

## TO MRS. LEONORA K. GLOYD ON HER 75th BIRTHDAY

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A short biography and appreciation of odonatological work of L.K. GLOYD are followed by a list of new taxa she described in the order and by her odonatological bibliography (1932-1976). Most of her work is devoted to fauna and taxonomy of the New World.

*Although purely incidental, the Editors of ODONATOLOGICA are happy that the appearance of the present issue nearly exactly coincides with the 75th birthday of Mrs. Leonora K. Gloyd, to whom it is dedicated in order to mark her significant contribution to Odonatology and, above all, to make her feel how much she is appreciated and loved by her fellow odonatologists throughout the world.*

LEONORA KATHERINE DOLL GLOYD was born on August 29, 1902 as the daughter of Sarah Katherine Randle and George Doll, on a farm about eight and a half miles southeast of Larned, Kansas. At that time her father was a wheat farmer but during the winter months taught in a country



*school. In 1905 the family moved southwest and due to the general "land fever" of those days it was not until 1909 that they settled down in the little town of Pierceville. On the farm here Leonora first became aware of beautiful blue dragonflies (probably *Enallagma*'s) on the tall sun flowers and was told by neighbours that they were devils' darning needles and would sew up her lips when she got too close. She was warned not to stay near them as they were snake doctors and snakes were sure to be nearby . . .*

*Due to all the travelling in a covered waggon little Leonora's school time had been rather disrupted, but once the family had settled down in Kirksville, Missouri, she soon caught up with her age group. In 1924 she received the degree of Bachelor of Science at the Kansas State Agricultural College (now Kansas State University) and a Master of Science with a major in vertebrate embryology and a minor in chemistry in 1925. In the same year she married a young herpetologist, HOWARD K. GLOYD, and assisted him in his work on copper heads, rattle snakes and the embryology of lizards.*

*Leonora's second introduction to dragonflies was in the summer of 1924, when she attended a course in entomology taught by Professor H.B. HUNGER-*

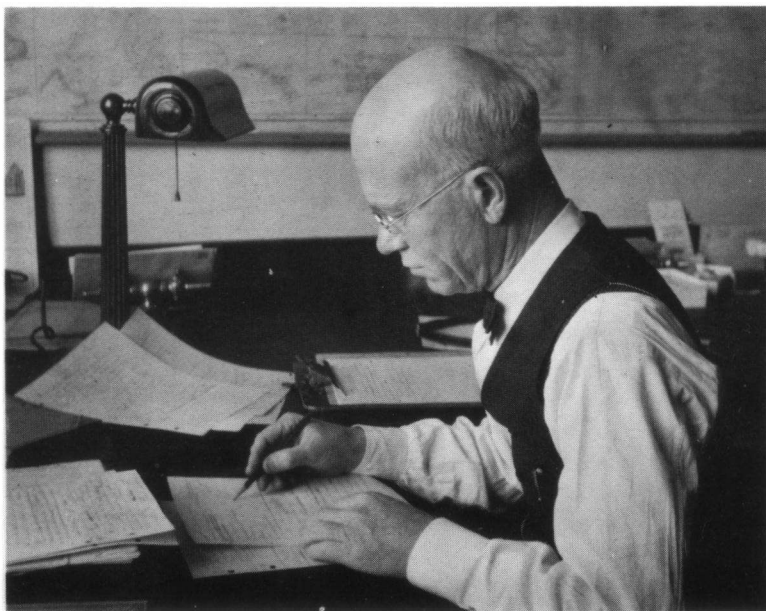


Fig. 2. Mr. E.B. Williamson (1877-1933), Mrs. L.K. Gloyd's odonatological mentor, in his office (Room 2035) at the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, while working on the manuscript of his paper, "Dragonflies collected in Missouri"; 1931. (Photo: H.K. Gloyd).



Fig. 3. At "Appletop", of Professor P.P. CALVERT's (1871-1961) home, Cheyney, Pennsylvania; September 1934. From left to right: Dr. P.P. Calvert, Mrs. L.K. Gloyd, Mrs. Amelia Smith-Calvert, Dr. H.K. Gloyd. (Photo: H.K. Gloyd).

FORD at the Biological Station of the University of Michigan. Members of the class were asked to give all specimens of Odonata to C. FRANCIS BYERS who was then writing his paper on "Odonata collected in Cheboygan and Emmet Counties" (1925, *Papers Mich. Acad. Sci. Arts and Letters* 5: 389-398), but Leonora kept samples of a few common species for her own collection.

The golden opportunity to study the Odonata came in 1929, when Mrs. Gloyd was offered the job of assistant to E.B. Williamson, who was giving his library and collection of Odonata to the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), with the understanding that both would be kept as a unit

and he would have a position there for six months of each year. Mrs. Gloyd was put to work adding references on cards in his "Specific Reference Index". This work introduced her to the classification of Odonata and scientific names. Later, when his huge collection packed in cigar boxes arrived, they soon discovered misidentifications in the museum collection, necessitating a checking of all the Odonata therein. Mrs. Gloyd sorted all *Enallagma* specimens correctly and associated all but two specimens in the museum collection with species in the Williamson collection. Mr. Williamson decided that these two specimens, taken in early spring at a lake four miles west of Ann Arbor, were of a new species. He encouraged her to try to collect more of them. Although *Enallagma vernale* was not described until 1943, Mr. Williamson was responsible for Leonora Gloyd's first paper published in 1932 and a second one in 1933, a few months after his death.

