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## The Mayfly Newsletter

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# THE MAYFLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10 No. 2

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## 20th Issue of the Newsletter

### Celebrating a Decade of Publishing

Editor's note: This anniversary issue of *The Mayfly Newsletter* is dedicated to the memory of our friend and colleague, Bill Peters, who passed away on 3 June 2000. See p. 6 for more details.

Ephemeropterists are a very social group. At international meetings we have no problem communicating or

contributed articles, retirements, the mayfly portion of the annual NABS bibliography, obituaries, position statements, business meeting reports, announcement of the availability of databases and workshops, research reports, review of proceedings, cartoons, poems and web sites. It has also been used by convenors to

countries throughout the world.

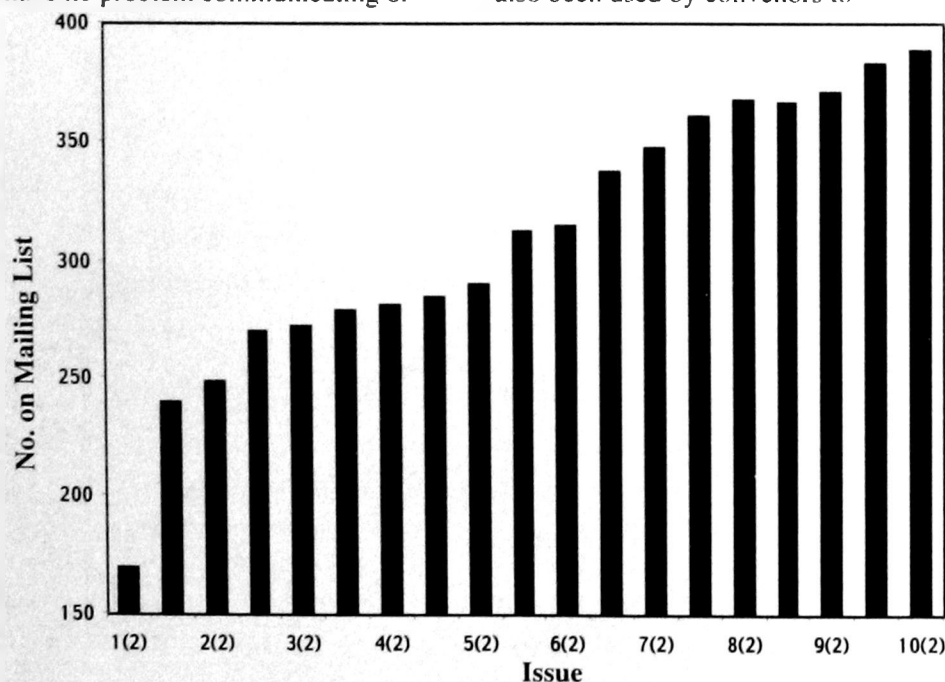
The Permanent Committee of the International Conferences on Ephemeroptera adopted *The Mayfly Newsletter* as its official newsletter in May 1993.

There has never been a subscription fee for the newsletter. This has been due to the Deans of the School of Arts and Sciences, Drs. Dan Dill and Vilas Prabhu, at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, who have made funds available for publishing and distributing the newsletter. Not having to collect subscription fees reduces the bookkeeping for me tremendously, but more importantly, it increases the availability of the newsletter to individuals who could not subscribe.

Past issues are still available. When someone asks to be added to the mailing list, I send them a complete set of back issues. This will continue until back issues are depleted.

I have enjoyed editing this newsletter and appreciate the complements, messages of support, and contributions that you have sent.

I'm looking forward to the next decade of *The Mayfly Newsletter*.



sharing information. The problem is that we hold these international meetings every three years. Something was needed to fill in that three year gap between meetings. So, ten years ago, after completing a desktop publishing course, I decided to establish *The Mayfly Newsletter*.

As editor, I am proud to say that this is the 20<sup>th</sup> issue and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the newsletter!

The newsletter has published a tremendous variety of items in its 141 pages to date. These include

publicize four international conferences on Ephemeroptera.

