

SAFIT

SOUTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF FRESHWATER INVERTEBRATE TAXONOMISTS

Welcome to our second volume!

The SAFIT Annual Meeting was held 21 November 2008 and great things happened. We welcome Raphael Mazor as our newly elected Treasurer. Rafi is replacing Ken Schiff, who will be missed for his advice and expertise on the board of directors. Ken was greatly instrumental in founding SAFIT. The board is looking forward to Rafi joining the team.

An editorial board was formed to help with the development and review of the Newsletter. Our editorial board now consists of D. Christopher Rogers, Brady Richards and Jon Lee. We hope that we will be able to improve the format and content of the Newsletter.

The SAFIT website www.safit.org was unveiled amidst oohs and ahhs at the meeting. Kudos to the website committee, as well as the IT staff of ABC Labs for getting this up and running!

The STE committee will be expanding the STE in 2009 to cover the remaining SAFIT geographical region, namely, Utah. The updated STE will incorporate the accumulated STE changes, which in the interim are posted on the SAFIT Website. In addition, the SAFIT officers will be contacting water quality oriented agencies in Nevada, Arizona and Utah to establish the SAFIT STE as the recognized standard for their programs as well.

Have a job opening that you want to announce, or are looking for a job? Let SAFIT know in the Newsletter! Looking for specimens of a certain species or a literature reference? Need material for research or comparative purposes? Let your colleagues know in the SAFIT Newsletter! Want a workshop on a particular group of organisms? Have references to sell, trade or share? Looking for a collecting partner? Put it here in the SAFIT Newsletter! All appropriate requests, queries, non-commercial advertisements and announcements will be considered, and are free to the SAFIT membership.

Thanks!

The SAFIT Board

ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Conference on Biological Invasions and Ecosystem Functioning (BIOLIEF). The BIOLIEF conference will be devoted to the presentation of works concerning the biology, ecology and population dynamics of biological invasions. The BIOLIEF conference will try to

cover as many ecosystems and kingdoms as possible, giving each one of them equal importance in the definition of the final program. So, BIOLIEF would like to invite you to submit an abstract to BIOLIEF. The deadline to submit an abstract, either for poster or oral communications, is 31 May 2009. The BIOLIEF conference will be held in Porto, Portugal, classified by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. For further details you can visit the webpage www.ciimar.up.pt/biolief.

SAFIT MEETINGS

Workshops in the Works: SAFIT has a number of workshops in the planning stages for this year and years to come. If you have any workshop ideas, please submit them to Joe Slusark (jslusark@csuchico.edu, 530.898.4792) or Christopher Rogers (crogers@ecoanalysts.com, 530.756.4481). We are currently working towards: Western Ephemeroptera, Western Aquatic Mites, Western Aquatic Gastropods, Western Trichoptera, Endangered Species and Bioassessment, Seasonal Wetland Invertebrates, field techniques, and Quality Control Procedures. We are also considering some focused workshops on specific families or genera.

OTHER NEWS

The 2009 **NABS** (North American Benthological Society) meeting will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan <http://www.benthos.org/index.cfm> 17 - 22 May. Please check the NABS website for updates and registration opening.

A workshop entitled **The Anostraca and Notostraca of Oregon, Washington and California with emphasis on the federally listed species** will be held 29-31 May 2009; 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., (4:00 PM on 31 May) at the Davis Public Library (Mary L. Stephens Branch), Blanchard Room, Davis, CA (<http://www.yolocounty.org/Index.aspx?page=256>). For those just interested in the first day lecture portion, the cost is \$50, otherwise the full three day course is \$500. The first day lecture is on Branchiopod crustacean biology, ecology, zoogeography, and conservation, followed by a discussion of fairy shrimp and tadpole shrimp morphology. Fairy shrimp and tadpole shrimp will be examined and identified. This will include a slide show of photomicrographs of the species illustrating key characters. The second day students will continue study. On the third day students will take a practical open book examination during which they will identify a set of test specimens. This test is only required for those who intend to apply for a permit from the US Fish & Wildlife Service to conduct shrimp surveys. For more information, contact D. Christopher Rogers 530.383.4798; crogers@ecoanalysts.com.

The **Florida Association of Benthologists** Spring 2009 taxonomic workshop will be held on May 4th-6th, featuring Dr. Ken Tennessen presenting lecture and hands-on laboratory sessions on Odonata larvae identification. Dr. Tennessen received his Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Florida in 1975, and his special research subjects have long been dragonflies, which he has studied all over the world, resulting in the largest collections of Odonata specimens and photos in western North America. He has written over 40 scientific papers on the Odonata, a booklet on the Dragonflies of Washington, and field guides to North American dragonflies and damselflies. This workshop will be held at the University of Florida Department of Entomology and Nematology-Building 970, Natural Area Drive, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 32611. FAB Workshop Link: http://www.flbenthos.org/cgi-bin/cp-app.cgi?usr=51H6445324&rnd=1459120&rrc=N&aff=&cip=65.83.116.10&act=&aff=&pg=cat&ref=2009_spring_workshop&catstr=HOME:annual_meetings Workshop has a maximum of 30 seats, first come first serve basis. Please register on-line (\$70.00 for current members-\$80.00 for non members-\$45.00 for students). This does include membership fees for the 2009 calendar year (of \$30.00). FAB Registration Link: http://www.flbenthos.org/cgi-bin/cp-app.cgi?usr=51H6445324&rnd=252714&rrc=N&aff=&cip=65.83.116.10&act=&aff=&pg=prod&ref=registration_form Once registered on-line please print your on-line order confirmation page and mail your check (payable to FAB) to: Marianne Pluchino, FAB Treasurer, 4506 South Hampton Drive, Orlando, Florida 32812. This information is also provided on the on-line order confirmation page. And as always . . . we will accept payments (check or cash only) at the door during registration. Accommodation/Information: A block of rooms have been reserved under the Florida Association of Benthologists for a discounted rate of \$89/night at the Cabot Lodge-Gainesville, 3726 SW 40th Boulevard, Gainesville, Florida 32608, Phone: (352) 375-2400, Toll-Free: (800) 843-8735, <http://www.cabotlodgegainesville.com>. You MUST reserve room by April 13th to be able to book under this rate.

SCAMIT has the following events planned: March 9 and 10, at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History (LACMNH), 9:30-3:30. **A two day review of Cumacea** by Drs. Les Watling and Sarah Gerken. Once again a review of that chapter in Light and Smith's Manual will be part of the meeting. Please bring any specimens you need help with. April ? at LACMNH 9:30-3:30. Dr. Regina Wetzler, LACMNH, is hosting a **peracarid meeting at Catalina Island** in early April. There will be several experts in various peracarid groups attending and Leslie Harris will be arranging a SCAMIT meeting with one of them. Further information will be forthcoming as a date and topic are determined. Stay tuned. **Discussion of cirratulids**, a long overdue topic, will finally begin Tuesday, May 26, at Orange County Sanitation Districts Monitoring Laboratory, 9:30-3:30. We will begin with a review of the following genera; *Cirratulus*, *Cirriformia*, *Protocirrinis*, and *Timarete*. Tony Phillips will be leading the meeting. Bring your voucher specimens, voucher sheets, and literature to the meeting for a complete review on these genera. **Echinoderms 101** will be presented as a training workshop by Megan Lilly, June 8, at City of San Diego Environmental Monitoring Laboratory, 9:30-3:30. She will present an introduction to the four classes of echinoderm with a review of the major morphological features used to identify them. This will be the second such training workshop. The first, Bivalves 101, last May was very well attended. We plan to present a

continuing series of introductory training workshops covering the major phyla, then move on to a more detailed series covering the classes and orders within those phyla. Dan Ituarte and others at the CSD lab will lead a **photography workshop focusing on taking editing digital images** July 13, at City of San Diego Environmental Monitoring Laboratory, 9:30-3:30. This will be a great opportunity to learn about the tools and tricks needed to produce great images. Those who are involved in documenting species photographically will want to plan on attending this workshop.

The following full-immersion courses in marine science are available this summer at the **Friday Harbor Labs of the Florida Museum of Natural History**. Applications are due February 1; see <http://depts.washington.edu/fhl/studentClasslist2009.html> For more information, contact Gustav Paulay at the Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville FL, paulay@flmnh.ufl.edu 1 (352) 273-1948:

Marine Invertebrate Zoology: Comparative biology of marine invertebrate animals, focusing on morphology, natural history, functional biology, life history, and evolutionary relationships. Two daily lectures will provide overviews of the major and many smaller phyla, but the heart of the course comprises study of living animals in the laboratory and fieldwork in the diverse marine habitats surrounding San Juan Island. Applications are welcome from undergraduate students, post-baccalaureates and graduate students. Prior coursework in invertebrate biology or animal diversity is advisable but not essential.

