

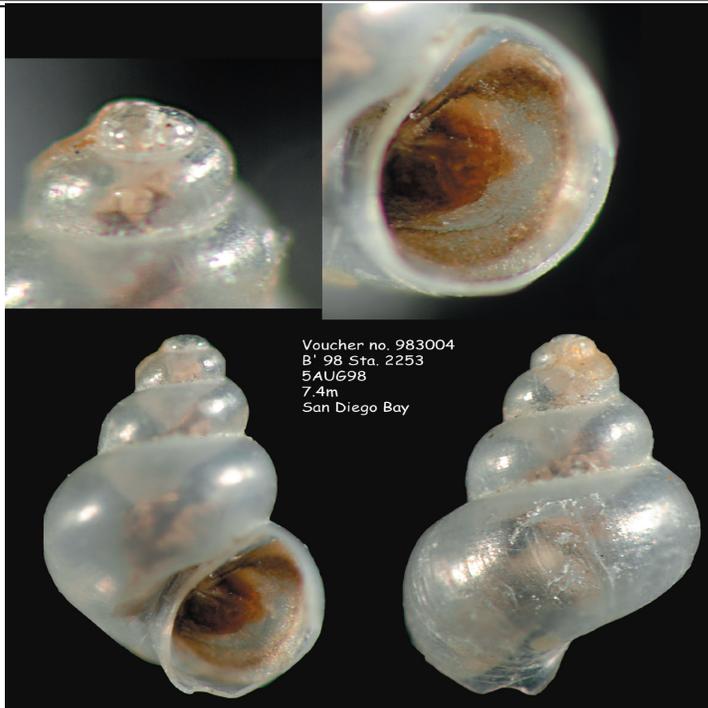
SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF
MARINE
INVERTEBRATE
TAXONOMISTS



March/April, 2007

SCAMIT Newsletter

Vol. 25, No. 6



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The SCAMIT newsletter is not deemed to be a valid publication for formal taxonomic purposes.

MARCH 12, 2007

The meeting was held at the Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD) marine biology lab. President Kelvin Barwick started off by announcing upcoming SCAMIT meetings. The next several meetings will deal with reviewing taxa for Edition 5 of the SCAMIT Species List.

On March 26th at the San Diego lab, mollusca and echinoderms will be reviewed. On April 9th at LACSD, crustacea will be reviewed. On April 23rd in San Diego, miscellaneous phyla will be reviewed. It was determined at the end of the present meeting that we will need another day to work on polychaetes, so the date of May 7th was chosen. This meeting will be held at LACMNH. Another meeting, on May 21st in San Diego, will be used to follow-up on non-polychaete groups.

Cheryl Brantley had some information regarding the Southwest Association of Freshwater Invertebrate Taxonomists

(SAFIT). Cheryl had been conducting e-mail correspondence with the organization, and they are interested in patterning their organization after SCAMIT. They have already based some of their work after SCAMIT. In addition, some of their members are SCAMIT members. It was suggested that both organizations have a joint meeting where we could meet and exchange information and ideas. Cheryl offered to post some information about SAFIT on SCAMIT's new Google website. Larry Lovell has also spoken to SAFIT about their organization. They are receiving some funding from the State Water Board. SCAMIT may want to consider having a link on the State Water Board site also.

Kelvin then explained the process of joining the Google SCAMIT site and encouraged members to accept their invitations that were e-mailed to them. He listed some of the features of this site, and there was a discussion on the issue of copyright of images that would potentially be posted there. Rick Rowe has already developed an annelid publication site on the Google site for members to post new annelid citations.

Next Ron Velarde announced an upcoming conference: The Channel Island Symposium will be held in February 2008 in Oxnard, California.

Larry brought to our attention an article by SCAMIT members Kelvin Barwick and Tim Stebbins in the March 8, 2007 issue of *The Festivus* titled "Observations of brooding in two species of *Saxicavella* Fischer, 1978 (Bivalvia, Hiatellidae, Saxicavellinae) from southern California."