The inset graph shows how the number of people receiving the newsletter has increased over the ten years. (The first issue is not included on this graph since it was used to announce the availability of this publication. An official mailing list began with the second issue.) There were 170 individuals on the mailing list for the second issue. This has grown to 387 for this issue. The recipients of this newsletter currently represent 42

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# More on the Mayflies in Lake Erie...

Editor's note: The following information was supplied by Ken Krieger who can be contacted at the addresses at the end of this article.

The January 2000 issue of this newsletter reported the return of the large burrowing mayflies (*Hexagenia*) to Lake Erie, with emphasis on the eastern basin. These native inhabitants began repopulating the western end of the lake in the early 1990s. This article reports ongoing studies of the mayflies in the western basin and the Ohio nearshore areas of the central basin. The mayfly nymphs had succumbed in the 1950s to oxygen depletion in the lake, and elevated contaminant levels in the sediments may have also played a role in their disappearance and failure to recolonize the lake until the last decade.

With early support from Ohio Sea Grant and later support from the Ohio Lake Erie Protection Fund, Ken Krieger, at Heidelberg College (Ohio), along with colleagues from the USGS Great Lakes Science Center, surveyed the western basin of Lake Erie beginning in 1993 to determine the distribution and abundance of the burrowing nymphs. Sampling was always done prior to the beginning of the emergence of the subadults. The nymphs appeared to spread toward the middle of the basin from more shoreward areas and became most abundant in the western end of the basin. The average density throughout the basin increased exponentially between 1993 and 1997, reaching 451 nymphs per square meter, before declining to 157 per square meter in 1998. Scientists at the University of Windsor and the Great Lakes Science Center continue to conduct independent annual surveys of the densities in the western basin.

Expecting that the nymphs would spread eastward and begin repopulating parts of the central basin, Ken began sampling the nearshore zone of the central basin from off the Cedar Point amusement park near Sandusky eastward to the Pennsylvania state line in 1997 and is continuing that survey annually. After finding very few

nymphs in 1997 and 1998, the nymphs appeared in numerous samples last summer west of Euclid, Ohio (just east of Cleveland), still at densities below six per square meter. The nymphs still were not found eastward.

Because Ken expected that the nymphs would be hard to find in the central basin, he set up a volunteer Mayfly Watch in 1997 with the assistance of Ohio Sea Grant extension specialists. In the first summer, all but two of more than twenty volunteers found winged (adult and subadult) *Hexagenia limbata* and *Hexagenia rigida* onshore, although in low numbers. In 1998 and 1999 the volunteers found successively more mayflies – in larger numbers and on more days per

volunteer — and the mayflies continued to be reported in the Cleveland area into October. Unlike Ed Masteller's results in Pennsylvania, Ohio's volunteers found very few *Ephemera simulans*. Rafts and windrows of

shed nymphal skins were reported several miles out from shore by fisheries biologists in 1998 and 1999.

Ken has also performed studies of the diets of forage fishes in Lake Erie since the summer of 1995. That work, and other studies on game species, have shown that the nymphs are becoming an important food once again for many fishes in the lake.

Some of these studies have been published or presented at scientific meetings. Reports on the results of the first two summers of Mayfly Watch are available, and other information can be obtained by contacting Ken Krieger at the Water Quality Laboratory, Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio 44883, USA, phone (419) 448-2226, [kkrieger@heidelberg.edu](mailto:kkrieger@heidelberg.edu), and by visiting <http://www.heidelberg.edu/offices/wql/> and <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/oleo/lepf/>.

A fact sheet (FS-069) on "Mayflies and Lake Erie: a Sign of the Times" can be obtained from the Ohio Sea Grant at <http://www.sg.ohio-state.edu/>.



# Mayfly Conference Information

## Past Conference Proceedings

Uwe Humpesch suggested that a complete list of proceedings from past mayfly conferences be published in the newsletter. This is a good idea – I haven't seen such a list in a while. This list follows.

