INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEIOBENTHOLIGISTS

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Membership in the Association is open to anyone who wishes to join. There are no pre-requisites. Annual dues of 4 US Dollars, payable in Deutsch Mark (12,00 DM), include subscription to PSAMMONALIA. Payment for one year in advance is acceptable. Payment should be made to Dr. A. Faubel, International Association of Meiobentholists by international money order or draft in Deutsch Mark on a West-German bank. I.A.M. account no. is 1239/12844 at Hamburger Sparkasse.

PSAMMONALIA is issued quarterly in February, May, August and November.
This document is not part of the scientific literature and is not to be cited, abstracted...
EDITORIAL

New Year, new chairman, new PSAMMONALIA!
Let me take this occasion of 'multiple news' to introduce myself to those of you who do not know me. The number of members in the International Association of Meiobenthologists (I.A.M.) has grown fast during the last years and younger colleagues, not having attended the last Meiofauna Conferences, will not have met the 'old crew' of meiofaunists.

My entry into meiofauna studies was in 1968 with my work on marine Oligochaeta from the North Sea shores. Except for the legendary 1st International Meiofauna Conference in Tunis, I could attend all the following conferences, also those in-between the triannual cycle in Arcachon, 1974, and on Bermuda, 1975. I feel, these meetings are still the occasion to meet the whole community of meiofaunists and to discuss pertinent scientific problems. In 1977, our 'Hamburg group' had the pleasure to host the 3rd Conference ('TIMCO') which was held in our institute.

My scientific work focussed on the ecology and morphology of meiobenthic oligochaetes. The discovery of gutless species from Bermuda led to a new chapter of my work: Histological and ultrastructural results, but also physiological and biochemical data from collaborating specialists revealed the association of these worms with subcuticular sulphur bacteria which oxidize the rich hydrogen sulphide content in the worms' environment. Included in our teamwork on these 'sulphide annelids' are now even microbiological and histochimical studies.

As a professor at the Zoological Institute and Museum of the University of Hamburg, I see with growing concern that the enormous teaching load (obligatory for tenured staff at German universities) plus supervision of own students (plus editing PSAMMONALIA) will consume so much of my time that the above research project will more and more turn into a wish dream.

About PSAMMONALIA
Our newsletter has been founded to serve as an informal platform for personal contact and scientific news in the field of meiofaunology. However, as I see it, PSAMMONALIA became during the last years a mere reference list of new literature (which is certainly important) interrupted by some announcements of scientific meetings. This is by no means to blame the editors, they are not to 'produce' news and create an atmosphere of mutual exchange, of questions and answers. You cannot lead a conversation among family members if you are the only one talking. This 'one-way-route' is truely mirrored by the enormous participation of perhaps 10% of the members in votings, in sending back ballots to PSAMMONALIA, in making decisions important for the future of our association.

Friends, PSAMMONALIA can only remain an active courier sending information to and fro, if you actively participate! It should quite simply not enough to take advantage of the quarterly literature list and else pay the dues!

So, I encourage every member to inform us about her/his new research project, about coming expeditions, sabbatical stays, major changes in scientific goals, in short: about everything that might be of interest for the others. We would also appreciate to publish requests for 'cryptic' literature, questions and suggestions to solve technical and methodological problems and we will adress members directly to tell us via PSAMMONALIA what they at present are working on and what results they try to achieve.

In addition, we will revive the good tradition that every new member whose adress we publish has to tell the others in brief about her/his field and place of research, with whom they collaborate or by whom they are supervised.

There is another point which seems important to me: I.A.M. is considered by many of us as a group of biologists working in the marine environment only. This is not correct! Freshwater meiofaunology has got old roots reaching back to the days of Noszynski and others. But our colleagues from the limnetic field have been too much dominated by marine research. So, I under-
line the letter that R.W. PENNAK wrote to PSAMMONALIA (No. 59, Febr. 83) and welcome particularly every freshwater meio-benthologist to strengthen his field in the I.A.M. by contributing news and recent literature to PSAMMONALIA.

Finally, we have had a good tradition in compiling bibliographies of special fields in meiofauna research or particular taxonomic groups (e.g. ciliates, tardigrades, 'oil and meiofauna' etc.). I would like to encourage all of you to continue with this tradition, to compile new fields or update old topics for publication in PSAMMONALIA.

NEW MEMBERS

Esmeralda CHUNAN DE FLORES
Instituto del Mar del Peru
Esq. Garmarra y Gral. Valle s/n
Apartado 22
Chucuito-Callao, Peru


Almut Elisabeth HAHN
Zoological Institute and Museum
University of Hamburg
Martin-Luther-King-Pl. 3
D-2000 Hamburg 13, F.R.G.

I got my diploma in biological oceanography from the Institut für Meereskunde Kiel. Since June '83 I am working under the supervision of Dr. Olav Giere on the impact of oil and dispersants on harpacticoïds from the tidal flats of the German North Sea shore. Field experiments will be supplemented by laboratory studies in a closed system with tide simulation. Suggestions concerning techniques and literature for oiling experiments with meiofauna in the lab are highly welcomed.

Beside new literature, new addresses and news from the members, we will keep you informed about the present situation and progress in our great goal of re-writing the 'Meiofauna-Manual' (a decision made at VIMCO in Gent), about coming congresses, contacts to other research groups etc.

Well then! You get the literature list from us - we get information about matters arising from you. Isn't that a deal?

Olav Giere
Editor

"Worms take over!"

Gebhard KRAFT
Fasanenweg 49
D-2000 Norderstedt, F.R.G.

I have passed the exam as a secondary school teacher with a study on the impact of oil on freshwater meiofauna in the Elbe Estuary (field studies after an oil spill, supervised by Dr. Olav Giere). My special group are Tardigrada (ecology, systematics). Of particular interest to me is the computer analysis of biological data. I will continue with a doctoral thesis on tardigrades of Northern Germany.
**FINAL TREASURER'S REPORT 1983 (in Belgian Francs)**

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We have ended the year 1983 with 39,887 BFr more than we had to start the year with, i.e. we made a profit of 332.4 US $.

Finally, I would like to thank every member of the association for their cooperation which made this job really quite manageable and agreeable.

Respectfully submitted,

Magda VINCX
Past-Treasurer of the I.A.M.

**COMMENTS ON I.A.M.'S FINANCIAL SITUATION OR HOW TO PAY YOUR DUES**

At the end of Magda Vincx's time and at the beginning of Anno Faubel's duty as treasurer, the balance is not too bad (the Belgians seem to be financially very effective). However, if we convert our little 'treasure' into US $, we are by far not so well off.

So, inclusion of those colleagues into our current list of members (following below) who have not yet paid for 1984 is with the intention to make it evident to everyone which fortune I.A.M. could earn if only each member paid her/his dues in time. Convinced that it is rather forgetfulness than wrong parsimony, we urge you, the lazy '63-members', to pay the modest dues — or you will desperately miss the next PSAMMONALIA. You got that??

As announced above, our new treasurer is Dr. Anno FAUVEL from our Hamburg group. The annual dues will be 12.00 DM (twelve Deutsch Mark) payable in DM by International Money Order or draft on a West-German bank. I.A.M.'s account is "Dr. Anno Faubel, International Association of Neiobenthologists" No 1236/124844 at Hamburger Sparkasse. Payment for one year beyond the current membership (i.e. 24.00 DM) is acceptable. Payment should be made to Dr. A. Faubel, International Association of Neiobenthologists and sent to the Treasurer:

Dr. A. Faubel
Zoological Institute
University of Hamburg
Martin-Luther-King-Pl, 3
D-2000 Hamburg 13, F.R.G.

Talking about the value of PSAMMONALIA:

There was a freak from Australia who lost his paraphernalia: when his house caught fire and his only desire was to rescue his dear 'PSAMMONALIA'!
It is with sadness that we have to report the sudden death of our member
Dr. Bernard L.S. HARDY
from the Dunstaffnage Marine Research Laboratory in Oban (Scotland). Dr. Hardy did excellent work on harpacticoids. His last manuscript was on Asellus intermedius which his colleagues wish to publish post mortem. He will be greatly missed by his colleagues in Oban and by all of us who knew him.

INVITATION FOR COLLABORATION PSAMMONALIA—LITORALIA
The editor received a letter from Dr. Charles W. FINKL, Center of Coastal Research, Fort Lauderdale, editor of a new journal LITORALIA:
"LITORALIA is a new international journal for the coastal sciences. We will publish our first issue in April 1984 and quarterly thereafter. Not being associated with any one professional society in particular, we have made arrangements with several groups to collaborate in a spirit of cooperation. We will publish, on a regular basis and free of charge, news items, announcements, and edited portions of annual reports of general interest.
I would like to invite the International Association of Neiobenthiologists to join our group. The association would be a loose one with no binding commitments on either party. Our idea is to get as much information to coastal scientists as possible. We are well represented by the physical sciences now but I am anxious to include some associations in the biological sciences."

I responded to Dr. Finkl's letter expressing our interest in this cooperation which could be of much advantage to the members of I.A.N. We have to find out in future correspondence along which lines our cooperation shall develop. A first goal should be the exchange of pertinent literature references.

WEINBERG'S COROLLARY:
An expert is a person who avoids the small errors while sweeping on to the grand fallacy.

WEILER'S LAW:
Nothing is impossible, for the man who doesn't have to do it himself.
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REMINDER FOR VOTING

May I draw your attention to the voting on two important issues which, according to the constitution of I.A.K., require your decision and have been published and commented in PSAMMONALITA 62 (Nov 83), pp. 2 and 3:

- Extension of chairman's term of office from two to three years
- Inclusion of the "Bertil Swedmark Fund" into "additional moneys" contributed to I.A.K.

In these important issues we do not want to base on just 15 ballots. So: We need your ballot before July 1, 1984!

O. Giere
MEMBERS AS OF 15 FEBRUARY 1984

As a reminder, we included also those members who have not yet paid for 1984. Would they please restate their membership? Should there be errors in this list, please, let us know!
There was a meiobenthologist who was not included in this list. He bitterly cried, Any debt he denied, But the file said that he was a 'non-fee-ist'.