Upon his coming to the University of Michigan, Mr. Williamson hoped to persuade, and to make it possible for Dr. F. RIS and Dr. P.P. CALVERT to join him at the museum to monograph the genus *Argia*. First Dr. Calvert declined as he wished to devote all his available time to finishing his Neotropical *Aeshna* study. The deaths of Dr. RIS, in 1931, and of Mr. Williamson himself, in 1933, left this

*giant task on the shoulders of Leonora Gloyd.*

*In 1935 Mrs. Gloyd was given a grant by the Men's Senior Research Club of the University of Michigan to visit eastern museums and study types of *Argia* species. From 1936 to 1965 circumstances allowed her only little time to spend on this study. After moving to the Chicago area where Dr. H.K. Gloyd had accepted the position of Director of the Museum of Chicago Academy of Sciences, the dragonfly work was continued at home, with occasional trips back to Ann Arbor, in an effort to keep the Williamson collection and library up to date. With the arrival of a daughter, in 1939, and a son, in 1944, time devoted to Odonata was*



Fig. 4. Mrs L.K. GLOYD, in the E.B. Williamson Room, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan; December 31, 1937. (Photo: R.S. Hodges).



Fig. 5. Mrs. L.K. GLOYD (left) and Mrs. M.S. Westfall, during the excursion to the Delamere Forest, Cheshire, United Kingdom (Third International Symposium of Odonatology); July 17, 1975. (Photo: B. Kiauta).

*lessened but still adequate to finish several papers.*

*In 1947 Mrs. Gloyd obtained a half-time position as a laboratory-assistant at the Illinois State Natural History Division in Urbana and the children and she moved to Champaign. In the mean time the Williamson collection at the museum in Michigan continued to be enlarged by numerous collecting expeditions in which Leonora Gloyd took also part and she did the identifying and labelling work on approximately 25,000 newly added specimens, making a total of close to 75,000 specimens in*

*the collection. Much work was also done in cooperation with Dr. B.E. MONTGOMERY in specific reference papers.*

*In 1954 Mrs. Gloyd was again employed for two months of the summer to work on the Williamson collection and also on the Kennedy collection which had recently been acquired.*

*From December 1965 to mid 1968 she was awarded a National Science Foundation grant to support her study in Argia. Since then she has continued her studies at Michigan up to 1976. Dr. MINTER J. WESTFALL invited her to spend some months in 1970, 1976 and 1977 at the University of Florida examining the large number of specimens of Argia in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods. In the future Mrs. Gloyd expects to pursue her studies of the Odonata at the University of Michigan, the University of Florida and in her new home in Plano, Texas. Priority will be given to Argia, but she also hopes to finish several manuscripts on other subjects, especially one on Amphigrion.*

*In her earliest papers Leonora Gloyd has already shown all the qualities of a gifted taxonomist; her papers on Corduliidae (1933 a, 1933 b) are model examples of reliable and critical species description and she remained true to this field and method throughout her published opus. In connection with her taxonomic activities she spent enormous time and energy on collections and library work. Her knowledge on the subject is incredible as so many of us experienced in personal conversations. Nevertheless, Mrs. Gloyd is by no means a pure taxonomist or bibliographer. Her interest in dragonflies covers all fields of odonatology from ecology to behaviour and from the history of odonatology to dragonflies as objects of art.*

*As one of the prominent North American odonatologists she has joined the International Society of Odonatology in its earliest hours and from 1975 (3rd International Symposium, Lancaster) became one of its most enthusiastic members. The Editors of this journal and other members of the Society on many occasions found in Mrs. Gloyd more than only moral support, and for this we want to thank her here once more.*

*It is nearly half a century now since Mrs. Gloyd entered the paths of scientific odonatology. Through her meticulous and significant scientific work but also through her personal charm and good comradeship towards colleagues and young dragonfly students and admirors she gained a very unique position in the large odonatological family. It is only natural, therefore, that the International Odonatological Society appointed her a Member of Honour on the Fourth International Symposium of Odonatology (Gainesville, Florida, August 1-5, 1977). We wish her many years of good health and pleasant work and are looking forward to reading what she will have to tell us . . .*

## NEW ODONATE TAXA DESCRIBED BY MRS. L.K. GLOYD

## Protoneuridae

- Protoneura scintilla* 1939b: 1-8, pl. I, figs. 1-6, pl. II, figs. 1-5  
*P. woytowskii* 1939b: 8-17, Pl. I, figs. 7-15, pl. II, figs. 6-10, textfigs. 1-3

## Coenagrionidae

- Argia fumipennis atra* 1968b: 2-5  
*Enallagma vernale* 1943: 1-8, pl. I, figs. 1-6

## Lestidae

- Archilestes regalis* 1944b: 1-4, pl. I, figs. 1-9

## Gomphidae

- Gomphoides williamsoni* 1936: 9-11, pl. III, figs. 1-5

- Gomphus rogersi* 1936: 1-5, pl. I, figs. 1-6

- Stylurus falcatus* 1944a: 1-4, pl. I, figs. 1-6

- S. townesi* 1936: 5-9, pl. II, figs. 1-6

## Corduliidae

- Somatochlora calverti* 1933a: 1-7, pl. I, 4 (unnumbered) figs.  
*Tetragoneuria sepia* 1933b: 1-5, figs. 1-3

## Libellulidae

- Libellula gaigei* 1938a: 2-4, pl. I, figs. 1-6

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(1932 - 1976)

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 1933b. A new corduline dragonfly, *Tetragoneuria sepia*, from Florida (Odonata). *Occ. Pap. Mus. Zool. Mich.* 274: 1-5.  
 1936. Three new North American species of Gomphinae (Odonata). *Occ. Pap. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich.* 326: 1-18, pls. I-III.  
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Portrait on p. 143 dated February, 1963 (Photo: W. Zehr, Staff Photographer, Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois).