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Parasitology, Harold W. Manter Laboratory of

Spring 2008

American Society of Parasitologists Newsletter, v. 30, no. 1, Winter [i.e. Spring] 2008

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ASP Newsletter

Vol 30. No. 1.

Winter, 2008

American Society of Parasitologists

Newsletter

*Published Quarterly by the American Society of
Parasitologists*

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March 31, 2008

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From the *Editor* of the Newsletter

The ASP newsletter accepts information and news of a parasitological nature from all disciplines. Consider publishing your parasite poems, posting a link to your favorite "parasite lecture" providing an actual parasite lecture, or otherwise send "something" in to the editor. Your contribution is valuable and will be considered for publication.

Sincerely,

Scott L. Gardner

Curator, Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Ask What You Can Do for Your Society -- A Challenge to ASP Members from the President

In 2007 when I ran for the position of ASP Vice-President, I noted in my agenda statement that I would not hesitate to “call on ASP members for assistance.” Some of you have already answered this call by agreeing to serve on committees of the society – and I thank you for your work and willingness to serve. Now I’m asking all ASP members for their direct assistance in a matter of substantial importance to the society. I am asking – indeed **challenging** each member to **recruit one additional member** before May 1st of this year. Our ASP membership committee (Mike Moser, Chair) is taking several steps to make sure people around the world who are working with parasites, especially students, are aware of our new membership options, including on-line only subscriptions for students and the ability to become a member via web registration. As President **I am asking you to perform this service (one recruitment) for a society that has provided you with so much.** Your recruit might be an undergraduate student (give them a membership as a gift!), or perhaps you might bring back into the society a former member (I think that many of us know of such a colleague). On-line student memberships (no print copy of journal) are now only \$15. I understand that to succeed in recruiting a member will require some of your time, but given your understanding of the society, ASP should be an “easy sell” (page charge reductions for members, a quality journal, substantial networking at annual meetings, meeting symposia, collaborative research opportunities). In addition, some of our affiliate societies offer free membership for ASP student members.

Members who successfully complete this challenge will have their name (and the recruited member’s name and affiliation) listed in the newsletter (send your successful recruit information to Mike Moser at mmoser@berkeley.edu). I recognize that one-time recruitments will not entirely solve the problem of membership loss (retention of recruited members is also required), but I believe it is a step in the right direction. Please help **your scientific society** by taking part in this new membership recruitment effort. Better yet, make this a



priority item and take action during the next week. Although we make not often reflect on it, ASP has provided each of us with many opportunities during our careers – and we need to make sure that these same opportunities are available for future parasitologists by keeping ASP sound. Please join me in this important task. To join ASP through the web, visit <http://parasitologists.allenmm.com/> and follow the appropriate link to the secure site for membership.

With best wishes,

Steve Nadler
ASP President
Professor & Chair
Department of Nematology
University of California, Davis
sanadler@ucdavis.edu



MEETING DATA

REMINDER - TAKE ACTION SOON FOR THE 2008 ASP MEETING. The 2008 CALL FOR PAPERS for the 83rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists is on the ASP web site. Please go to <http://asp.unl.edu> and click on the meetings tab to download the pdf file of the call. Dates of the meeting are June 27 - 30, 2008 at the Hilton Arlington, Arlington, TX.

PLAN FOR THE 2009 ASP MEETING [Knoxville, TN]. Directly from Don Duszynski. The 2009 ASP Annual meeting will occur at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Knoxville, TN, from 13-17 August, 2009. You can check their web site, www.crowneplaza.com, for more information on the Knoxville edition of the hotel. Sharon Patton and Charles Faulkner will be the co-chairs of the Local Committee. Watch for more information both on the ASP web site and in the Journal.



Other Meetings.

The Organization for the Study of Sex Differences (<http://www.ossdweb.org>) is convening its second annual scientific meeting from **June 4-6, 2008** in New Orleans, LA. The program will consist of opening and closing keynote speakers, seven symposia, and two poster sessions. Symposia topics include sex differences in vascular and renal disease, sleep, drug abuse, cardiovascular disease, stress, immunity and infection, and x-linked disorders. The deadline for poster abstract submissions is March 15, 2008. Visit http://www.ossdweb.org/meeting_2008.html to register or contact Viviana Simon, PhD (viviana@ossdweb.org) for more information.