Peters, W. L. and J. L. Peters, editors. 1973. Proceedings of the First International Conference on Ephemeroptera. E. J. Brill, Leiden. 312 pages. ISBN 90-04-03590-7. [Tallahassee, Florida, USA]

Pasternak, K. and R. Sowa, editors. 1979. Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Ephemeroptera. Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, Warszawa-Kraków. 312 pages. ISBN 83-01-00600-5. [Kraków, Poland]

Flannagan, J. F. and K. E. Marshall, editors. 1980. Advances in Ephemeroptera Biology. Plenum Press, New York. 552 pages. ISBN 0-306-40357-9. [Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Ephemeroptera; Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada]

Landa, V., T. Soldán and M. Tonner, editors. 1984. Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Ephemeroptera. Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, České Budějovice. 345 pages. [No ISBN number in publication; Bechyně, Czechoslovakia]

Campbell, I. C., editor. 1990. Mayflies and Stoneflies: Life Histories and Biology. Proceedings of the Fifth International Ephemeroptera Conference and the Ninth International Plecoptera Conference. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht. 366 pages. ISBN 0-7923-0289-3. [Marysville, Australia]

Alba-Tercedor, J. and A. Sanchez-Ortega, editors. 1991. Overview and Strategies of Ephemeroptera and Plecoptera. The Sandhill Crane Press, Inc., Gainesville. 588 pages. ISBN 1-877743-08-9 [Proceedings of the Sixth International Ephemeroptera Conference and the Tenth International Symposium on Plecoptera; Granada, Spain]

Corkum, L. D. and J. J. H. Ciborowski, editors. 1995. Current Directions in Research on Ephemeroptera. Canadian Scholar's Press, Inc., Toronto. 478 pages. ISBN 1-55130-075-3 [Proceedings of the Seventh International Conference on Ephemeroptera; Orono, Maine, USA]

Landolt, P. and M. Sartori, editors. 1997. Ephemeroptera & Plecoptera: Biology-Ecology-Systematics. Mauron + Tinguely & Lachat SA, Fribourg. 569 pages. ISBN 2-940187-01-0. [Proceedings of the Eighth International Conference on Ephemeroptera and the Twelfth International Symposium on Plecoptera; Lausanne, Switzerland]

## IXth Conference Proceedings

Eduardo Domínguez reports that Kluwer Academics/Plenum Press will publish the Proceedings of the Ninth International Conference on Ephemeroptera and the Twelfth International Symposium on Plecoptera under the title, *Trends in Research in Ephemeroptera and Plecoptera*. He has a total of 54 manuscripts.

Eduardo has already sent page proofs to the authors and is asking for a prompt return so that he might have the final version to the publishers by mid-July.

## Xth Mayfly Conference

According to Elda Gaino, the web site for the Joint Meeting of the Xth International Conference on Ephemeroptera and the XIVth International Symposium on Plecoptera will be updated soon. It will contain information about the hotels, conference center, prices, and so on.

The URL for this site is <http://www.unipg.it/maystone>.

The meeting is scheduled for 5-11 August 2001, in Perugia, Italy.

## New Mayfly Publications

Puig, M. A. 1999. Els macroinvertebrats dels rius catalans. Generalitat de Catalunya, Departament de Medi Ambient. 251 pages. ISBN 84-393-4828-2

Soler, G. and M. A. Puig. 1999. Biología y producción de Efemerópteros y Tricópteros en el tramo medio del Río Jalón (Alicante). Instituto de Cultura "Juan Gil-Albert," Diputación Provincial de Alicante. 201 pages. ISBN 84-7784-361-9.

Soldán, T., S. Zahradková, J. Helešic, L. Dušek and V. Landa. 1998. Distributional and quantitative patterns of Ephemeroptera and Plecoptera in the Czech Republic: A possibility of detection of long-term environmental changes of aquatic biotopes. Folia Facultatis Scientiarum Naturalium Universitatis Masarykianae Brunensis, Biologia 98:1-305. ISBN 80-210-1870-4.

# A Bibliography of Chinese Mayflies

Zhou Chang-fa, Department of Biology, Nankai University, Tianjin, 300071,  
Peoples Republic of China, email zhouchangfa@tjmail.com

I am a Ph.D. candidate and plan to study the adults of Chinese Ephemeroptera (excluding Baetidae) for my Ph.D. As far as I know, there are 223 known species of mayflies in China. The following is a list of papers that I have compiled on Chinese Ephemeroptera.

