 Nov. and 30 May
◆ Arachnology Course: Highlands NC, 13 - 24 July; 1998;
(Pg. 11)
◆ 1998 C.I.D.A. & A.A.S., 27 June - 3 July, Chicago IL USA
◆ 1999 Univ. of West Indes, Trinidad ; 27 June - 2 July
◆ 2000 University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY USA
◆ 2001 Keene, New Hampshire USA
◆ 2002 Riverside, California USA

XIV International Congress of Arachnology
22nd Annual Meeting of the American Arachnological Society

Regularly updated information about the congress is also available on the Field Museum Web Server under http://www.fmnh.org/candr/zoology/spider_mtg.htm

A Late Word from your Host

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to attend the XIV International Arachnological Congress, held together with the 22nd Annual Meeting of the American Arachnological Society at my favorite natural history museum, The Field Museum, in one of the most amazing cities in the world: Chicago. As a major traffic hub (with the busiest airport in the world), Chicago is easy to reach. Our public transportation system allows convenient and inexpensive travel within the city, as well as to and from the airports. The weather will be hot and humid (but pack a sweater, Canada sometimes sends cold winds), there will be ongoing festivities in front of the museum and there is no better place than the north steps of The Field Museum to watch the Independence Day fireworks on July 3rd. Bring your family and let them explore a different museum every day. Or take a swim in front of the museum (seriously) in Lake Michigan.

The most obvious activity at a scientific congress are the presentations of papers and posters to share one’s research results with others. Equally important (some may argue even more important), is an activity not specifically identified in the congress program: meeting others. We can actually talk to a colleague with whom we have corresponded for years, or with someone who up to that point was just an author’s name in a journal article. Why are these informal conversations so important? It is here that we share “wild” ideas and new hypotheses, promise to send specimens and literature, introduce our students to colleagues, discuss current research trends and politics, ponder over permit problems and collection issues, and last but not least compare notes on funding problems and strategies of the various research fields in our respective home countries. And what looks like “just socializing” will lead to new initiatives and guarantee the future of arachnological research.

So far, a record number of 325 arachnologists have pre-registered (after counting the names on the list I made a couple of emergency phone calls to the Blackstone Hotel and the Illinois Institute of Technology...). Such a high number calls for a lot of “socializing” and I have tried to promote this by planning formal and informal evening events. In addition, there will be a discussion room reserved for us during the entire meeting, where groups can meet during the day. I will try to avoid parallel sessions as much as possible, but I think we all would rather have more participants presenting talks, papers and posters than fewer.

The preparations for our XIV International Arachnological Congress have been made easy through the pledge of generous financial support from the American Arachnological Society, Field Museum and C.I.D.A. Let’s make the final International Arachnological Congress of this millennium a success.

If you haven’t registered yet contact me and I will mail you a registration package at once.
Tentative Schedule and Program

All sessions and social events will take place at FIELD MUSEUM unless noted otherwise. All sessions and events are free with your registration fee unless noted as: “extra ticketed.”

A slide preview room and a separate discussion-group meeting room will be available every day of the meeting on the ground floor of Field Museum. A registration desk in the West Lobby will be staffed every day during the meeting. Most mornings and after all social evening events shuttles will bring participants to the museum and back to their accommodations.

Saturday, 27th June 1998: Arrival Day; 12:00 noon - 6pm- Registration in the West Lobby; 12:00 noon - 6pm- slide preview room available; 3pm - 5pm- poster set-up in Simpson Theatre; 6:30pm - 9:00pm- Congress reception in Field Museum’s Rice Wildlife Station (includes light buffet and beverages)

Sunday, 28th June 1998: Welcome & Symposium; 8:30am - 9:00am- Welcome; 9:00am - 4:30pm- Symposium: Spiders in Agroecosystems; 4:40- Group Photo on Field Museum’s south steps; 6:00pm- Architecture Cruise on the Chicago River (includes light buffet and beverages)

Monday, 29th June 1998: Symposium, Contributed Paper Sessions; 8:30am -6:30pm- Registration in the West Lobby; 8:30am - 12:00 noon- Symposium: Higher Classification in Spiders; 1:30pm - 6:00pm- Paper Sessions; 6:00pm - 7:30pm- Thai snack food and beverages served in West Lobby; 6:15pm - 8:00pm- Poster Reception in Simpson Theatre; 8:00pm - 9:00pm- Auction of arachnid related books and memorabilia

Tuesday, 30th June 1998: Field Trip Day (extra ticketed); 8am - 4pm- three different field trips, all within a 1 hour bus ride from the museum. Participants will be picked up at their accommodations (box lunch included). 10am - 4pm- Field Museum’s Insect Division and arachnid collection will be open; 10am - 12noon- Arachnid Book Exhibit Tour (exhibit open all week), featuring treasures from Field Museum’s Rare Book Collection, in main library; 5pm - 6pm- Pizza Buffet in West Lobby (beverages included); 5:30pm - 8:30pm- Informal evening with slides and videos

Wednesday, 1st July: Paper Sessions; 8:30am - 6pm- Plenary lecture and paper sessions; 3pm - 6pm- US Spider Survey Workshop

Thursday, 2nd July: Paper Sessions; 8:30am - 6pm- Plenary lecture and paper sessions; 7pm - 8pm- open bar and Banquet Speech: Prof. Dr. O. Kraus (Hamburg University, Germany) will present an historic overview of C.I.D.A. and the past congresses. 8pm - midnight- banquet dinner (extra ticketed) in Stanley Field Hall. The winners of the student paper and poster competitions will be announced and we will enjoy a sit-down dinner. After dinner, a Chicago band will play danceable Jazz and Blues until midnight.

Friday, 3rd July: Paper Sessions, Business Meetings; 8:30am - 1pm- Paper sessions; 2pm - 3:30pm- CIDA Business Meeting; 3:30pm - 4:30pm- AAS Business Meeting; 8:30pm- Informal gathering on the north steps of Field Museum to watch the Independence Day firework display over Lake Michigan at 9:00pm.

Several Public Lectures at noon are being planned. These will be illustrated slide lectures presented by scientists who are excellent speakers. More details regarding the public lectures will be given in future updates.

Accommodations

Hotel: The BLACKSTONE HOTEL, 636 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60605; 15 minute walk to FIELD MUSEUM. Approximate rates per night per room: single $79, double $89, $99 triples, $109 quads (add 14.9% tax), extended stay available at the same rate.

Dormitories: Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT), 3100 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60616, three miles south of FIELD MUSEUM, convenient public transportation. Approximate rates per night per room: $27 single, $47 double (no tax on dormitory rooms). You will book your accommodation yourself. Reservation forms with payment instruction will be mailed to you as part of your registration package.

Travel

Chicago can be reached easily by plane, bus, train and car. Two airports serve Chicago, O’Hare International Airport and Midway International Airport. Both airports are served by Chicago’s CTA trains, which provide comfortable and inexpensive rides into downtown and around the city. Bus and railway stations are centrally located in downtown Chicago. United Airlines is the “Official Airline” for the 1998 congress and will provide a 5% discount off any United, United Express of Shuttle by United published fare or a 10% discount off applicable BUA or like fares in effect when tickets are purchased at least 7 days in advance. The discounts apply for domestic flights to and from Chicago between 24 June 1998 and 6 July 1998. When booking your flight,
plan on leaving your car parked (for a considerable fee) during the meeting and use public transportation. For participants staying at the IIT dormitories, parking your car is free. The registration package will contain detailed directions on how to reach The Field Museum, the Blackstone Hotel and IIT by car.

**Getting around during the meeting:** complimentary shuttle service to and from Blackstone Hotel and IIT

In the morning, trolleys will shuttle congress participants and accompanying persons to the Field Museum to sessions and events and return them to their accommodations in the evening after paper sessions and social events. The “EL” (for elevated train) and associated bus lines connect downtown Chicago with the airports, the bus terminal and the railway station. The “EL” provides fast and inexpensive rides between points of interest in the city, the Field Museum and IIT. An “EL” station is located right on the IIT campus.

**Papers**

Contributed papers will be scheduled in 15 minutes intervals, talks should be 10 minutes long, allowing 5 minutes for questions.

**Call for Arachnid related Books and Memorabilia**

A live auction of arachnid related books and memorabilia has become a cherished tradition during the Annual Meetings of the American Arachnological Society. Frequently, rare books are available or a scorpion-shaped belt buckle will find another proud owner. Dr. George Uetz, our renowned auctioneer has agreed to serve again as auctioneer. The proceeds from the auction to be held during the 1998 International Arachnological Congress will be used to cover some of the travel costs for participants who may need assistance to come to Chicago. Please search your bookshelf and your attic or basement. Find those items you are willing to part from and donate them to the auction at the 1998 International Arachnological Congress. We will ask for items again in the registration package and you can mail items to the meeting host anytime (wrap that crystal spider carefully). You can also bring the item(s) with you when you come to the meeting. Don’t hesitate to contact me, if you have any questions regarding auction items.

**Student Paper and Poster Competition**

All Students presenting a paper or poster at the congress may enter the student competition for best student paper and or poster. This also applies to past winners of the AAS student paper competition, since this is an international competition. In co-authored papers/posters, the student must be first author. The judges will be appointed by CIDA President Dr. N. Platnick and AAS President-Elect Dr. Fredrick A. Coyle. The winners (and runner ups) will receive a one-year AAS membership and cash prizes and will be announced at the banquet. ALL students participating in the competition will receive free housing at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Competing students need to send their abstracts no later than May 1st 1998 to the meeting host and to the President-Elect Dr. Frederick A. Coyle, Dept. Biology, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723, Phone: 704-227-7244, Fax: 704-227-7647, COYLE@WPOFF.WCU.EDU.

**Proceedings**

The Proceedings will be published by the Journal of Arachnology as a normal issue no later than 1999. Every member of the American Arachnological Society in good standing will therefore receive the volume. Manuscripts are restricted to six printed pages, including illustrations. This is equivalent to 4000 words or 12 double-spaced manuscript pages. The space occupied by printed tables and figures will reduce this text limit. Manuscripts will be subject to the regular peer-review procedure of the journal and its instructions to authors (inside back cover) must be observed. The registration package will contain a copy of the “Instructions to authors.” The final version of the manuscript will have to be supplied on computer disk (either in PC or MAC format). Manuscript intended for publication in the proceedings must be received by Dr. Brent Opell no later than 1st May 1998. Address: Dept. of Biology, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0406.

