

OBITUARY

LOTHAR E. HORNUFF, Jr

A short biography of L.E. HORNUFF, Jr (born: April 9, 1928, New Orleans, Louisiana, United States; deceased: January 29, 1985, Arcadia, Oklahoma) Professor of Biology, Central State University, is followed by a list of his publications.



My dear friend, colleague and former student, **LOTHAR E. HORNUFF, Jr** died suddenly at his home in Arcadia, Oklahoma, on January 29, 1985 at the young age of 56. He was Professor of Biology at Central State University, Edmond, a long-time member of S.I.O., an enthusiastic naturalist, photographer and teacher.

Lothar was born April 9, 1928 in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he attended Tulane University, majored in Zoology and obtained the B.S. degree in 1950. I was a new assistant professor when he enrolled in basic Zoology, and he subsequently took courses with me in Invertebrate Zoology, Field Biology and Limnology. A project with me led to his first publication in 1950, a life history of

Aphylla williamsoni, whose larva impressed us with its long respiratory tube and with its burrowing in the muck of Audubon Park lagoon across the street from the University.

The U.S. involvement in the Korean conflict caused a radical change in his plans to continue aquatic research towards a master's degree. He served in Korea in the U.S. Army, ca 1951-1953, obtaining training in photographic air reconnaissance interpretation. The instruction in photography developed into a life-long interest; his favorite hobby became photographing wild flowers and scenic natural areas.

After discharge from military service, he entered graduate school, University of Oklahoma. Since I was teaching in the summer of 1954 at the Biological Station, he travelled from Louisiana to Oklahoma with the entire Bick family, first helping us to pack and, en route, to repair a tire. Ever since that summer when we

were very closely associated, my family considered Lothar a very personal friend, almost one of the family. Always jovial, he captivated our then two young daughters with silly jokes and games such as who will be the pink hippopotamus. They loved him. At the Biological Station he was often the "life of the party" in the skits presented on entertainment nights. Our relationship in Oklahoma continued for many subsequent summers.

His Master's degree in 1957 was based on a biological and chemical survey of Oklahoma streams. During this study and a brief employment with the Oklahoma Fish and Game Commission, he collected numerous odonates and was responsible for many records in my Odonata of Oklahoma.

Work on his doctorate was interrupted by teaching, first at Southeastern State College, Durant, Oklahoma, and then at Central State University. The PhD from the University of Oklahoma was awarded in 1968 for an often overlooked thesis on functional morphology of the genitalia of Zygoptera. This research predated more detailed investigations which soon followed, but his was one of the earliest descriptions of function of the genitalia in sperm translocation and copulation. He remained at Central State University until his death, teaching Entomology, Invertebrate Zoology, Basic Biology. He was an enthusiastic teacher; his special delight was Entomology to which he devoted much time, writing laboratory exercises and designing practical laboratory tests to assure himself that the students really were seeing the key characteristics.

The summer of 1965 was spent in my home in Indiana. His hours of marking, photographing and timing reproductive events in *Lestes unguiculatus*, *Enallagma exsulans*, *E. aspersum* resulted in two publications. He delighted in travelling to scenic natural areas of the U.S., and with him many enjoyable summers were spent camping in State and National parks and at biological stations. He was proud to have visited every national park at least twice and all four extreme corners of conterminous U.S. Everywhere, we collected odonates and photographed wild flowers and scenery. These summer travels resulted in coauthored papers on zygopteran behavior and state distribution records.



Fig. 2. With George and Juanda Bick: Big Spring Shelter, Appalachian Trail, North Carolina, July 15, 1975. (Photo L.E. Hornuff)

He was a long-time member of S.I.O. but did not attend many meetings. This was because of conflict with his teaching duties. He did want to attend the Calgary Symposium but wrote that he could not be there because he would have to miss a full week of classes, and requested that I try to get a modification of the meeting dates. He participated in the 1977 Gainesville Symposium and the first meeting of North American Odonata Collectors at Binghamton, New York, in 1982. Using his almost vicious backstroke with his surprisingly small net, he made some good captures although slowed down by a badly sprained ankle. Lothar was on his way to the second biennial collecting trip in Florence, Alabama, but missed it because of automobile trouble. In an extraordinary coincidence, we met accidentally on the highway just north of Florence as he was proceeding to the north woods of Wisconsin and Minnesota. That was our last meeting. But we spoke on the telephone about two weeks before he died. Announcing that retirement would be earlier than expected because of credit for military service, he was already planning to see new wild areas in the U.S. and to finally visit Canada. His last remembered remark was, "perhaps we can get together again to visit Big Bend National Park".