Larry passed along some information about the Bight '03 provisional species list from his communications with Ananda Ranasinghe from SCCWRP. Ananda has been in communication with Kathy Welsh from WEMAP, and she is in the process of incorporating our provisionals into their database. We have been requested to gather our documentation on our provisional species to pass on to Kathy. Cheryl offered to send out a list of Bight '03 provisionals so we each can see what documentation we are responsible for. Ananda requested that provisional species

UPCOMING MEETINGS

1-2 Nov - SAFIT/SCAMIT meeting on hydrobids with Dr. Robert Hershler (NMNH) followed by an executive meeting with SAFIT. The meeting will be hosted by Weston Solutions, Inc., 2433 Impala Drive, Carlsbad, CA 92010. Please contact Sheila Holt for more information: 760-795-6914.

Dec 13 - Katja Selmann will be giving a presentation on MorphBank. The meeting will be hosted by the City of San Diego Marine Lab. Please contact Rick Rowe (CSD) for more information: rowepolyid@gmail.com



documentation for the next Bight project be posted on the SCAMIT website and/or newsletter right away, when the animals are first encountered.

Recently, Don Cadien was contacted by Ann Dalkey regarding a fund to support young taxonomists at Cal State Long Beach. The fund will be in honor of Don Reish. Attendees agreed this is a worthwhile idea, and the officers will need to discuss what SCAMIT's involvement will be.

Don Cadien announced there is a new employee in their lab at LACSD named Chase McDonald. He transferred from another lab and will be trained to take over Shelly Walther's work. In addition to other duties, he'll be trained in the taxonomy of cnidaria and nemertea.

Don proceeded to discuss some views and ideas he has for the 5th edition of the SCAMIT Species List. One of the files sent out before the meeting included his modified hierarchy, on which he would like feedback. Don consulted the book "Assembling the Tree of Life" in constructing the new hierarchy, as well as a series of cladistic analyses based on both morphological and molecular data.

Additional comments from Don regarding the 5th edition are as follows: Each edition covers new ground. We are expanding the range to 2-1000m due to the inclusion of the Bight '03 data. The coverage area is still within the Southern California Bight. We will again include data from the Channel Islands in this edition. Agencies are now required to engage in special research studies such as the 0.3mm screen size study at the City of San Diego. Don feels these results should also be included. He distributed some files via e-mail and asked people to look them over and send their comments to him. The question was asked: should consulting work (e.g. non-monitoring work) data be included in the list, if it meets the criteria of being within the geographical area and depth range of 2-1000m? Standardization is the most important consideration. Documentation on newly reported species and provisional species would have to be appropriately distributed to other taxonomists in the form of voucher sheets, etc. There is no general consideration which would exclude such non-monitoring taxa. After some discussion it was agreed that inclusion of materials from non-POTW monitoring or regional monitoring efforts would be of value, and should be allowed. We will expand the allowable sources covered in the introduction to Edition 5 to permit inclusion of such non-monitoring records. Prior to addition of such taxa, however, two criteria must be met: 1) the records must come from within the bathymetric and geographical coverage boundaries, and 2) a SCAMIT member taxonomist or SCAMIT associated taxonomist must generate or review the identification. Literature based additions are not supported; either actual specimens or photographs of actual specimens must be examined to verify the identity prior to inclusion.

The next question was "would tables or keys be sufficient documentation to include new species from non-monitoring work?" It was agreed that a species must be recorded to be included, so species that perhaps were just discussed at SCAMIT meetings would not be included. In the case of recording a described species that has not been encountered before, Don suggested writing a "newly encountered species note" for the newsletter. Images and literature should be included where available. The information must be distributed to other taxonomists. The person who finds the specimen is responsible for submitting a note to the newsletter, or taking other steps to ensure others in the region will be able to recognize the taxon, and use the name recorded in a standardized fashion.

Provisional species can be included in Edition 5 only if documentation has been distributed to



other taxonomists. The documentation can be in the form of a voucher sheet, identification sheet, or character table. The species does not have to be “SCAMITized” in order to be included in Edition 5, but it MUST be regionally standardized in some fashion, with sufficient information distributed to allow it to be distinguished from other species known from the region.

Don made a case for including sub-families in the hierarchy for Edition 5. Those present at the meeting agreed.