**Abstracts**

Mailed abstracts are due 1st May 1998; electronic abstract submission: 10th June 1998 to sierwald@fmppr.fmnh.org. Write: Congress-Abstract in the Subject line. The electronic submission deadline only applies to papers and posters not participating in the student competition. Fax submission is not feasible, since faxed text often causes problems during scanning. Paper and poster abstracts will be included in the congress program and the abstracts of papers that are not published in the proceedings volume will be published in the November 1998 issue of American Arachnology, the newsletter of the American Arachnological Society.

**Deadlines**

Registration packages will be mailed in January 1998 to those who returned the registration slip of the second circular. If you have not done that yet, pre-register now! Either use the slip below or send me an e-mail message. Manuscript submission to Dr. Brent Opell and registration: 1st May 1998 (late registration will require a late fee). Paper and poster abstracts due to the meeting host: 1st May 1998 by mail, 10 June via e-mail. Accommodation: 1st May 1998 at the Blackstone Hotel or at Illinois Institute of Technology. Reservation forms and payment information will be included in your registration
Fees and Payments
Registration fees:
Full registration with proceeding volume: $160;
Full registration without proceeding volume: $145;
Student registration with proceeding volume: $100;
Student registration without proceeding volume: $90.
One day registration without proceedings volume: $50.
Registration for accompanying persons (without proceeding volume): $40 (includes all shuttles, free admission to The Field Museum, all non-ticketed social events).
Late registration fee: $30; Field Trips: about $30; Banquet: $45 for full registrant and accompanying persons, $30 for students; Architecture Cruise: $25. Children under 12 are free at the banquet. Before the meeting, registration and other meeting fees should be paid in US currency either by check drawn to an American Bank made payable to the American Arachnological Society, or by credit card (with a voluntary donation of 5%, AAS has to pay for the credit card use). At the meeting, cash, check (drawn to an American Bank), and US$ traveler checks and credit cards will be accepted.
Accommodation (Blackstone Hotel and IIT) can be paid by credit card, check, traveler’s check or cash.

Petra Sierwald, Insects, THE FIELD MUSEUM, Roosevelt Road at Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605, USA. Phone: (312) 922-9410 ext. 841, Fax: (312) 663-5397; e-mail: p.sierwald@fmnh.org

The American Arachnological Society
and The Field Museum, Chicago

XIV-INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
OF ARACHNOLOGY

Student Paper Presentation Award Guidelines

I. ELIGIBILITY
A. The student should submit a copy of the paper or poster’s abstract to the meeting organizer AND to the President-Elect. The President-Elect must receive the abstract by 1 May, 1998. In addition to the abstract, a letter to the President-Elect should contain the name of the major professor who supervised the work. The name and mailing address of the President-Elect is:

Dr. Fredrick A. Coyle
Dept. Biology  Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723,
Phone: (704) 227-7244, Fax: (704) 227-7647
E-mail: COYLE@WPOFF.WCU.EDU

B. The presentation either represents independent or joint research in which the student’s contribution has been substantial. In case of a co-authored paper the student presenting the paper must be first author.
C. Entry is limited to one standard research paper or poster per meeting (invited symposia presentations are excluded from competition.)

II. JUDGES
A. The abstracts of all student papers and a copy of the judging guidelines will be mailed to each judge prior to the meeting. An appropriate number of evaluation sheets (listing the criteria as below) shall accompany the abstract package for each judge. Judges will be chosen from different disciplines (systematics, morphology, physiology, ecology, behavior).
B. Efforts should be made to avoid bias or conflict of interest in judging, either by appointing judges with no students in the competition or, if that is unavoidable, by having judges abstain from voting on their own students.
C. Judges should meet twice: once before the paper presentation to review the guidelines and once afterward to make a decision on ranking.
D. At least one hour should be available between the last eligible presentation and the announcement of the award.

III. EVALUATION
A. Judges should give equal weight (expressed in points from 1-10) to each of the criteria listed below. Decisions should be based on the total points earned from a total possible points of 110. In co-authored papers, the judges will carefully evaluate the student’s contribution to the presented research. In case of a tie or very close ranking, the judges may decide on a joint award.
B. Criteria
   1. Abstract and paper title:
      Organization, clarity, completeness. The abstract should summarize the main results of the research.
   2. Scientific merit:
      Difficulty and scope of research problem; Approach and design of study; Details of analysis; Creativity of experimental design; Soundness of conclusions; Significance of results.
   3. Presentation:
      Overall organization and clarity, timing of a talk; Oral presentation skill, poise; Quality of visual aids; Response to questions.

IV. ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES
The award will be announced at the society’s banquet. Students entering the student paper award competition are eligible for free dormitory housing. Details are on page 2 of this Newsletter.

