I.O.R.I. TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

The IORI took the on-ramp to the "information super highway" two years ago when it launched its web site. This site, located at http://www.afn.org/ -iori/ is recognized as the best general Odonata web site in the world, with links to and from many countries. It was set up at no cost to the IORI by Bill M a u f f r a y who negotiated for free web space and access from the Alachua Freenet in Gainesville, Florida. It is updated at least twice a month, mostly with new links and e-mail addresses.

After unsuccessfully trying to obtain a computer by donation, I have purchased a computer system for the IORI to be placed in the office at Gainesville, Florida. The sales of books and specimen envelopes have provided a surplus of funds for 1996. This surplus has provided the funds for the purchase of a Pentium 133 with 32 MB ram/ 33.6 modem, 3GB hard drive plus many other features.

Additionally I have hired a part time assistant who has data entry, and curative experience. This assistant, Michelle F a n o l i a is currently an employee of the Florida State Collection of Arthropods (FSCA).

Michelle will be setting up an Odonata Bibliography on the new computer system. The bibliography will be linked in with other FSCA entomological bibliographies within the FSCA building network, set up with financial assistance from an NSF grant. In 1997, a direct connection between the FSCA's Doyle Conner Building and the Florida Museum of Natural History will give the IORI a chance to have a direct connection to the internet. At that time the bibliography and the Odonata database will be available to everyone by way of the web.

Another service to be launched, as soon as I can find a new server, will be the ODONATE-I news discussion group on the internet.

I hope to showcase the new electronic features of the IORI at the DSA meeting this summer.

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