CESTODE WORKSHOP -- the 6th IWCSPP. The Sixth International Workshop on Cestode Systematics and Phylogeny. Smolenice (Slovakia) 15th – 20th June 2008. Go to: IWCSPP Secretariat, Hlinkova 3, 040 01 Košice, Slovakia, Phone: +421 55 6334455, Fax: +421 55 63 314 14, Email: cestodeworkshop2008@saske.sk, <http://www.saske.sk/pau/workshop2008.html>

EMOP 10 [August 24 - 29, 2008] THE 10TH EUROPEAN MULTICOLLOQUIUM OF PARASITOLOGY The Société Française de Parasitologie and the European Federation of Parasitology welcome you in Paris for the 10th European Multicolloquium of Parasitology (EMOP 10). During the same week the XXth International Congress of Zoology will be held in Paris. Combined registration fees will be proposed in order to attend both conferences.

THE XIIITH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARASITOLOGY (ICOPA) (2010). To be held in Melbourne, Australia, from **15-20th August 2010** at the new Exhibition and Convention Centre. All are invited to join the parasitology community at this exceptional facility that lies in the heart of Melbourne in close proximity to the scenic Yarra River and the associated parks, multicultural restaurants, cafes and bars.

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF VETERINARY PARASITOLOGY (WAAVP) 2009 CALGARY, CANADA, 8-13 AUG

The 54th Annual Meeting of AAVP will be held in conjunction with the 22nd International Conference of the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology (WAAVP) in Calgary, Canada, August 8-13, 2009.
www.WAAVP2009.com

57TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE (ASTMH) 2008

The annual meeting of ASTMH will be held on December 7-11, 2008 at the Sheraton New Orleans, New Orleans, LA. Information about the annual meeting can be obtained by contacting ASTMH Headquarters at <http://www.astmh.org>.



Wildlife Disease Association - 2008

The mission of the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA) is to acquire, disseminate, and apply knowledge regarding health and disease of wild animals in relation to their biology, conservation, and ecology including interactions with humans and domestic animals. To learn more about the WDA, visit www.wildlifedisease.org. We invite you to join us at the annual WDA meeting in Edmonton, Alberta in August 2008.

The theme this year is "Wildlife Diseases: Northern and Western Frontiers" and abstracts will be accepted until May 1, 2008. For more information, please visit our conference website: <http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/parasites/WDA08/>

THE 3RD CONFERENCE OF THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY FOR PARASITOLOGY AND ARC/NHMRC PARASITOLOGY NETWORK

ADELAIDE. July 6th-9th 2008

<http://www.parasite.org.au/Conference.html>

FIELD PHOTOGRAPHY - A NEWER FEATURE OF THE ASP NEWSLETTER



This photograph was made by slg during field work in Bolivia 1985. Many times when we were driving down or up a road, llamas and alpacas would be populating the road and causing basic gridlock. It was always fun to see these colorfully decorated animals in the high altitude areas where we were working. Unfortunately, fewer camelids are herded by farmers in Bolivia now as cattle and sheep are deemed to be more valuable. This is causing big problems as the ovine and bovine grazers take the sparse altiplano forage down to a very short stem, decreasing area biodiversity and impacting the ability of the grasses to come back after being grazed. Of course we took the opportunity to look for a nematode or two in a llama, but we were not successful in finding the elusive *Llamanema* sp.

To participate in this new “Field Photography” section of the ASP Newsletter, send your digital photograph to slg@unl.edu along with an explanation of the content of the photograph and what field experience you were having at the time.

Happy Field Photographing.

Scott L. Gardner -editor

PARASITIC DISEASE OF THE QUARTER

[Chagas Disease]

Trypanosomatidae, *Trypanosoma cruzi* Chagas.

This summary on Chagas Disease was taken directly from the CDC web site:
(<http://www.cdc.gov/chagas/disease.html>)

Chagas disease has an acute and a chronic phase. If untreated at first infection, infection is lifelong.

Acute Chagas disease occurs immediately after infection, may last up to a few weeks or months, and parasites may be found in the circulating blood. Infection may be mild or asymptomatic. There may be fever or swelling around the site of inoculation (where the parasite entered into the skin or mucus membrane). Rarely, acute infection may result in severe inflammation of the heart muscle or the brain and lining around the brain.

Following the acute phase, most infected people enter into a prolonged asymptomatic form of disease (called "chronic indeterminate") during which few or no parasites are found in the blood. During this time, most people are unaware of their infection. Many people may remain asymptomatic for life and never develop Chagas-related symptoms. However, an estimated 30% of

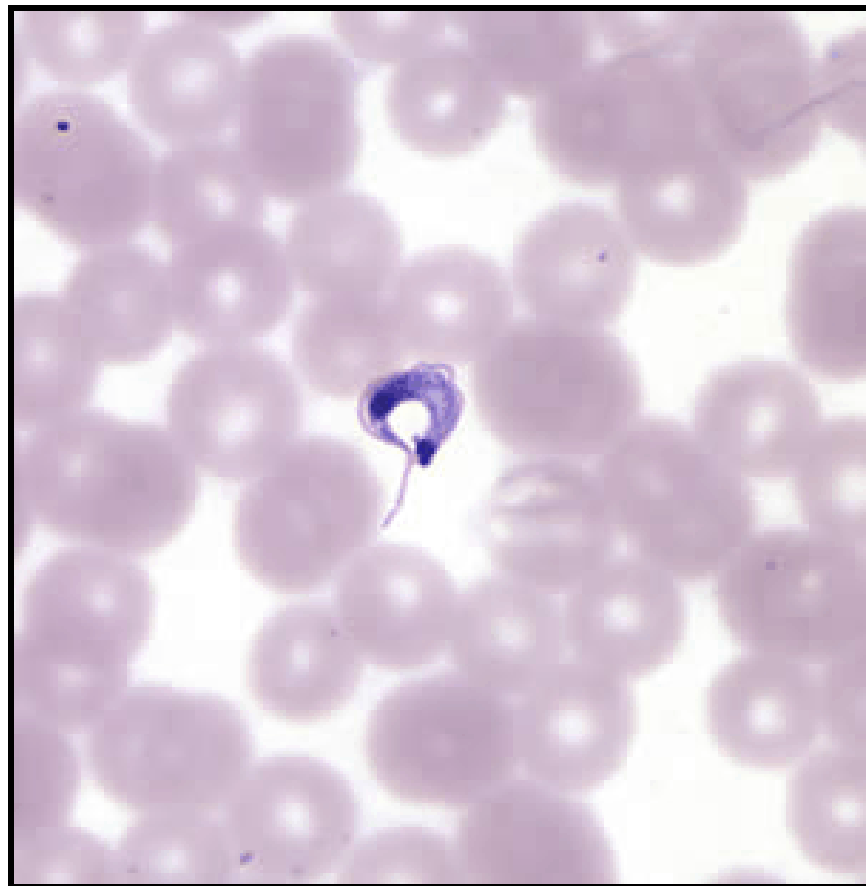
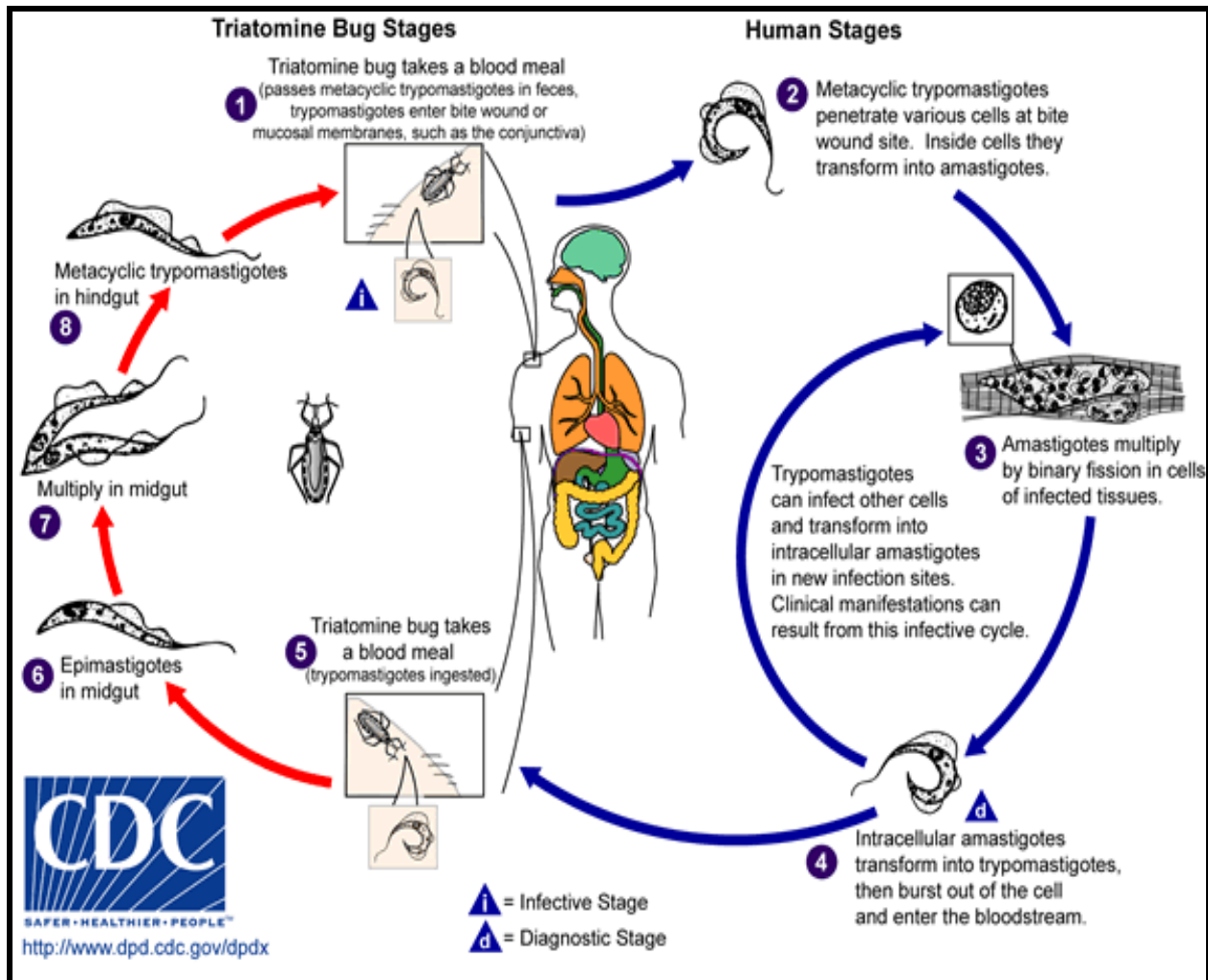


Figure 1. A trypanosome in a thin blood smear. Giemsa stain.
(Complements of CDC).

by binary fission and differentiate into trypomastigotes, and then are released into the circulation as bloodstream trypomastigotes. Trypomastigotes infect cells from a variety of tissues and transform into intracellular amastigotes in new infection sites. Clinical



manifestations can result from this infective cycle. The bloodstream trypomastigotes do not replicate (different from the African trypanosomes). Replication resumes only when the parasites enter another cell or are ingested by another vector. The "kissing" bug becomes infected by feeding on human or animal blood that contains circulating parasites. The ingested trypomastigotes transform into epimastigotes in the vector's midgut. The parasites multiply and differentiate in the midgut and differentiate into infective metacyclic trypomastigotes in the hindgut.

Trypanosoma cruzi can also be transmitted through blood transfusions, organ transplantation, transplacentally, and in laboratory accidents (such as getting cut with a sharp object that has living trypanosomes on it -editor -slg).



Geographic Distribution:

The Americas from the southern United States to southern Argentina. Mostly in poor, rural areas of Mexico, Central America, and South America. Chronic Chagas disease is a major health problem in many Latin American countries.

Clinical Features:

The acute phase is usually asymptomatic, but can present with manifestations that include fever, anorexia, lymphadenopathy, mild hepatosplenomegaly, and myocarditis. Romaña's sign (unilateral palpebral and periocular swelling) may appear as a result of conjunctival contamination with the vector's feces. A nodular lesion or furuncle, usually called chagoma, can appear at the site of inoculation. Most acute cases resolve over a period of a few weeks or months into an asymptomatic chronic form of the disease. The symptomatic chronic form may not occur for years or even decades after initial infection. Its manifestations include cardiomyopathy (the most serious manifestation); pathologies of the digestive tract such as megaesophagus and megacolon; and weight loss. Chronic Chagas disease and its complications can be fatal.

Laboratory Diagnosis:

Demonstration of the causal agent is the diagnostic procedure in acute Chagas disease. It almost always yields positive results, and can be achieved by:

* **Microscopic examination:** a) of fresh anticoagulated blood, or its buffy coat, for motile parasites; and b) of thin and thick blood smears stained with Giemsa, for visualization of parasites.

* **Isolation of the agent:**

- a) inoculation in culture with specialized media (e.g. NNN, LIT);
- b) inoculation into mice;
- c) xenodiagnosis, where uninfected triatomine bugs are fed on the patient's blood, and their gut contents examined for parasites 4 weeks later.

For further information on this fascinating zoonosis go to the CDC web site: <http://www.cdc.gov/chagas/>

Note: Almost all the information for this close up on Chagas was taken from: <http://www.cdc.gov/chagas/> (-editor)



OBITUARIES

Edwin Cadmen Powell, Ph.D. –

Professor of Parasitology in the Department of Genetics and Cell Biology at the Iowa State University and member of ASP since 1964, died from cancer, January 4, 2008.