Leslie commented that she would like to see a “regional clearing house” where we could share taxonomic information. It was quickly suggested to try this idea on the new Google SCAMIT website. A table format would most easily lend itself to the information we would like to include such as person, location, species names, date, and the most important taxonomic characters. We discussed some ideas of how the table format would work and it was agreed that we should give it a try. Leslie volunteered to share some of her Excel tables and put them on the website.

We then started our main work for the day, reviewing polychaetes for Edition 5. We addressed each species, line by line, of Larry’s list which he had e-mailed to us previously. We made very good progress but needed to schedule another meeting to finish the job. This meeting is scheduled for May 7th at LACM in Leslie’s trailer.

- K. Langan, CSD

26 MARCH 2007

The Echinoderm/Mollusk portion of the Ed 5 review meetings was held at the City of San Diego Lab. It was at this meeting that Kelvin Barwick, our then President and fearless leader, announced he was leaving the City of San Diego for a job with the City of San Francisco. Due to his more northern location, he felt it was best if he stepped down as SCAMIT President. He nominated member Larry Lovell for this position on the ballot and was “seconded” by Don Cadien.

It was brought to our attention that member Christina Thomas (OCSA) had published an article in *The Festivus* titled, “A Trawl-Caught Pen Shell, *Atrina oldroydi* Dall, 1901, Collected by the Orange County Sanitation District”. Please see the March 8, 2007 issue of *The Festivus*.

Don Cadien then made introductory remarks regarding Ed 5 of the Taxonomic Listing. His remarks were very similar to the ones outlined above in the minutes from the March 12th meeting. He is trying to keep all of us on the same page with regards to changes we can expect to see. With that we moved onto reviewing the echinoderm and mollusk species listed in Ed 4 and discussed any changes or additions that needed to be made for Ed. 5. I will not repeat all of them here, line by line, suffice it to say, there will be some changes when the new edition is published.

23 APRIL 2007

The second April meeting was the Miscellaneous Phyla Review in the Edition 4 Emends series. The meeting was opened by Kelvin Barwick who had a few announcements. He reviewed upcoming meetings and then proceeded to remind us that many items on the SCAMIT website are now password protected so that only members in good standing can access the most recent volume of newsletters and the most recent edition of the Taxonomic Listing. He also again reviewed the concept and function of the SCAMIT Google Groups.

Tony Phillips (CLAEMD) announced that he was having a problem identifying what might potentially be *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*, the New Zealand mud snail, in some of his consulting



samples. He worries that this snail and the local *Tryonia* could potentially be confused. This problem will be brought to Dr. Hershler at the 2 day workshop with SAFIT in November of this year.

Speaking of problematic mollusk identifications and *Tryonia*... Kelvin Barwick showed a slide of an animal identified as *Rissoella* sp for the moment. However, he was concerned that it could possibly be *Tryonia* which is a native, brackish water species. This animal has very specific and restrictive habitat requirements and currently habitat loss is a concern for this species. Therefore, it is important that it be properly identified when encountered. No one at the meeting felt comfortable identifying the animal on the slide. It was decided the specimen should be shown to Dr. Hershler. Kelvin has subsequently sent the specimen to Dr. Hershler who confirmed the ID as *Tryonia imitator* (Pilsbry, 1899). Please see the cover photo to view this specimen.

After that we started our review of the Miscellaneous Phyla species listed in Ed. 4 of the Taxonomic Listing. We were not able to finish in one day and it was decided that we could finish up any loose ends at the May 21 meeting.

MARINE INVERTEBRATES CLASS

Would you please announce to the SCAMIT members and also put it in the next newsletter that Tom Gerlinger and I will be teaching identification of marine invertebrates spring 2008 semester on Saturdays (7hrs). The class is being offered through Ocean Studies and also through CSULB extension. Students who are currently attending any of the state universities in SoCA will enroll through ocean Studies; other students will enroll through CSULB extension. An interested person can contact me via email (DJReish@aol.com) or by phone (562) 431-7064.