1. Gui Hong & You Dashou. 1992. Research on Chinese Ephemeroptera. Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science) Vol. 15. No.1. p. 65-67
2. Gui Hong & You Dashou. 1982. Mayfly. Insects Knowledge. 6:33-37
3. Gui Hong & Zhang Jun. 1992. A new species of genus *Epeorus* Eaton (Ephemeroptera: Heptageniidae). Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica Vol. 17. No 1. p. 61-64
4. Gui Hong & Zhou Changfa. 1999. Chapter 7, Class Insecta: Order Ephemeroptera. In Insect Classification. Edited by Zheng Leyi and Gui Hong. Nanjing Normal University Press. Nanjing. p. 102-128.
5. Gui Hong, Zhang Jun & Wu Tian. 1992. A new species of genus *Gilliesia* Peters et Edmunds (Ephemeroptera: Leptophlebiidae) and the first discovery of its nymph. Proc. 7th ICE Abstracts. p. 15. Maine, USA
6. Gui Hong, Zhang Jun and You Dashou. 1992. Studies on the Ephemeridae (Ephemeroptera) of China. Proc. XIX ICE. Abstracts. p. 19. Beijing, China
7. Gui Hong. 1985. A catalog of the Ephemeroptera of China. Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science). Vol. 4. p. 79-97
8. Gui Hong. 1994. Aquatic insects of China useful for monitoring water quality. Ed. by John C. Morse, Yang Lianfang and Tian Lixin. Chapter 10. p. 117-134. Hehai Univ. Press
9. Gui Hong. 1982. Mayfly, a kind of ephemera insects.
10. Lu Liang. 1994. The preliminary study on the Baetidae (Insecta: Ephemeroptera) of China (Masters Thesis)
11. She Shusheng & You Dashou. 1988. A new species of *Isonychia* from China (Ephemeroptera: Oligoneuridae). Pan-pacific Entomologist 64(1):29-31
12. She Shusheng, Gui Hong & You Dashou. 1995. A research on the mayflies from Hainan Province, China (Insecta: Ephemeroptera). Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science). Vol. 18. No. 2. p. 72-82
13. She Susheng. 1987. A preliminary study on the Ephemeroptera from Hainan Island of China (Insecta) (Masters Thesis)
14. Shu Cuirong. 1992. Scanning electron microscopy of the antennal sensilla of *Vietnamella dabieshangensis* (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). Proc. XIX ICE. Abstracts. p. 60. Beijing, China.
15. Su Cuirong & You Dashou. 1989. A new species of genus *Ephemerella* subgenus *Ephemerella* (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica 14(2):181-185
16. Su Cuirong & You Dashou. 1988. Two new species of genus *Ephemerella* subgenus *Ephemerella* (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science) No. 3. p. 63-67
17. Su Cui-rong Zhou Changfa. 1998. Ephemeroptera. In Insects of Longwangshan Nature Reserve. Edit by Wu Hong. p. 27-29. China Forestry Publishing House
18. Su Cuirong & Gui Hong. 1995. The first record of the genus *Drunella* in China with description of a new species (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica Vol. 20. No. 4. p. 451-454
19. Su Cuirong & You Dashou. 1989. A new species of *Ephemerella* subgenus *Ephemerella* from Jilin Province, China. (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica Vol. 14. No 2. p. 181-185
20. Su Cuirong & Zhu Chaodong. 1997. Observation on the chorion structure of four species of mayfly by scanning electron microscope. Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science) Vol. 20. No. 4. p. 121-123
21. Su Cuirong, Cai Zili. 1994. Scanning electron microscopy of the antennal sensilla of *Vietnamella dabieshangensis* (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). Acta Entomology 37(3):382-384
22. Su Cuirong, Zhou Changfa & Gui Hong. 1995. Ephemeroptera. In Insects of Baishangzu Mountain. Eastern China. Ed. by Wu Hong. p. 39-43. China Forestry Publishing House
23. Wu Tian & Gui Hong. 1993. A new species of genus *Ephemerella* (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science) Vol. 16. No. 4. p. 72-74
24. Wu Tian & You Dashou. 1989. Two new species of the genus *Choroterpes* (Ephemeroptera:

- Leptophlebiidae) from Anhui Province, China. *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* 14(1):91-95
25. Wu Tian & You Dashou. 1992. A new species of the genus *Choroterpes* (Ephemeroptera: Leptophlebiidae) from Anhui Province, China. *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* 17(1):64-65
  26. Wu Tian et al. 1987. Two new species nymphs of the genus *Choroterpes* (Ephemeroptera: Leptophlebiidae) from Yinxing, Jiangsu Province, China. *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* 4:81-84
  27. Wu Tian, Chen Chaifa, Gong Ning & You Dashou. 1986. Three species of nymphs of the genus *Cinygmina* from Yixing. *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* Vol. 1. p. 65-71
  28. Wu Tian, Gui Hong & Shi Zhong. 1992. Two new species of genus *Isonychia* subgenus *Isonychia* sensu stricto (Ephemeroptera: Isonychiidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* Vol. 15. No. 2. p. 78-83
  29. Wu Tian, Gui Hong & Yie Binghui. 1992.
  30. Wu Tian, You Dashou. 1986. A new species of the genus *Cinygmina* from China (Ephemeroptera: Ecdyoneuridae). *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* Vol. 11. No. 3. p. 280-282
  31. Wu Xingrong & You Dashou. 1986. A new genus and species of Potamanthidae from China (Ephemeroptera). *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* Vol. 11. No. 4. p. 401-405
  32. Wu Xingyong et al. 1991. Observation on the chorion structure of three species of mayfly by scanning electron microscope. *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* 14(4):110-113
  33. Wu Xingyong, Gui Hong & Su Cuirong. 1993.
  34. Wu Xingyong. 1984. A preliminary study on the new genus *Neopotamanthus* (Ephemeroptera: Potamanthidae) from China (Masters Thesis)
  35. Wu Xingyong. 1987. A new genus *Potamanthus* (Ephemeroptera: Potamanthidae) from China. *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* 12(3):336
  36. Wu Xingyong. 1987. A new species of genus *Potamanthus Neopotamanthus* (Ephemeroptera: Potamanthidae) from China. *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* 12(4):421-423
  37. Xu Jiazhu, You Dashou & Su Cuirong. 1980. Two new species of genus *Ephemerella* (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal College (nature science)* Vol. 2. p. 60-63
  38. Xu Jiazhu, You Dashou. 1984. A new species of *Ephemerella* (Ephemera: Ephemerellidae). *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* Vol. 9. No. 4. p. 413-415.
  39. You Dashou & Gui Hong. 1979. Introduction of the mayfly and its research situation. *Journal of Nanjing Normal College (nature science)* Vol. 1 p. 57-63.
  40. You Dashou & Gui Hong. 1995. Economic Insect Fauna of China. Fasc. 48. Ephemeroptera. p. 152. Science Press. Beijing
  41. You Dashou & Su Cuirong. 1987. A new species of *Vietnamella* from China (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* Vol. 12. No 2. p. 176-180
  42. You Dashou & Su Cuirong. 1987. Descriptions of the nymphs of *Choroterpes nanjingensis*, *Potamanthodes fujianensis* and *Isonychia kangsiensis* (Ephemeroptera: Leptophlebiidae, Potamanthidae, Siphonuridae). *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* Vol. 12. No. 3. p. 332-336
  43. You Dashou & Su Cuirong. 1985. Studies on the Chinese genus *Potamanthodes* (Ephemeroptera: Potamanthidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal College (nature science)* Vol. 3. p. 61-69.
  44. You Dashou, Su Cuirong & Hsu Yinchu. 1982. A new species of the genus *Afronurus* from Fjjian Province (Ephemeroptera: Heptageniidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal College (nature science)* Vol. 4. p. 61-65
  45. You Dashou, Wu Tian & Gui Hong. 1980. A new species of genus *Potamanthodes* (Ephemeroptera: Potamanthidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal College (nature science)* Vol. 2. p. 56-59.
  46. You Dashou, Wu Tian & Gui Hong. 1981. Two new species and diagnostic characters of genus *Cinygmina* (Ephemeroptera: Ecdyoneuridae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal College (nature science)* Vol. 3. p. 26-31
  47. You Dashou, Wu Tian & Gui Hong. 1982. Genus *Potamanthodes* and two new species (Ephemeroptera: Potamanthidae). *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* Vol. 7.