Edwin's career at Iowa State allowed him to focus on the host-parasite relationships of coccidian parasites, in particular, the pathology, immunology and cell biology of *Sarcocystis* and porcine toxoplasmosis. These studies include the ultrastructural development of parasite-induced pathogenesis, the cell mediated and humoral responses of the host to the presence of the parasites, the analysis of immunogenic surface polypeptides and genetically-based differences in host responses to sarcocystosis.

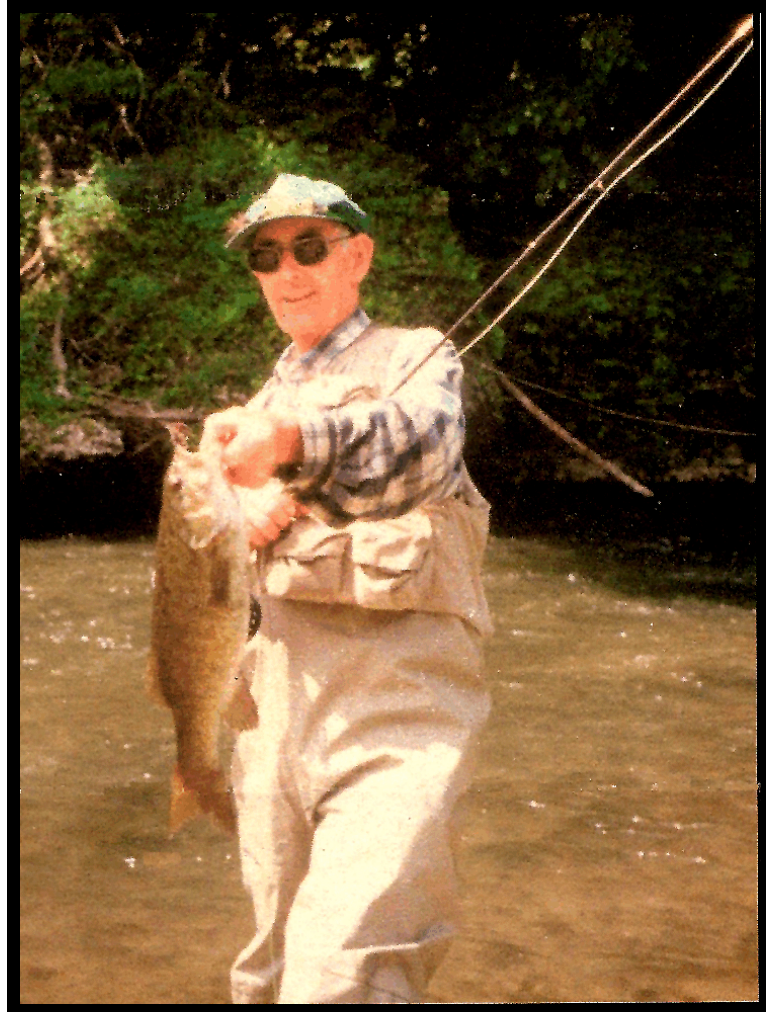
Ed was born April 11, 1941 in Yuba City, CA. He received a B.S. in Biology at Chico State University and spent a summer studying at the University of Michigan's Biological Station, an experience that lead him to confirm his interest in parasitism. He taught at Florida's Pensacola Junior College for two

years, began his graduate studies at Florida State University, received a M.S. studying with Robert Short in 1966, and at Tulane University, New Orleans, earned his Ph.D. in the Department of Biology under the mentorship of Frank Sogandares. Joining a large group of graduate students at Tulane, "Eddy" was the quiet graduate student, always with a kind smile and word. Ed was married to Joyce Hicks during his final year at Chico State University, and in 1969, moved from New Orleans to Ames, Iowa where Ed joined the I.S.U's Department of Zoology faculty to begin his career in teaching and research. Ed impacted the lives of an innumerable number of students at I.S.U. through his love of mentoring and education. In addition, Ed was active in supporting extracurricular activities at Iowa State: Pheasants Forever



Organization, ISU Rifle Club and sponsoring student trips to Honduras, Belize and other countries. Ed retired June, 2006.

Edwin's love nature and much of his extracurricular activities evolved from his need to breathe the fresh air of the outdoors. He was an avid member of the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association and the Fly Fishing Federation. Fly fishing was his first and dearest love. His mission was always to catch the "BIG ONE" (and, we presume, to identify its parasites). Along with his lifetime love of fly fishing, Ed's commitment to citizenship resulted in numerous recognitions: The Governor's Volunteer Award (1989), the I.S.U. Ruth W. Swenson Award for outstanding science advising (1996), and the Izaak Walton's Olav Smedal Conservation Award (1997). Both the Story County's and the I.S.U. Student Chapter of Pheasants Forever honored Ed by naming a new region of Iowa native prairie, The Edwin C. Powell Nature Preserve.



["Tight Lines and Clear Water"]

From John Oaks (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

We regret to report the passing of the parasitologists Dr. Michael Elliott, Dr. Howard Saz, Dr. Mark Healey, Dr. Peter Waller, Dr. Paul Weinstein, and Dr. Honorico Ciordi. Please visit the American Association of Veterinary Parasitologists web site (http://www.aavp.org/newsletters/2008_02.pdf) and examine the obituaries starting on page 14 of their Feb. 2008 Newsletter. (-editor)



The Dick and John Column #5



Dear Dick and John:

I had been a research scientist and parasitologist for my entire career. When I recently retired, most of my laboratory equipment was surplused by the University. Because much of it was still very functional and in working order, I am very depressed to see it being thrown out. It simply is not right!

**Sincerely,
Disgruntled parasitologist**

Dear Disgruntled:

The two of us have had the very same experiences and unfortunately we have discovered only a limit number of solutions. The solutions are very item specific and require creativity originating from your specific research focus, i.e., if you are an immunologist, it is likely that you will have very different laboratory equipment and supplies than a cell biologist, and very different secondary uses may be necessary. Several are suggested below.

a.) One of us (DS) spent several years in the army and was given the responsibility for maintaining the Units equipment inventory. Unfortunately when I left the Army, there was a camera missing from the photographic department and until there was a complete investigation I was held responsible for the lost camera. During that time period, I learned that some military units had "misplaced" tanks and even fire engines and various supply officer and sergeants in charge of their unit's inventory were considerably more nervous than I was! To my knowledge, these items were



never found and those responsible for the inventories were never charged.

How one can lose or misplace a tank or a fire engine we do not know! We are not suggesting that scientific equipment should be misplaced or lost intentionally. First, one can always get caught and the penalties that will be considered will be far in excess of the worth any piece of scientific equipment. Second, we, parasitologists, are honest and above reproach!! However, one could talk to your old Department Chair. This assumes that you are on speaking terms with the chair, and ask if the equipment could be moved to your place and place on a very long term loan. This can work; we have seen this successfully take place. If that is not possible, check out the location of your Universities Surplus equipment store and see if you can not purchase the items that you want. Usually these surplus pieces go for a fraction of their value and are almost a give away! Items that might be considered useful in your kitchen and for unusual holiday gifts for the college student are Ph meters and electronic temperature sensors for the really perfect martini, hot plates for Ramen Noodles and fondues, and magnetic stirrers. Ah, magnetic stirrers make great and novel Bloody Mary mixers at parties. So check out the surplus store. *(Those of you not yet ready to retire should take heed, these guys know what they are talking about - editor).*

b.) Assuming that the Department Chair has no objection to your taking old glassware, syringes and needles, latex gloves, etc. that in all likelihood would be thrown out with the trash, we suggest you take them home! Old beakers or desiccators make great cuspidors for those Southerners who might revert to their old tobacco chewing days. Erlenmeyer flasks not only make great cocktail mixing chambers for those evening drinks with old scientific friends, but can make great cruets for salad dressing. And don't forget the graduated cylinders to help you get the proportions of oil and vinegar (or gin and vermouth) exactly correct. Also, remember those especially long forceps you used to extract a particularly slippery parasite from the bottom of a tall specimen bottle? You can use them with equal ease to extract that pesky piece of pickled cauliflower or olive in those bottles that have necks smaller than a tea spoon *(I use them to snag anchovy stuffed olives from the bottom of the brine can -editor)*. To increase the likelihood that you will have no challenge taking this old faithful pair of forceps home, be sure to explain to your chair that these forceps are heavily contaminated with potentially harmful parasite eggs, and it is highly unlikely that anyone would want to take the time to clean and sterilize them properly.