Thanks,
Don Reish

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Principal Scientist Job Announcement for Clean Ocean Action

The principal scientist is the primary science expert on marine pollution issues for Clean Ocean Action (COA), a non-profit marine advocacy coalition. The Principal Scientist works closely with COA's Executive Director, attorneys, and policy directors. The Principle Scientist will oversee the scientific aspects of COA's programs. For information about COA, please visit www.CleanOceanAction.org.

Primary Responsibilities: in consultation with COA's Executive Director,

- help shape regional and national ocean protection policies
- plan the direction of the science programs
- investigate and evaluate proposals, regulations, projects, and issues, and prepare comments to reduce pollution sources
- track and assess scientific and technical aspects of water quality policies and pollution permits at regional and state levels to reduce pollution impacts
- prepare policy/technical reports and comments on water quality issues
- advocate through both written comments and oral testimony for sound science and strong regulatory policy before regulatory agencies
- communicate and coordinate technical and policy issues with a diversity of people including



policy, legal, coalition members, media, students, and citizens

- develop, organize, and facilitate workshops and meetings as needed
- represent COA at local, regional, and national levels and attend scientific meetings
- write position papers, press communications, and scientific content for website, newsletters, and public outreach materials
- cultivate relationships with scientists and policy experts at non-governmental organizations, regulatory agencies, and educational institutions to review topics and develop positions
- train and advise interns in marine science/public policy.

In addition when necessary:

- Conduct public presentations on issues
- Write newsletter articles and keep website updated on science related matters
- Provide citizens with information
- Assist in outreach on water quality topics
- Assist with grants proposals
- Time allowing, publishing in technical journals and presenting at conferences are encouraged

Position Qualifications:

- Advanced degree in marine biology, environmental chemistry, toxicology, or related environmental sciences field (post-doctorate preferred)
- Strong technical and scientific background in water quality
- Excellent interpersonal communication, public speaking, and writing skills
- Good judgment and ability to successfully manage multiple deadlines
- Strong decision-making experience with interest in taking a leadership role in a collaborative, visionary, and highly effective organization. Advocacy experience a plus
- Commitment to science, precautionary principle, and facts a must
- Flexibility and good sense of humor with a passion for Clean Ocean Action's mission to protect the marine environment

SALARY: Very competitive salary with 100% employer paid health and dental insurance in addition to other employee benefits.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: Clean Ocean Action (COA) is based at Sandy Hook, NJ, a national recreation area; a beautiful largely undeveloped coastal ecosystem including wetlands, forest, and 15 miles of beaches; located within 15 miles of Manhattan. COA is a team of ten dedicated ocean advocates who work together in a century old building. The pace is hectic, the work rewarding, and the results priceless.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: December 1, 2007 or until position is filled.

HOW TO APPLY: Submit a cover letter, resume, short writing sample, at least three references with affiliations and contact info, and salary expectations, by email to business@cleanoceanaction.org. E-mail inquiries only, please.

VOUCHER SHEET

Polychaete enthusiasts, please see Rick Rowe's voucher sheet on *Clymenella* sp SD 1. It is attached at the end of this newsletter.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Barwick, Kelvin and Timothy Stebbins. 2007. Observations of brooding in two species of *Saxicavella* Fischer, 1978 (Bivalvia, Hiatellidae, Saxicavellinae) from southern California. *The Festivus* Vol. 39(3): 25-27.
- Cracraft, Joel and Michael J. Donoghue. 2004. *Assembling the Tree of Life*. Oxford University Press, Inc. New York, New York. 576 pages.
- Thomas, Christina. 2007. A Trawl-Caught Pen Shell, *Atrina oldroydi* Dall, 1901, Collected by the Orange County Sanitation District. *The Festivus* Vol. 39(3): 29-30.



Please visit the SCAMIT Website at: www.scamit.org

SCAMIT OFFICERS

If you need any other information concerning SCAMIT please feel free to contact any of the officers at their e-mail addresses:

President	Larry Lovell (310)830-2400X5613	llovell@lacsd.org
Vice-President	Leslie Harris (213)763-3234	lharris@nhm.org
Secretary	Megan Lilly (619)758-2336	mlilly@sandiego.gov
Treasurer	Cheryl Brantley (310)830-2400x5605	cbrantley@lacsd.org

Hard copy back issues of the newsletter are available. Prices are as follows:

Volumes 1 - 4 (compilation).....	\$ 30.00
Volumes 5 - 7 (compilation).....	\$ 15.00
Volumes 8 - 15	\$ 20.00/vol.