V. AWARDS
The top ranking and runner-up individuals will receive an AAS membership and a monetary award. Other awards vary according to donations and other philanthropy.
REGISTRATION FORM

XIV INTERNATIONAL ARACHNOLOGICAL CONGRESS
22ND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY
The Field Museum, Chicago, June 27 – July 3, 1998

Send YELLOW registration form and payment by **May 1**, 1998 to

Petra Sierwald, Dept. Zoology
Field Museum of Natural History. Roosevelt Road at Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60605-2496, USA
Tel. (312) 922-9410, ext. 841: Fax (312) 663-5397. e-mail: p.sierwald@fnnh.org

For correspondence:

Name ____________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________
Phone (office) ___________________________________________ fax ________ e-mail ___________________________________________
[ ] check here if you do not agree with having this information printed in the congress participant list

For the meeting tag(s)

Name (as you want it to appear) ____________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
Affiliation (e.g., home institution) ____________________________ city ______________
_________________________________________________________________
Names(s) of accompanying person(s): indicate age of children, if applicable

HOW TO PAY

(1) **Send a check** in U.S. dollars drawn on an U.S. bank. Indicate here [ ] if you have enclosed a check. Make the check payable to "Petra Sierwald" and send it with your YELLOW registration to the Field Museum address. This is the preferred way

(2) **Pay by credit card.** I hereby authorize the American Arachnological Society to charge my [ ] VISA or [ ] MASTERCARD (check one) account no. ______________________ expiration date ________ (fill in) for the amount of $ ______ (fill in; please include a voluntary 5% in the “TOTAL” below. AAS will have to pay for credit card use).

Your authorizing signature: ____________________________

(3) **Do a bank transfer** in U.S. dollars into the XIV International Arachnological Congress Account, account name Petra Sierwald, at the First National Bank of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60670. bank routing number 071000013, account number 1110020625353. Please make sure that you account for any transfer charges. Indicate here [ ] if you are doing a bank transfer.
REGISTRATION FEES

Every Full or Student Registrant must fill out a separate Registration Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Amount included</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full registration with Proceedings volume* (registration by 1 May 1998)</td>
<td>$160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full registration without Proceedings volume* (registration by 1 May 1998)</td>
<td>$145</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student registration** with Proceedings volume* (registration by 1 May 1998)</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student registration** without Proceedings volume* (registration by 1 May 1998)</td>
<td>$90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late registration (after 1 May 1998) – additional fee -</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-participating accompanying person must be registered to receive a name tag (persons without name tags must pay Museum admission to enter, except Saturday, June 27, children under 18 receive a free name tag)</td>
<td>$40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Single day registrant, ONE day only, specify day</td>
<td>$40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Trips (Tuesday, 30 June) $30 per person, indicate number of persons in next box</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Trip I: Richardson Wildlife Foundation in Lee County, includes native unburned and burned prairie, duck ponds, pines area and an unusual sandy blow-out area</td>
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<td>Field Trip II: Palos Hills and Sag Valley, features native Illinois woodland, native burned and unburned prairie and areas under prairie-restoration management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Trip III: Ryerson Woods, features native Illinois woodlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Architecture Cruise (Sunday night), includes shuttles between Field Museum, North Pier and accommodations; sandwich buffet and soft drinks included; our own private charter boat on the Chicago River and Lake Michigan. $23 per person, indicate number of persons in the next box</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banquet Night (Thursday night) in Field Museum’s magnificent Stanley Field Hall, includes banquet dinner, open bar, Chicago Jazz/Blues Band and midnight shuttles to accommodations. $45 per person, indicate number of persons in the next box</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banquet Night (student rate, for full-time students). $30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indicate number of children under the age of 12 for free banquet dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am willing to support participating students/colleagues requiring travel assistance with a special one-time donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>I am paying by credit card and have added a voluntary 5% to cover the charge for credit card use</td>
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<td>TOTAL included</td>
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* The Proceedings are published as a regular issue of The Journal of Arachnology no later than 1999. Every AAS member in good standing will receive the volume as part of the JOA subscription and does not need to order the Proceedings separately.
** At the time of the congress I will be enrolled as a full-time student at: ____________________________

FOR OUR STATISTICS, please check appropriate boxes

I have registered at: [ ] The Blackstone Hotel [ ] Illinois Institute of Technology

T-shirt Size(s): please indicate how many of each size you are likely to purchase (no obligation)

[ ] small [ ] medium [ ] large [ ] extra large

[ ] I plan to participate in the US Spider Survey Workshop on Wednesday afternoon. See information on separate sheet. Contact Dr Richard Bradley, Zoology, The Ohio State University, 1465 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Marion OH 43302-5695, USA, Phone (614)389-2361, FAX (614)292-5817, e-mail: bradlev.10@osu.edu for further information.
ABSTRACT FORM FOR PAPERS, SYMPOSIUM CONTRIBUTIONS AND POSTERS

Send with YELLOW Registration Form to Petra Sierwald at The Field Museum.

Deadline 1 May 1998. Mailed abstracts are due 1st May 1998; electronic abstract submission: 10th June 1998 (Fax submission will not be accepted). Paper and poster abstracts will be included in the congress program. Abstracts of papers that are not published in the proceedings volume will be published in the November 1998 issue of American Arachnology, the newsletter of the American Arachnological Society. Even if you plan to submit the abstract later electronically, you must return this PINK Abstract Form (completed on the front page) together with your YELLOW Registration Form. Note for symposium/workshop participants: If you have discussed your paper or poster with one of the relevant organizers of Symposia or Workshops, also send a copy to that person for scheduling purposes.

Presenter’s Name: ____________________________________________________________

Title of Paper or Poster
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Contributed papers will be scheduled in 15 minutes intervals; talks should be 10 minutes long, allowing 5 minutes for questions.

