May, 1991

NEXT MEETING: Organization of SCAMIT Literature Library

GUEST SPEAKER: NONE

DATE: Monday, June 17, 1991 @9:30AM
Note this is the third Monday of the month.

LOCATION: Cabrillo Marine Museum
San Pedro, CA

At the June 17th meeting we will be cataloging and shelving literature from the SCAMIT reference library. Please plan on attending and help get the library in order. This is a good opportunity for everyone to get involved.

MINUTES FROM MEETING ON May 13 & 14, 1991

Bryozoan Workshop: Dr. Bill Banta of the American University in Washington D.C. hosted a very informative workshop. He began by explaining that Bryozoans have a rich and abundant fossil record with marine deposits have been dating back to the Cenozoic era. Freshwater forms have a more recent fossil history dating back to only the Ordovician period. They are so abundant that, for example, a large part of Florida is built on Bryozoan fossils.

He discussed three major groups of Bryozoans:

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SCAMIT newsletter is not deemed to be a valid publication for formal taxonomic purposes.
1) Ctenostomes are characterized by having a setigerous collar, an uncalcified body wall, and no operculum. Common genera include Alcyonidium, Victorella, and Bowerbankia. This group also includes Clavopora, which is known to occur on soft bottoms.

2) Stenolaemate (=Cyclosomata in Osburn, 1953) are identified as having calcified body walls, no operculum, circular zooid (in cross-section), and the solitary zooid's outer surfaces appears perforated (pitted). This group includes the following genera: Stomatopora, Nolella, Flustrellidra, Crisia, Lichenopora, and Tubulipora.

3) Cheilostomates have opercula, calcified body walls, and the individual zooid are not circular in cross-section. This group is further subdivided into Anasca (front uncalcified) and Ascophora (front calcified). Anasca genera include Membranipora, Thalamoporella, Scrupocellaria, Bugula, Lyrula, and Pueillina. Ascophora genera include Murconella, Parasmittina, Rhynchozoon, Porella, Costazia, and Lagenipora.

Dr. Banta demonstrated that to best understand Bryozoan taxonomy you must first understand their morphology and colonial growth patterns. To this end he is preparing a packet of information that will be made available upon request to SCAMIT members at a future date. The best reference for identifying Pacific coast Bryozoans is Osburn, 1953 (Bryozoa of the Pacific Coast of America. Alan Hancock Pacific Expeditions. 14(1-3):1-841).

New publication(s): Hans Kuck of LACMNH announces a new publication of interest to SCAMIT members:


For copies contact:
Hans Kuck
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
900 Exposition Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90007.

__________________________________________________________________________________

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF SCAMIT ACTIVITIES 1990-1991

SCAMIT had another full year of activities in 1990-1991. Three events which all occurred in December 1990 deserve special mention. Larry Lovell represented SCAMIT at the EPA workshop on Biological Criteria: Research and Regulations, presenting the poster entitled "Regional Standardization of Taxonomy: The Southern California Association of Marine Invertebrate Taxonomists (SCAMIT)". At the amphipod workshop meeting, SCAMIT presented Dr. J.L. Barnard with a plaque in appreciation for his years of help with amphipod taxonomy. And finally, probably the most important event of 1990-1991 was the publication of the first formal description of a SCAMIT provisional species. Jim Roney described Ampelisca brachycladus (Ampelisca sp. A of SCAMIT).

Highlights of 1990-1991

May
- Review of groups to look at in 1990-1991 and organization of SCAMIT literature library (CMM)

June
- Don Cadien reviewed Nassarius (CMM)

July
- John Ljubenkov reviewed Hydrozoa (MEC)

August
- John Ljubenkov discussed etymology (CMM)
- SCAMIT picnic

September
- Ross Duggan reviewed scaleworms (AHF)

October
- Helen DuShane reviewed Epitoniidae (LACMNH)

November
- Ron Velarde reviewed Hesionidae (AHF)

December
- Amphipod Workshop with Dr. J.L. Barnard and James Thomas (LACMNH)
- Larry Lovell attended EPA Workshop
- Ampelisca brachycladus described by Jim Roney
- SCAMIT Christmas party with Dr. J.L. Barnard as Santa (CMM)

January
- John Ljubenkov and Tony Phillips reviewed flatworms (CMM)

February
- Larry Lovell reviewed Spionidae (non-polydorid)
- Dr. James Blake attended (Larry Lovell's home)

March
- Paul Scott reviewed Nuculanidae (SBMNH)

April
- Tony Phillips reviewed Tharyx (AHF)
At this time, I want to thank all of the people and institutions listed above who made the 1990-1991 year of SCAMIT activities a success. I especially want to thank my fellow officers, Larry Lovell, Ross Duggan, and Ann Martin, for all of their help. Any organization which relies on volunteer manpower is only as good as the people who volunteer their time and efforts. We are lucky in that we have a core of people who continue to give freely of their time and efforts to make SCAMIT successful. However, SCAMIT can be made even better if even more people would get involved.

The purpose of SCAMIT is to develop standard procedures in systematic practices and taxonomic usage for marine invertebrates in the southern California region. In the early years, this was accomplished by the exchange of specimens between the members to calibrate everyone within SCAMIT of the more common invertebrates found in our programs. We then moved on to the descriptions of provisional species and how they differed from the "known" species occurring in southern California. These descriptions give us a working format to report these new species. However, the next step is to get these species formally described in the published literature. As we begin the 10th year of SCAMIT, I hope that this will become the major emphasis of SCAMIT and its members.

Ronald D. Velarde
President

1990-1991 Treasurer's Report:

Expenses

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$6,931.14
List of Members: Included in this months newsletter is the current list of members of SCAMIT. Individuals who are interested in doing taxonomic consulting are noted and their specialty listed. If there are any corrections and/or additions to this list please contact:

Ann Martin
Hyperion Treatment Plant
Biology Laboratory
11900 Vista del Mar
Playa del Rey, CA 90293

If you need any other information concerning SCAMIT please feel free to contact any of our officers:

President          Ron Velarde          (619)226-0164
Vice-President     Larry Lovell         (619)945-1608
Secretary          Kelvin Barwick       (619)226-8175
Treasurer          Ann Martin           (213)648-5317
The Families and Genera of the Marine Gammaridean Amphipoda (Except Marine Gammaroids)

J. LAURENS BARNARD AND GORDAN S. KARAMAN

Since the publication of Barnard's first handbook in 1969 on the families and genera of marine gammaridean amphipods, the number of families has nearly doubled from 54 to 91, the number of genera has increased from 670 to 1055 and the number of species from 3300 to 5733. The extraordinary growth in amphipod systematics, partly prompted by Barnard's handbook, has led to this new essential two volume set on the same subject by Barnard and Karaman, to be published as Records of the Australian Museum, Supplement 13 (Parts 1 and 2), and issued in August 1991.

The main features of the book are:

* New keys and diagnoses to all families and genera.
* 133 plates of illustrations.
* Lists of all species included for each genus, with their distributions.
* Taxa at all levels arranged in alphabetical order for convenience.

The book forms a companion to the "Freshwater Amphipoda of the World" by Barnard & Barnard, 1983 which treated all freshwater gammarideans and all marine Gammaroidea. None of that material is repeated in this book, but the family keys are constructed to contain all marine components.

THE AUTHORS

J.L. Barnard is a curator of invertebrate zoology at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. He has collected amphipods all over the world and written over 200 papers on amphipod taxonomy including major regional monographs on the amphipods of Southern California, Hawaii, New Zealand and Australia.

G.S. Karaman is a senior scientist at the Institute of Freshwater Research in Titograd, Yugoslavia. He comes from a long line of scientists and like his father has specialised in freshwater amphipods, publishing several hundred papers on the niphargids of eastern Europe.

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