Single back issues are also available at cost.

The SCAMIT newsletter is published every two months and is distributed freely to members in good standing. Membership is \$15 for an electronic copy of the newsletter, available via the web site at www.scamit.org, and \$30 to receive a printed copy via USPS. Institutional membership, which includes a mailed printed copy, is \$60. All new members receive a printed copy of the most current edition of "A Taxonomic Listing of Soft Bottom Macro- and Megainvertebrates ... in the Southern California Bight." The current edition, the fourth, contains 2,067 species with partial synonyms. All correspondences can be sent to the Secretary at the email address above or to:

SCAMIT

C/O The Natural History Museum, Invertebrate Zoology

attn: Leslie Harris

900 Exposition Boulevard

Los Angeles, California, 90007

Provisional Name: ***Clymenella* sp SD1**Taxon: **Maldanidae**Taxonomist: **R. Rowe**Authority: **fide Rowe 2006**

Common Synonyms:

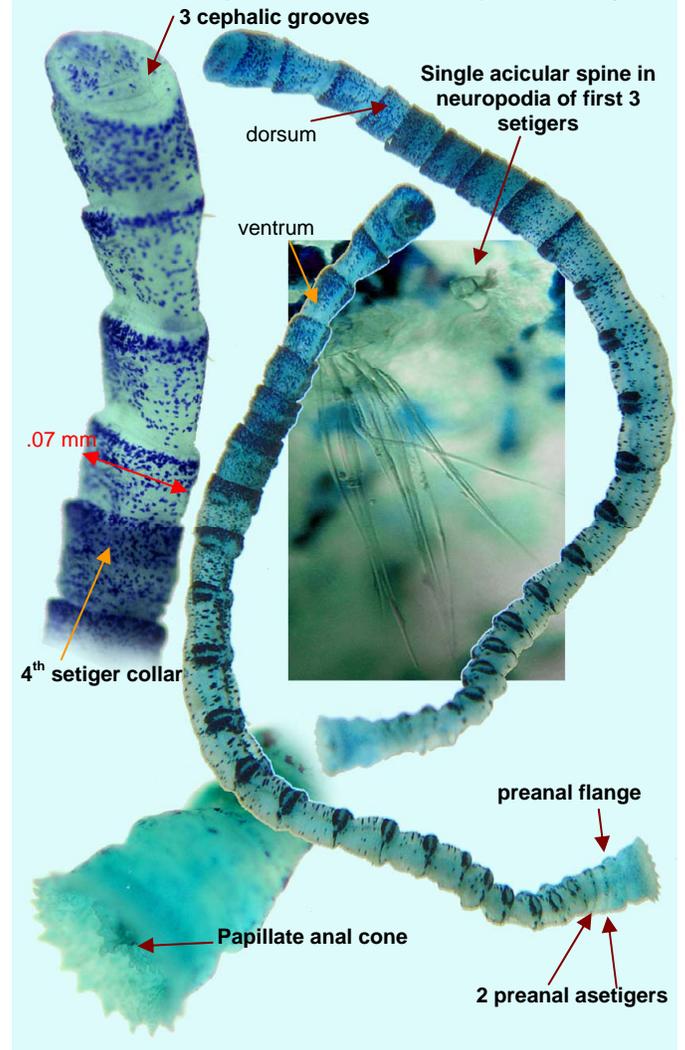
Date: **28 March 2006**

Specimen(s):	AGENCY	SURVEY	STATION	DATE	DEPTH	STORAGE VIAL #
"Original specimen"	City of San Diego	SBOO	I-21_r2	060206	41m	RCRpersColl 2161

Characters: (based on single entire "original specimen" / ~22 mm total length and 0.7mm max. width at ant of 4th setiger)