Place and Format of Presentation (check ONE box):

[ ] Spiders in Agro-ecosystem Symposium
[ ] Higher Classification of Spiders Symposium
[ ] US Spider Survey Workshop
[ ] Contributed paper session
[ ] Poster presentation

Special Equipment Needs: In addition to a standard 35 mm slide projector and/or overhead transparency projector, I will need the following

[ ] VCR/monitor (VCR is available in NTSC – not SECAM of PAL-format)
[ ] LCD computer projection panel

[ ] Best Student Paper/Poster Competition (undergraduate, Masters, and Ph.D. students) open to all who at the time of the meeting are enrolled in a university degree program or have received their degree within the previous three months. In co-authored papers/posters, the student must be the first author; limited to one designated paper or poster. Previous awardees of an American Arachnological Society best student paper award are eligible to participate in the competition! The judges will be appointed by CIDA President Dr. N. Platnick and AAS President-Elect Dr. F. Coyle. The winners (and runner ups) will receive a one-year AAS membership and cash prizes and will be announced at the banquet. ALL students participating in the competition will receive free housing at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Competing students need to send their abstracts to the meeting host and to the President-Elect by May 1st (no electronic late submission): Dr. F. A. Coyle, Dept. Biology, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723, phone (704)227-7244, FAX (704)227-7647, e-mail: coyle@wpoff.wcu.edu. Mark clearly, whether your contribution is a paper or a poster!
YOUR ABSTRACT
Instructions for authors

1. Abstracts should be informative; state objectives, methods and summary of results
2. Be brief (250 words maximum)
3. Follow the layout of the example on the right. Only generic and specific names should be underlined or set in italic.
4. If submitted as hardcopy (normal mail only, no fax accepted), the abstract should be typed on an electric typewriter with clean Elite type or produced on a word processor with a similar font (font size no smaller than 10 points). Use a dark typewriter ribbon, inkjet or laser printer (dot matrix is not acceptable). The entire abstract, including the information about authors, must fit in an 11 x 14 cm space as shown on the right. Proper but judicious use of hyphens (-) is encouraged to maximize use of space near the right margin. Do not draw the rectangle. Do not insert blank lines between portions of the abstract, even if the abstract is short enough to allow such spacing.
5. You are encouraged to send your abstract by e-mail. However, please make sure you send it as plain ASCII text as an e-mail message, not as an attachment (compressed or otherwise mutilated). Indicate generic and specific names to be underlined in the following _way_. Also, be aware that electronic transmission often does strange things to special characters such as accents and umlaut-marks. If your abstract includes such characters, please make sure to also snail-mail or fax a hard copy. Send your abstract to: p.siewald@fmnh.org, with "Congress abstract" in the subject header. You will receive an acknowledgment when your electronic abstract has been received.

Please note the following:
(1) With the submission of your abstract, you agree to have it published in the program & abstracts volume as well as on a meeting-related site on the Internet/WWW and in American Arachnology.
(2) Papers may not be presented by anyone other than the author or, in case of multiple authorship, by one of the co-authors.
(3) And last, but not least: DO NOT INTRODUCE NEW TAXONOMIC NAMES IN YOUR ABSTRACT!

Poster Guidelines
You are encouraged to present your research findings in the form of posters. The rules for poster abstracts are the same as for paper abstracts above. Students participating in the student poster competition need to send their poster abstract to both, the meeting host and the President—Elect of the American Arachnological Society (Dr. F. Coyle, see other side) by the deadline May 1st, 1998. Poster presenters must arrive at The Field Museum on Saturday June 27th, between 3pm and 5pm to set up their poster in Simpson Theatre by 6pm. Poster authors must be present at their poster on Monday, June 29th, 1998 between 6:15pm and 8:00pm for the Poster Reception. We will serve complimentary Thai snack food starting at 6:00pm, giving the poster authors opportunity to have a snack before the reception begins. All poster must be taken down by Friday, July 3rd, at 5pm.

You do not have to bring your poster mounted on poster board. We will provide white foam poster board in the size of 75cm x 100cm (30"x40") and pins to attach your materials. A staff member will be available to assist in emergencies. Plan sufficient time to mount your poster material carefully on Saturday afternoon. It will not be possible to attach anything to the walls in Simpson Theatre. Your poster should have a title and list the author(s) and their home institutions. We strongly urge you to include a picture of yourself on the poster. It will encourage other participants to talk to you about your research when they meet you at various occasions during the meeting.

Revision of the spider genus Neoanagraphis

The spider genus Neoanagraphis contains two species, _N. chamberlini_ Gertsch & Mulaik and _N. pearcei_ Gertsch. Members of this genus are rather non-descript clubionoid-looking tan spiders except for the tarsal claws on Legs III and IV which are very long with only a few teeth at the base. Its range extends from eastern central California and the Nevada Great Basin, south through California to the northern portion of the Gulf of California in Mexico and east to the western tip of Texas. Approximately 75% of the specimens of both species examined in this study came from Dorald Allred’s faunal study of the Nevada Test Site in southern Nevada in the early 1960’s. Mapping of species to habitat shows distinct preferences of _N. chamberlini_ for the flatlands and _N. pearcei_ for the more montane habitats. Matures of the two species can be determined by the number of ventral tibia I spines; when juveniles at the Nevada Test Site are matched to habitat by spination, the distribution is almost identical to the adult distribution. Therefore, one may correctly key to species even the smallest spiderlings of Neoanagraphis using spination patterns.