Comparative Invertebrate Embryology: We will provide extensive hands-on laboratory experience with the fertilization and development of most invertebrate phyla including: Cnidaria, Ctenophora, Platyhelminthes, Nemertea, Brachiopoda, Phoronida, Bryozoa, Mollusca, Polychaeta, Chaetognatha, Echinodermata, Hemichordata, and Urochordata. Lectures will focus on cellular and molecular analysis of evolutionary changes in development as well as reproduction and gametogenesis. We will emphasize morphological processes and discuss similarities and differences in embryos and how they develop. Several field trips will acquaint students with the rich invertebrate fauna of the San Juan Islands. We will read and critique original literature on Comparative Embryology. The class is at the graduate student level, but exceptionally qualified undergraduate students are also admitted.

Call for proposal of papers for an international symposium: **Conservation Biology of Freshwater Crayfish**. The symposium will be held at Ikebukuro Sunshine City, Tokyo, Japan, 20 September 2009. This symposium is open to everyone who is interested in freshwater crayfish, from amateur naturalists, private companies, government agencies, and professional researchers. The official language will be English. This symposium will be held as a satellite symposium of The Crustacean Society Summer Meeting in Tokyo, Japan (20-24 Sept.), although it is financially independent. The submitted abstracts of the proposed papers will be under peer review by the organizing committee of this symposium, and accepted papers will be presented at the symposium. Presentation should be in any subject and aspects of conservation biology of crayfish. Each presentation is allotted 30 minutes, including a few minutes discussion. Each speaker will be financially supported to the hotel accommodation close to the venue (a room for one person, three nights around 20 Sept. 2009) and one economy-class, round-trip,

discount ticket (for example, IATA-PEX, ZONE-PEX, APEX, IIT, and GIT). For more information please visit: <http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/cs4/TCSFirstPage1.html>. Deadline for the submission is 15 January 2009. We plan to publish a proceedings volume after the symposium.

NEW BOOK

Stark, B., C. Froehlich, & M. del Carmen Zuniga. 2009. South American Stoneflies (Plecoptera). Aquatic Biodiversity in Latin America Vol. 5, ISBN: 978-954-642-458-7 (HB), ISBN: 978-954-642-459-4 (e-book). 165x240, richly illustrated, keys both in English and Spanish, references, index. In English. Hardcover, 154pp. Price: EUR 60.00

ORDER ONLINE at <http://pensoft.net/newreleases/14385.htm> OR send order to orders@pensoft.net OR fax +359-2-8704282

This book covers the known Plecoptera fauna of South America consisting of six families and 47 genera. It presents updated keys to families and genera in English and Spanish and data on each of these, including a species list of each genus. Complete reference data on the Plecoptera of South America is offered as well as data for each genus considering its status, characters, biology and distribution when available. This book is addressed to specialists in systematics, ecology, limnology, entomology and biology in general.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Taxonomist Positions

EcoAnalysts, Inc. has **job openings for a macroinvertebrate taxonomist and a periphyton taxonomist, as well as lab tech positions**. The lab tech positions and the macroinvertebrate taxonomist positions are in the Moscow, Idaho office and the periphyton taxonomist position would be in either Moscow, Idaho or Joplin, MO. The full details are available at <http://ecoanalysts.com/>.

LATEST LITERATURE

If you know of any literature or if you yourself have published any papers of interest to the SAFIT membership, please send copies or the citations to D. Christopher Rogers (crogers@ecoanalysts.com) for inclusion in the next issue of the SAFIT Newsletter. Thanks!!

General

- Audzijonyte, A., K. L. Wittmann, I. Ovcarenko, & R. Vainola. 2009. Invasion phylogeography of the Ponto-Caspian crustacean *Limnomysis benedeni* dispersing across Europe. *Diversity and Distributions*, 15: 346-355.
- Baumann, R.W. & J. P. Hudson. 2009. *Lethocerus americanus* (Hemiptera: Belostomatidae) (Leidy) newly recorded from southeastern Alaska. *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington*, 111: 280-281.
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Coleoptera

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Board of Directors:

Joseph Slusark, President 530.898.4792

D. Christopher Rogers, Vice President 530.756.4481

Raphael Mazor, Treasurer 714.755.3235

Kim Kratz, Secretary 503.231.2155

Scott Johnson, Member at Large 805.643.5261 x11

Editorial Board:

D. Christopher Rogers, Newsletter Editor 530.756.4481

Brady Richards, 530.898.4792

Jon Lee, 707.441.9347