

Rec 2-26-87

**Southern California Association of
Marine Invertebrate Taxonomists**

3720 Stephen White Drive
San Pedro, California 90731



February 1987

Vol. 5, No. 11

Next Meeting: March 9, 1987

Specimen Exchange Group: Gammaridean Amphipods, provisional species; Ann Martin, Chair

Topic Taxonomic Group: Tanaidacea, provisional species; Tony Phillips, Chair

MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 9, 1987

Nominations Postponed- Three of the four officers were unable to attend the meeting due to more pressing commitments. Therefore a vote was taken from attending members to postpone the nomination of officers until March. Again, any member is encouraged to nominate candidates by phone to the Secretary, Tom Parker at (213) 830-2400 X394.

Executive Meeting- The next executive meeting will be held at Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, 1:00 pm on February 24, 1987. Any interested member is welcome to attend. Two topics will be discussed. The first will be to determine the the procedures for reviewing proposals from members who want to receive financial assistance for taxonomic publications. The second will be to resolve the format for the taxonomic listing of southern California invertebrate species. Results of the meeting will be presented at the March 9 general meeting and included in the next newsletter.

2/26
New Agenda- As detailed in the last news letter, SCAMIT's new agenda for 1987-88 shows that we are taking a new approach to standardizing troublesome species. Although many species have been given provisional designations by SCAMIT, there still remain a significant number to be recognized. The aim of the new agenda therefore is to focus directly on these species yet to be given official provisional designations. Further, as spelled out in the last newsletter, each species recommended for

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a SCAMIT provisional designation will be accompanied by a rough draft of its voucher sheet. By doing so, we hope to eliminate the great time delay that often occurs in the preparation of these sheets. Production of voucher sheets for species standardized at our monthly meetings is SCAMIT's most important function. These vouchers have been of the highest quality; for this we sincerely thank all the authors for their volunteered time. Production of vouchers for provisional species will demand even more work. Because these species represent taxa that are poorly defined or new, greater detail will be needed to separate them from similar species. Information contained on these sheets will represent the basis for ultimate formal descriptions.

Again, we wish to sincerely thank all previous authors of voucher sheets. You have given SCAMIT the respect and high regard it now has from other scientific and government organizations. We trust that your enthusiasm will continue, and urge other members to become involved in the production of vouchers.

2
late
Newsletter Timeliness- A point well taken from a comment on the tardiness of the newsletter. Apologies to members for the sometimes late mailings of the newsletters. The officers responsible will make all efforts to mail the newsletter within two weeks of the previous meeting.

Afternoon Gammaridean Workshop- In preparation for the upcoming Amphipod Workshop with Dr. J.L. Barnard and the Los Angeles County Museum in May, the February meeting concentrated on Melphidippids that had not been exchanged. These specimens, from the collections of MBC, Pt. Loma and SCCWRP were closely examined and compared to the descriptions of Melphisana bola and M. amorita. Several key features that appeared to be critical at the species level were tabulated. Attending members will continue to examine Melphidippid specimens and begin to examine Stenothoid specimens for the April meeting. Also, a suggestion for part of the May workshop to be dedicated to discussion concerning life histories of Gammarideans was enthusiastically endorsed by attending members. More details concerning the workshop will be given in the March newsletter.

Another New SCAMITeer- The news just drifted across the continent that Courtney Rebecca Bellmer arrived on October 28, 1986, weighing in at 7 lb, 5 oz at 20 in. Her parents, Russ and Linda Bellmer, let brother Ben name her. Meanwhile, Russ has a few other announcements. First, he asks that anyone who is planning a trip to Boston this spring is welcome to lecture at Clark University's Thursday seminars. Also, Russ is interested in obtaining information on taxonomic keys on shallow water Bermuda organisms. Contact him at (617) 647-8142 if you can help him out.