[This abstract contains 187 words, font size 10 points.]
Arachno-Auction or Comb Your Closets

The annual Arachno-Auction which usually takes place at the Annual Meetings has been named the Vince Roth Auction in honor and memoriam of the founder of the auction and greatest contributor for this occasion. This event has produced significant funding for arachnological research, and always provides fun and sometimes exciting suspense when the bidding gets heated over a rare volume.

Once again we are urging everyone to search your storage and purge your bookshelves to find books, curios, T-shirts, and other objects for bidding at the Roth Auction. If you plan to contribute items, please notify Petra Sierwald (meeting host) to enhance coordination of this event (pg. 3). It is good to know that materials you donate will probably go to another arachnophile.

A.A.S. 1999 Meeting Trinidad

Sunday 27 June - Friday 2 July 1999

ATTEND THE 1999 MEETINGS. COME EARLY. STAY LATE.

The Local Organizing Committee for the 1999 meetings in Trinidad, West Indies, is hard at work preparing a satisfying and memorable event. For many of you, the opportunity to explore a continental, neotropical island will be a special attraction, and we want you to take full advantage of it. Accordingly, we are very much interested in helping all who want to make an extended visit, and especially to facilitate field work in Trinidad & Tobago.

Among the options under consideration is a package visit of several days to the nearby island of Tobago.

We will also smooth the way for the legitimate collecting of specimens, so that you can come with the assurance of minimal legal formalities and no bureaucratic surprises.

Plan now to attend the 1999 meetings, and please think seriously about coming a week or two early and/or staying a week or two after the last session. Feel free to contact me personally with any questions. We will do our best to meet individual needs for visit extensions, and at the same time we will see if a practical package extension can be arranged that will suit a number of you.

For those of you coming from North America, the travel costs should be about the same or a little lower. However, all other costs will be somewhat greater than usual. However, all other costs should be about the same or a little lower.

Come and see us.

Christopher K. Starr; Dep’t of Life Sciences; University of the West Indies; St Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago; fax (868) 645-7132 or 663-9684; e-mail cstarr@centre.uwi.tt

From Bruce Halliday:

The 10th International Congress of Acarology will be held in Canberra, Australia, July 6-10, 1998. The host institution is the CSIRO Division of Entomology. Scientific sessions and accommodation will be in the Australian National University. For further information contact - Dr. R. B. Halliday, Principal Research Scientist (Acarology), CSIRO Division of Entomology, GPO Box 1700, Canberra ACT 2601 Australia; International Fax 61-6-2464000; Local Fax (06) 2464000; Tel. (06) 2464085; Internet BRUCEH@ENTO.CSIRO.AU

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TREASURER'S REPORT

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Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense (MZB), Indonesia

Between 10-18 September 1995 I visited the above museum. The following are my impressions which, I hope, will help other biologists who wish to access the collections. Please note that although I lived in the country for two years (1993-95), my Indonesian is very poor. Thus, there may have been some misconceptions due to the language barrier.

The MZB (often called the Bogor Zoology Museum in English) is the equivalent of the national natural history museum of Indonesia. It is located in the western part of Java in the city of Bogor. (Bogor is less than an hour by car from the capital city, Jakarta.) The museum is located in several buildings along the southern edge of the Kebun Raya (Botanical Garden) which in turn is in the center of the city. The museum was founded in 1894 and so has recently celebrated its first century.

The public part of the museum consists of static displays of preserved birds, mammals, other vertebrates, mollusks, insects and other invertebrates. Most of the vertebrates are in various kinds of habitat displays (usually old and not well lit). There are a few skeletons including a tiger, tapir and blue whale. The pinned insects and mollusk shells are displayed, respectively, in museum cases or wired onto boards. There are usually short explanations for most exhibits, some of which are also translated into English. They have a small shop that sells some museum publications.

The research part of the museum consists of several sections. The laboratories include Biosystematics (e.g. microbiology, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, mollusks, insects, other invertebrates), Ecology, and Physiology.

I examined the non-Acari arachnid collection which is presently housed with the other “pickled” collections (i.e. reptiles, amphibians and fish). The collection is housed in a building without air-conditioning. I believe that the arachnid collection is typical of many of the collections.

The arachnid collection is small as they have never had an arachnologist on staff. Large specimens are in wide-mouthed glass jars usually well covered with preservatives. Small specimens are in shell vials with cotton stoppers or in glass or plastic vials with plastic caps; all submerged in large jars. Many of the jars have metal lids which are rusting. The lids or the jars are usually covered with petroleum jelly. The jars are kept on metal shelving and are frequently washed and re-filled with preservative. The scorpion collection consists of about 75 jars, 5 with multiple collections. Total number of specimens was about 200, mostly of the large Hormurus genus. The pedipalpi collection consisted of 10 jars, 4 with multiple collections, and about 100 specimens. The opilionid collection consisted of 2 jars containing about 50 specimens. The spider collection consisted of 110 jars, 40 with multiple collections. There were more than 2000 specimens, about 20 tarantulas and 200 argiopeids. The whole collection was basically sorted to Order.

Going through the arachnid collection was like taking a trip back through time. The earliest spider collections were made in the 1900s and the collections stopped by the late 1950s, about 10 years after independence. Most of the collectors were Dutch but several were former museum directors. The spiders consisted mostly of large or showy species such as Nephilia, Argiope, Heteropoda and Gasteracantha. According to an old catalogue, a Mr. Reimoser was the curator of the collection in the 1930s and seems to be the only one who tried to identify any of the material. The spider collection does contain specimens from the island of Krakatau some years after the eruption as well as the famous Dutch-American expedition to central New Guinea in 1938-39. I saw no type or paratype specimens. I do not know where the collections are housed for the Wallace and other recent expeditions to Eastern Indonesia.

The present museum Director is Drs. Mohammed Amir, M.Sc. (personally interested in birds and termites). The collection manager for the pickled collection is Drs. Agus Tjakrahadiat (who I did not meet). The address for the MZB is: Jalan Juanda 9, P.O. Box 110, Bogor 16122, Indonesia. The telephone number is (62) (251) 322177; the fax: 325854.

Current policy does NOT allow borrowing of specimens. All work has to be done on site. This is unfortunate as the working facilities are not very suitable (they loaned me a low power microscope but lighting was not sufficient) for much work unless one brings one’s own equipment. (Remember that the electricity is 220 V, very unstable and very intermittent. Also importing/exporting scientific equipment even as luggage can cause problems with the authorities. One needs to have a colleague inside the country to assist with the paper work and even then there can be many delays and problems. Faxes are much more reliable than the postal system.) The MZB publishes the periodical Treubia and has a library (not seen).

By 1997, the museum is supposed to have new quarters near Bogor with up-to-date biosystematics facilities. This is being done with developmental aid from various countries. Many of the curators have gotten/are getting masters and doctorate degrees in Australia, Canada, Japan, USA and various European countries.

The botanical gardens in which the MZB is presently located was established in 1817. It is world class but fairly static as there is little scientific research being done now. There is a large extension to the grounds near the Pancak Pass in the mountains nearby. The grounds have more than 15,000 species; especially trees, shrubs and large herbs from all tropical regions. There is a botanical laboratory (Treub Laboratory), library (Bibliotheca Bogorenis), and various green/screen houses. There is also a guest house at Kebun Raya Bogor for visiting scientists. They have rooms for about 26 guests and are not usually full. The room I stayed in was large with two single beds, wardrobes, desk, coffee table, chairs, sink, and small portable fan. The toilets and baths were separate. There was a large dining room with a television set. All ceilings were about 5 metres; built about 100 years ago but in good repair. Breakfasts consisted of a boiled egg, toast, tea/coffee, mystery juice, and bananas; nutritious but boring after a few days. The cost was about S$15 per night including breakfasts. Bookings have to be made by the MZB.

The MZB as well as the botanical gardens, etc. are funded by LIPI (= national science research institute).

Robert Holmberg; Centre for Natural & Human Science; Athabasca University; Athabasca, Alberta; Canada T9S 3A3; E-mail: robert@cs.athabascau.ca. Originally written in February 1996.

Vince Roth Fund Announced

The American Arachnological Society, The California Academy of Sciences, and Barbara Roth would like to announce the creation of a fund in the name of Vince Roth to support work in arachnid systematics. We hope for this to become an endowed fund providing support for individuals working in arachnid systematics for many years to come. Contributions to this fund are tax deductible and can be sent to Gail Stratton, Treasurer of AAS, P.O. Box 2198, Oxford, MS 38655.
ARACHNOLOGICAL NOTES

The Ohio Spider Web Meeting

The Ohio Spider Web is a group of researchers from the midwest (mainly Ohio) that recently met (April 26-27, 1997) in Oxford, OH at Miami University’s Ecology Research Center. The purpose of this meeting was to foster collaborative research between different arachnologists at the Ecology Research Center. Ann Rypstra organized this meeting and twenty-five arachnologists from seven different institutions (Miami University, The Ohio State University, Bowling Green State University, University of Cincinnati, Western Michigan University, College of Wooster, and Millikin University) gave reports on their current research. The topics ranged from landscape ecology, biodiversity estimation, behavioral ecology, and intraguild predation. Research reports were presented by faculty, post-docs, graduate students and undergraduates. For more information on the Ohio Spider Web feel free to check out our website at http://www.muohio.edu/~oh_spider or contact us directly.

Ann L. Rypstra and Sean E. Walker; Department of Zoology; Miami University; Oxford, OH 45056; E-Mail: Ann Rypstra: Rypstra@msmail.muohio.edu; Sean E. Walker Project Director, Ohio Spider Web; Department of Zoology; Miami University; Oxford, OH 45056 E-Mail: Walkers2@miamiu.muohio.edu; Phone Office (513) 529-3191; Lab: (513) 529-3197

Biology of Spiders course

The Biology of Spiders course is offered in even-numbered years at the Highlands Biological Station, Highlands, North Carolina. The goal of the course is to prepare students to do research with spiders by providing a broad base of knowledge of their biology and diversity. In 1998, the course will be offered July 13-24.

Graduate credit is available through the University of North Carolina or Western Carolina University. All materials and equipment are supplied. Comfortable dormitory-style accommodations are available at the station for a very small cost. There is no food service, but a large kitchen is available to students and the town of Highlands, with several restaurants, is about a half-mile walk away. The weather in late summer is cool, with showers nearly every day, but we have yet to be caught in the rain on a field trip in 4 offerings of the course.

To get on the mailing list for the Highlands announcements, write to Dr. Richard Bruce, Director, Highlands Biological Station, Highlands NC 28741, e-mail: BRUCE@wpoff.wcu.edu.