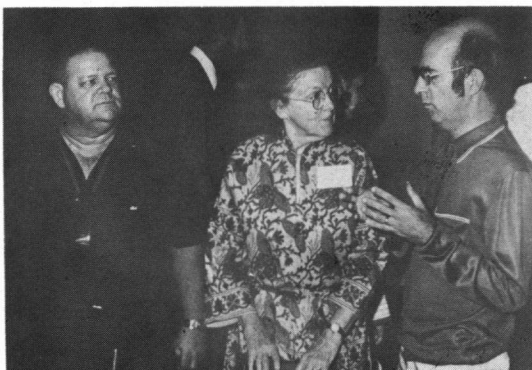


Fig. 3. A break during the sessions of the Fourth International Symposium of Odonatology (Gainesville, Florida, August 1-5, 1977), in conversation with (Mrs) Dr Alice Ferguson Beatty and Professor Angelo B.M. Machado. (Photo S.I.O. Archives)

Lothar had no immediate relatives. The cause of death was cardiac insufficiency. Arrangements were made by a cousin and by colleagues at Central State University. A memorial service was held February 1, in Edmond, Oklahoma, and burial was in New Orleans. His library and color slides are retained by Central State University. His odonate collection will be donated by that University to the Florida State Collection of Arthropods.

ODONATOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF Dr L.E. HORNUFF, Jr

- 1950 A further study of *Aphylla williamsoni* Gloyd. *Proc. Louis. Acad. Sci.* 24: 39-44.
 1953 (BICK, G.H., — & E.N. LAMBREMONT). An ecological reconnaissance of a naturally acid stream in southern Louisiana. *J. Tenn. Acad. Sci.* 28: 221-231.

- 1957 A survey of four Oklahoma streams with relation to productivity. *Rep. Okla. Fish Res. Lab.* 62: 1-24.
- 1965 (BICK, G.H. & —). Behavior of the damselfly, *Lestes unguiculatus* Hagen (Odonata: Lestidae). *Proc. Indiana Acad. Sci.* 75: 110-115.
- 1966 (BICK, G.H. & —). Reproductive behavior in the damselflies *Enallagma aspersum* (Hagen) and *Enallagma exulans* (Hagen) (Odonata: Coenagriidae). *Proc. ent. Soc. Wash.* 68: 78-85.
- 1968 *Functional morphology of the external genitalia of Nearctic damselflies (Odonata, Zygoptera)*. PhD thesis, Univ. Oklahoma.
- 1971 (BICK, G.H. & —). Survey of the Odonata of Wyoming with emphasis on their altitudinal distribution. *Rep. Jackson Hole Biol. Res. Stn* 1978: 11-13.
- 1972 (BICK, G.H. & —). Odonata collected in Wyoming, South Dakota, and Nebraska. *Proc. ent. Soc. Wash.* 74: 1-8.
- 1974 (BICK, G.H. & —). New records of Odonata from Montana and Colorado. *Proc. ent. Soc. Wash.* 76: 90-93.
- 1976 (BICK, G.H., J.C. BICK & —). Behavior of *Chromagrion conditum* (Hagen) adults (Zygoptera: Coenagrionidae). *Odonatologica* 5: 129-141.
- 1977 (BICK, G.H., J.C. BICK & —). An annotated list of the Odonata of the Dakotas. *Fla Ent.* 60: 149-165.
- 1979 To dr George H. Bick on his 65th birthday. *Odonatologica* 8: 155-158.

Portrait on p. 257 dated August 1977 (Photo S.I.O. Archives)

1928 SW 48th Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32608, United States.

G.H. BICK