## Seminar:

### Systematics, Biology and Biogeography of Ephemeroptera

(with emphasis on South American groups)

- Date: 20-24 November 2000
- Professors: Eduardo Domínguez and Carlos Molineri
- Maximum number of students: 15
- Cost of inscription: US\$ 100
- Pre-inscription deadline: August 30
- Interested persons: Contact Dr. Ruben Marin at hydrobio.ird@mail.megalink.com
- Please send an intention letter and curriculum vitae

Continued on p. 6



- No. 4. p. 410-415
48. You Dashou, Wu Tian, Gui Hong & Hsu Yin-Chi. 1980. A new species of genus *Choroterpes* (Ephemeroptera: Leptophlebiidae) from Nanjin, China. *Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica* Vol. 5. No. 4. p. 388-391
49. You Dashou, Wu Tian, Gui Hong, Xu Jiazhu Su Cuirong. 1979. A new species of *Choroterpes* from Nanjing (Ephemeroptera: Leptophlebiidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal College (nature science)* Vol. 1. p. 51-56
50. You DaShou. 1984. A revision of genus *Potamanthodes* with a description of two new species (Ephemeroptera: Potamanthidae). *Proc. 4th ICE*. p.101-107
51. You Dashou. 1987. A preliminary study of Tibet (Xizang province) Ephemeroptera. Agricultural insects, spiders, plant diseases and weeds of Tibet (Xizang province) Vol. 1. p. 29-36.
52. You Dashou. 1990. Two new species of genus *Rhithrogena* (Ephemeroptera: Heptageniidae) of Fujian Province. *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* Vol. 13. No. 2. p. 60-63
53. Zhang Jun & Cai Weidong. 1991. The species of the genus *Cynigmina* (Ephemeroptera: Heptageniidae). *Entomotaxonomia* 13(4):237-239.
54. Zhang Jun, Gui Hong & You Dashou. 1995. Studies on the Ephemeridae (Insecta: Ephemeroptera) of China. *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* Vol. 18 No. 3. p. 68-76.
55. Zhang Jun. 1987. A preliminary study on the Ephemeroidea from Hunan Province and Hainan Island of China (Ephemeroptera). (Masters Thesis).
56. Zhang Jun. 1988. New record of genus *Eatonigenia* (Ephemeroptera: Ephemeridae) of China. *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* 3:67-68
57. Zhou Changfa & Su Cuirong. 1995. Two new species of *Vietnamella* from China. (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* Vol. 18. Supp. p. 47-49
58. Zhou Changfa & Su Cuirong. 1997. A new species of the genus *Serratella* from China (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* Vol. 20. No. 3. p. 42-44
59. Zhou Changfa, Gui Hong & Su Cuirong. 1997. Three new species of Ephemeroptera (Insecta) from Henan Province of China. *Entomotaxonomia* Vol. 19. No. 4. p. 268-272.
60. Zhou Changfa, Gui Hong, Su Cuirong. 1997. Ephemeroptera. *In* Insects of Funiu Mountain area (part 1).
61. Zhou Changfa, Hong Gui and Cuirong Su. 1998. A new species of genus *Ephemera* (Ephemeroptera: Ephemeridae). *Entomologia Sinica* Vol. 5. No. 2. p. 139-142
62. Zhou Changfa, Su Cuirong & Gui Hong. 1997. A study on the genus *Serratella* of China (Ephemeroptera: Ephemerellidae). *Journal of Nanjing Normal University (nature science)* Vol. 20. No. 4. p. 124-127

63. Zhou Changfa. 1997. The study on the Ephemerellidae (Insecta: Ephemeroptera) of China. (Masters Thesis)
64. Zhu Chaodong. 1996. The study on the Ephemeroptera (Insecta) of Jiangsu Province, China. (Masters Thesis)

## William L. "Bill" Peters

For the second newsletter in a row, I must unfortunately report the death of one of our colleagues. Mike Hubbard recently informed me that Bill Peters died of heart failure on 3 June 2000.