c.) Other uses for old throw a ways include using old thermometers for measuring the temperature of the melted wax when you make those artistic candles or wax sculptures or caramel for your holiday cookies. Glass pipettes which are no longer used make great garden stakes for your young starter plants. We also know from experience that glass or plastic syringes and large gauge needles (18 or above) are very useful for those who are interested in wood working. When filled with glue they



can be used with pin point accuracy to fill in joints on chairs, etc. However, do NOT use superglue in the syringes as it readily binds to plastic and glass! If you are not a wood worker, these syringes can be used for cake decoration, accurate oiling of small machinery, applying measured amounts of liquid fertilizer to house plants, etc, etc. Plastic or glass test tubes can be used as plant starters for those into aquaculture. Large test tubes also make great storage units as, for example, all those paper clips that have been accumulating in your desk drawer. You would probably need to obtain or make a test-tube rack.

d.) For those retirees who have taken up or wish to start up an enological extravaganza or even a minibrewing operation, the old glass carboys (which are almost always surplused) make great fermenters and the needles and syringes can be used to inoculate the cultures or to take out small samples for testing. Just be sure that you do not inoculate yourself when sampling the product. The large brass sieves you used for separating parasites from other organic substances can be used to help you separate juice from stems and mash and hops from wort. The thermometers can be used to insure that the environmental temperature of your culture is appropriately maintained. If you were able to obtain the electronic temperature sensor and the Ph meter, you can begin to go into mass production. (-and really start to save some cash) -editor

e.) Large equipment, such as floor centrifuges, spectrophotometers, rocker cabinets, scintillation counters, etc., is a whole different problem. While JO's old refrigerated centrifuge would have made a great kitchen island with the addition of a butcher block top, JO found out that anything with a university inventory number on it is not going home. We have noted over our years of academic employment that keeping university lawyers happy is a good thing. Besides, when you consider what you are planning for retirement, of what particular use is a large piece of scientific equipment. For example, can you fit it in your fishing skiff, or will it help you collect stamps. Can you imagine entertaining your grandchildren? "Come over here Little Ole, I want to show you how this continuous flow electrophoresis machine works." Or "Matilda, don't you think this PCR machine is a lot more fun than your skate board?" We predict that your grandchildren, nieces and nephews will run and hide when they see you. So, let the large equipment go with no regrets and hope that some high school will find room for your piece of equipment, right next to their 1961 RCA electron microscope.

f.) So you see if you can obtain some of your old equipment items either on a long term loan, from surplus stores or from the waste bucket, there are a variety of potential home uses. However, there are also other items you may never see again. One of us (DS) had tears in his eyes when his favorite microscope was left behind and was depressed for days. (JO wonders if the microscope was brass and had a reflecting



mirror for concentrating candle light?) But he got over it and was eventually very pleased that his scope was used full-on by the new and budding faculty member as one of his primary research instruments for generation of new and unique data in parasitology. As we have suggested before there are always new toys to experiment with. In one of our cases (DS), it was wood working tools and carving knives. When carving, he has determined his clotting time on many occasions and is considering preparing a short research note for publication on the variability in clotting time of a single individual, of course taking into account the variation due to various stages of ethanol dilution (lightly edited by editor). We hope some of this helps!

Dick and John, your retirement consultants

Remember we are your friends in retirement and your problems are our problems!

Reader comments on the Dick and John Column

Dear Readers,

Once in a great while, one of our ever increasing numbers of fans writes to us with a comment. We love other's perspectives on our take on one of life's difficult transitions, retirement. However, sometimes reader comments give us a new insight into how the world really works.

Our fan mail contained a letter from a colleague currently working in Europe. While responding to our last column (concerning excess paper clips and binders), this ASP member wished to remain anonymous in order to assure international harmony. The following comments clearly teach us that in this new world economy, the dynamic supply chain management of office essentials and the exchange among major international free-trade markets fails to keep pace with this new electronic age, i.e., we are not paperless and still value the paper clips and binders!

"The Dick and John Column continues to strike a chord. I would kill for some binder clips over here. They just don't seem to have them. When I get one from the states, I treat it like gold (that is a jewelry reference). The next time I'm back in the US, I'm going to buy a case of binder clips and ship them over here. The Europeans know little about how to stick things together. They do have paper clip-like things, but they are shaped funny. How can you claim to have too many binder clips and paper clips? Try living without them for a while." Signed, "a Fan"

It is obvious that we did not realize the serious shortages that exist in Europe and wish to apologize to our European colleagues. We also want to state that we now



restrict our advice in the last column (#4) to retiring U.S. scientists. However, our European colleague's experience does suggest another use for your excess paper clips and paper binders. If you are a charitable individual, you might consider sending them to some needy European colleague. It would be a very nice gesture and also possibly tax deductible. The European writer of the above paragraph wishes to remain anonymous, but if you have spare paper clips or binders, you can send them to Dick or John and we will forward them to our anonymous and needy friend.