William A. Shear Department of Biology, Hampden-Sydney College, Hampden-Sydney, VA 23943 USA; Tel. (804) 223-6172; FAX (804) 223-6374; e-mail: BILLS@TIGER.HSC.EDU

In The Next Issue ...
- Abstracts from CIDA & AAS Meeting, Chicago II USA
- Results of AAS Election
- More on the 1999 AAS Meeting, Trinidad
- Submit items for Vol. 58 by 15 October, 1998

Introduction to the Biology of Spiders

This seminar, 17-23 August, 1998, will present a comprehensive introduction to spider systematics, morphology, behavior, physiology, and ecology. Spiders from woodlands, marshlands, littoral areas, and open ground will be studied. A significant component of the seminar will involve collection and identification of local spiders through use of a variety of collection and observation methods, including Berlese sampling, pitfall trapping, and night collection. Emphasis will be placed on the biodiversity of spiders and the pivotal role that arthropods, including spiders, play in maintaining the biosphere.

Dr. Kelyn Catley is a spider systematist and Research Fellow in the Department of Entomology at the American Museum of Natural History where he is part of a team monographing the gnaphosoid spiders of Australasia. His research interests have included spider behavior, the ecophysiology of upland spiders, peatland spiders, and the hahniid spiders of South America. Traveling extensively, he has collected spiders in South America, Australia, Europe, and throughout the US and Canada.

Contact Humboldt Field Research Institute; P.O. Box 9; Steuben, ME 04680-0009; (207) 546-2821, FAX (207) 546-3042; e-mail: humboldt@nemaine.com; http://maine.maine.edu/~eaglhill

PRIMER ENCUENTRO DE ARACNOLOGOS DEL CONO SUR
(First Meeting of Arachnologists of the South Cone)

This meeting was held from 1-5 December 1997, at Montevideo, Uruguay. About sixty arachnologists from Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay interchanged their experiences through the paper sessions, symposia, and round tables. Dr. Pablo Goloboff (Argentina) developed a mini-course on cladistics and Dr. Jonathan Coddington (USA) brought the initial lecture on Biodiversity. On Wednesday the whole group went to Areguá hill, in a field trip followed by a traditional Uruguayan barbecue. In the afternoon the group visited the international resort of Punta del Este. Forty two abstracts were published in the Actas del Primer Encuentro de Aracnólogos del Cono Sur, edited by Carlos Toscano. Two cultural events enlightened the meeting with national music: Candombe show and Murga dancing.

The meeting was supported by the Facultad de Ciencias, the Instituto Nacional de Pesca, and the Comisión Sectorial de Investigación Científica de la Universidad de la República. All the participants approved the proposal of Dr. Arno Lise that the Second Meeting will be held at Porto Alegre, Brazil in 1999.

Organizers: Miguel Simo, Carmen Viera, Fernando G. Costa, Fernando Perez-Miles.

Join the A.A.S.!

Are you reading a borrowed copy of American Arachnology? Start enjoying the benefits of membership in the American Arachnological Society. Complete the following form and send with your dues, (calculated by table below), to the Membership Secretary (address below).

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Indicate Membership Dues Enclosed:
- Regular $30
- Student $20
- Institutional (USA) $80
- Institutional (all other countries) $90

Snip or Photocopy & Save Time

Norman I. Platnick - Membership Secretary
American Museum of Natural History
Central Park West at 79th Street
New York, New York 10024 USA

Members receive the Journal of Arachnology three, and the newsletter American Arachnology two times a year.
AMERICAN ARACHNOLOGY
The Newsletter of the American Arachnological Society

Number 57 April 1998

CALENDARS DISCOUNTED!
We still have lots of 1998 A.A.S. calendars! We are now offering them at a 50% reduction in price (what a bargain!). These will have utility and provide enjoyment long after 1998. The full-color photographs of many different representatives of arachnids may serve as a source of images for many uses, and will keep you abreast of special dates (birthdates of famous arachnologists, etc.).

The images may be viewed in full color by visiting the website at: http://faculty.vassar.edu/~suter/Calendar98.html

We are now planning for a year 2000 calendar, so start reviewing your slides and photos for images you may wish to submit. More on that in future Newsletters.

Ordering information is below. They look great on office walls, will start conversations, and make GREAT gifts.

ORDER BY CONTACTING: Gail Stratton, P.O. Box 2198, Oxford, Mississippi 38655 USA

Prices: $5 per calendar (U.S. currency); shipping - $2.50 per order domestic, $3.50 per order foreign. Checks and money orders accepted. Please make all checks payable to the American Arachnological Society. Please DO NOT send cash. Calendars may be shipped to multiple addresses. Please include those addresses with your order.

For those who have requested an A.A.S. E-mail Directory (ver. 5.0), please excuse the delay. Your requests have been recorded, and the compilation should be done by mid-April. Those wishing a Directory should contact the Secretary (CADYAB@MUOHIO.EDU). A copy will be sent to you directly via e-mail. Please use the same address to submit address changes, corrections, or additions for the directory.

Arachnology ListServer News

Nils Koesters, after a fine run of maintaining the Arachnology Listserver, has turned the duties over to Richard Adams; E-mail: rna7@aber.ac.uk. We all thanks Nils for his efforts.

The new listserver address is majordomo@chemie.de. The new archive, recording all mails to the list from 27th February onwards, is at: http://www.chemie.de/biology-lists/arachnology/