It has not been easy finishing this newsletter with Bill's death in mind. Bill was my major professor for my Ph.D. and I got to know him, his wife Jan, and daughter Rae quite well over those seven years.



As I indicated to Eduardo Domínguez, international conferences just won't be the same without Bill. He could always be easily identified in a crowd – a cloud of cigarette smoke above his head, clothed in either a brown suit on more formal occasions or his well known Hawaiian shirt during informal times, his deep laughter filling the room.

Besides his prolific research and passion for mayflies, I think Bill will be remembered for his great generosity. Everyone can tell stories of how he helped graduate students, postdocs, and colleagues. It was not uncommon for Bill and Jan to take people into their home and care for them like family.

Bill is and will be legendary among ephemeropterists – for his work on leptophlebiids and especially for his devotion to the Permanent Committee of the International Conferences on Ephemeroptera on which he served as chair since the committee's inception. The success of our international meetings is due in part to Bill's efforts.

Memorial contributions may be made to the R. Capelouto Foundation, Inc., c/o Entomology, Orr Drive, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida 32307 USA or to the General Scholarship Fund at this same university.

Condolences may be sent to his wife Jan at 1803 Chuli Nene, Tallahassee, Florida 32301 USA.

# Old Mayflies Give Clues to Past Atmospheric Densities

Fossilized mayflies can be used to estimate the density (pressure) of ancient atmospheres, according to geologist John L. Cisne of Cornell University. He spoke at the annual meeting of the American Geophysical Union last month in San Francisco.

Most species of mayflies live only a few days as adults, succumbing to fish and other hazards. Occasionally, however, one of them will land in soft sediment and become a well-preserved fossil. Such fossils indicate that the common mayfly has persisted with little change since its appearance some 300

million years ago, the Cornell scientist says.

Mayflies work like little helicopters, Cisne explains, as they dance up and down in a mating swarm. Measurements of the sizes of the wings and flight muscles lead to estimates of the density of the atmosphere in which the mayfly danced. From such measurements on fossil and modern mayflies, Cisne concludes, "The atmosphere's mass must have been practically the same for the last quarter-billion years, at least so far as mayflies can tell us."

Geologists have learned from

rocks that Earth's atmosphere at times has been quite different than it is today. Their only clue to ancient atmospheric pressures, however, has been the size of gas bubbles frozen into lava as it solidified. Mayfly measurements promise to supplement these methods to good effect. Cisne believes, in determining the mass and composition of ancient atmospheres.

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## Mayfly Web Sites

### Mayfly Central

<http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/research/mayfly/mayfly.html>

### Ephemeroptera Galactica

<http://www.famu.org/mayfly>

### 2001 Joint International Conference

[www.unipg.it/maystone](http://www.unipg.it/maystone)

### The Electrogena Pages

<http://webpace.pronet.it/c.belfiore/Electrogena/>

### Mayfly Korea

<http://myhome.shinbiro.com/~monka/index.html>

### Nomina Insecta Nearctica (Ephemeroptera)

<http://www.nearctica.com/nomina/oddbugs/ephem.htm>

### The Mayflies of South Africa

<http://www.ru.ac.za/departments/zooento/Martin/ephemeroptera.html>

### Ephemeroptera from France

<http://www.invfmr.org/>

### Ephemeroptera of Texas

<http://www.utexas.edu/research/bfl/collections/aqinsects/ephem.htm>

## Mayfly Toys

This license plate was found attached to a 1986 Honda Civic in western Oklahoma, USA. The owner of this vehicle claims to publish a newsletter on mayflies. Likely story.



## Members of the Permanent Committee

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# Address Updates - New Corrections, Changes

Changes or additions to the mailing list and email addresses since the last issue are listed below. Updated addresses will be published as they become available. Please inform the editor of any changes in postal or email addresses.

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