- Cephalic plaque/ 22 setigers +2 preanal asetigers + prepygidial flange / anal plaque
- Three transverse cephalic grooves / first straight and across 2/3rds of cephalic plaque width / second curved and reaching across nearly entire cephalic width / third curved and along dorsoposterior cephalic plaque margin
- Very low cephalic marginal flange with rounded posterior margin and no lateral or posterior incisions
- Palpode broadly rounded and only slightly protruding beyond the edge of the cephalic rim
- Nuchal grooves linear and along lateral margins of palpode / most widely separated at the rim / extend through approximately 1/3rd the length of the cephalic plaque
- Well formed collar on the anterior of setiger 4 (not simply a contracted telescoped fold)
- Each fascicle of the first three setigers with single acicular neuropodial spine accompanying 8-10 notopodial bilimbate capillaries
- The acicular spines have a reduced rostrate terminus – see comments*
- Pygidial plaque with approx. 20 triangular marginal papillae (all subequal in length)
- Anal cone central and covered with many small papillae
- Note the speckled and banding pattern produced by methyl green stain on the various views of the single, "original specimen" illustrated to the right

Illustrations: ("original" specimen" methyl green stained)



Related Species & Other Comments:

Clymenella californica Blake & Kudenov 1974- has no transverse cephalic grooves, relatively high marginal cephalic flange which tapers posteriorly, and a single, preanal asetiger. (Taxon described from Tomales Bay, California, but not included on SCAMITed4)

Clymenella complanata Hartman 1969- has a single transverse cephalic groove, low to no marginal cephalic flange which is rounded posteriorly, and 3 preanal asetigers + preanal flange (Taxon included on the SCAMITed4 list)

***Clymenella* sp A** fide Harris 1985- has 2 transverse cephalic grooves, very low marginal cephalic flange which is rounded posteriorly, and 2 preanal asetigers + preanal flange (Taxon included on the SCAMITed4 list)

In 1985 Leslie Harris issued comments about the doubtful generic placement of *C. complanata* and *C. sp A* (they may belong in *Isocirrus*) and distributed a character table for California reported species of *Clymenella* and *Isocirrus*.

*Spines are considered acicular in Maldanidae when the rostrate terminal structure is less developed (fewer dentitions) than neurosetae on median and posterior thoracic setigers. Often juvenile specimens in some genera will have reduced rostrate spines while the adults have unornamented simple aciculae on anterior setigers. The reduced rostrate spines can possess a beard, the large primary tooth, and some smaller terminal secondary teeth and still be considered acicular. Reduced rostrate spines are present in the "original specimen" of *Clymenella*

References:

Harris, L. 1985. "*Clymenella*" sp A (comments and character table). SCAMIT Newsletter vol. 16 no. 8.

Blake, J. A. & J. D. Kudenov. 1974. A new species of *Clymenella* from Tomales Bay, California. Bull. So. Calif. Acad. Sci. vol. 73 (pp. 48-50),

SCAMIT Treasury Summary 2006 – 2007

The treasurer's report is overdue and I apologize. I always like to keep members informed of just where their membership dues go and this report should have been produced a few months ago. However, the figures below represent our current balances as of 9/19/2007 and our expenses to date since our newsletter is a little behind. SCAMIT is still spending almost twice as much for printing and mailing newsletters to hardcopy members as electronic members. We greatly appreciate the extra membership dues our hardcopy members pay to help us make up that difference. SCAMIT also awarded a publication grant this year and gave a few travel stipends to guest lecturers. We also spent a little to treat members to a holiday luncheon, which we are planning again for this December.

Account Balances (as of 9/19/07)

Checking	\$ 4,086.11
Certificate of Deposit	\$12,625.01
Cash	<u>\$ 26.77</u>
Total	\$16,737.89

Income

2007 Membership dues	\$ 2,069.65
Interest from CD	<u>\$ 441.65</u>
Total	\$2,511.30

Expenses

Electronic newsletter (website/domain name)	\$ 310.39
Hardcopy newsletter (printing/postage)	\$ 603.82
Publication grant	\$3,000.00
Travel stipends	\$ 350.80
Holiday luncheon	\$ 309.23
Total	\$4,574.24