Don't forget, if you have other constructive comments or suggested uses for excess paper clips or paper binder clips, please let us know. We always welcome suggestions and look forward to your comments!

Dick and John

P.S. To the fan commenting on DS's knees in figure 3 of our last column: Thanks, they play a lot of basket ball.

Web Bits.

BIOSCI/Bionet is a set of electronic communication forums - the bionet USENET newsgroups and parallel e-mail lists - used by biological scientists worldwide. No fees are charged for the service.

BIOSCI promotes communication between professionals in the biological sciences. All postings to the newsgroups should be made in that spirit. While the general public may "listen in" to the discussions, these newsgroups are intended primarily for communications between researchers. There are other forums on Usenet such as sci.bio.misc for the asking and answering of biological questions from lay persons.

Go to: <http://www.bio.net/>

This is a bionet feed that I had almost forgotten (-ed).

Quackwatch - here is a good site to examine the problems of Quack Physicians out there in web space. Go to: <http://quackwatch.com/>



Positions in Parasitology and other areas

Post Doctoral Scientist – Molecular Helminthology

The Laboratory of Parasitic Nematode Development at The George Washington University is seeking a post-doctoral scientist to investigate signaling pathways and gene expression in hookworm larvae during infection. Hookworms are a widespread and important global problem, infecting almost 1 billion people. Specifically, we are using the free-living nematode *C. elegans* as a paradigm for investigations of insulin-like signaling and its role in the infective process of hookworms. A Ph.D. in Biology or related areas with a strong background in molecular biology and previous experience with *C. elegans* or parasitic helminths are required. Interested applicants should send their curriculum vitae, a statement of research interests and accomplishments, and the names and contact information for 3 professional references to:

John M. Hawdon, Ph.D.
Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Tropical Medicine
The George Washington University Medical Center
Ross Hall, Room 705
2300 Eye St. NW
Washington, DC 20037
Tel. 202-994-2652
Fax. 202-994-2913
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Encyclopedia of Life (EOL)

The EOL, headquartered at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, is an unprecedented global initiative to develop an online reference



source and database for all known plant, animal and microorganismal species. It is a collaborative effort headed by a steering committee of senior officers in academia, museums, libraries and foundations.

The Species Pages Group is at the heart of the project. Its Director will have broad responsibility for conferring with taxon-oriented scientific societies, individual taxonomists, and other international projects to identify and implement strategies for preparing species pages and authenticating the information on them.

The successful applicant will have a PhD in a biological science with expertise in taxonomy. The position requires excellent interpersonal skills and experience working across national borders. A good understanding of biodiversity informatics is required, and the individual must be fluent in written and spoken English, with a working knowledge of another language a plus. The Species Pages Director will be a member of the EOL Secretariat and will be based at, and employed by, the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC.

This is a one-year temporary position, with the distinct possibility of subsequent extensions. The position is supported by grant funding and is eligible for the Smithsonian's trust benefit program.

For more information on EOL please go to www.eol.org . Questions about the EOL and the position can be addressed to James Edwards, Executive Director of the EOL, at secretariat@eol.org

The official announcement of the position is available at

<http://www.sihl.si.edu/vac/EX-08-04.pdf>
<<http://www.sihl.si.edu/vac/EX-08-04.pdf>>

To apply: e-mail your CV and a cover letter outlining your qualifications for the position to Tom Lawrence at lawrencet@si.edu. Mr. Lawrence can be reached by phone at 202-633-6319.

The Smithsonian is an Equal Opportunity Employer, and applications are encouraged from both US and non-US citizens.



Norway Job in Oslo

There is a vacant position as Associate Professor/Full Professor in Invertebrate Zoology at the Department of Zoology, Natural History Museum, University of Oslo, Norway (deadline for application May 6th). The advertised position seeks applicants experienced in Helminthology and Parasitology. The Natural History Museum (NHM), UiO, is the largest of its kind in Norway with 150 employees engaged in research, teaching and popularising the science of biology and geology.

The info on this new position can be found on UiO's webpage:

<http://www.admin.uio.no/opa/ledige-stillinger/2008/vit/assproffullprofInvertebratezoologyNHM-2008-1724.html>

Editor

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Note to Members

The ASP Newsletter welcomes news stories and articles. Please send your text electronically to Scott Gardner as an e-mail and attach as an MS Word document. Drawings, photographs, charts, or tables can be sent as B/W TIF files at 300 dpi. Please send TIF files one at a time. A general rule is to limit photograph size to 3x5". You may attach both text and graphic files to your email message.

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