

IAWA Newsletter - February 2022

Future Meeting

The 2022 World Wood Day Online Symposium and the Fourth IUFRO Forest Products Culture Colloquium, 21-22 March 2022

The 2022 World Wood Day online symposium will be held on 21-22, March. The theme of this meeting is Trees and Non-Wood Forest Products: Challenges, Opportunities, and Sustainability. The updated webpage of the symposium is now available. This symposium is co-organized by the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), IAWA, IAWS, and IUFRO. Dr. Gerald Koch of Thunen Institute of Wood Research is invited to give a speech titled "Wood anatomy - from tradition into the digital future" in the IAWS Special Session of Wood Products and Wood Biotechnology.

Please visit: http://www.worldwoodday.org/2022/regions event/39

Charlotte CH Lee, International Wood Culture Society Gerald Koch, Germany

IAWA Session of European Geosciences Union (EGU), 3-8 April 2022

The EGU (European Geosciences Union) session BG3.16 - Trait-based approach to assess plant species vulnerability to environmental changes in agriculture, forestry, and natural ecosystems will be organized at the upcoming EGU2022, 3-8 April 2022. This session aims at promoting a lively discussion on the role of functional traits as indicators and proxies of plant status and post-disturbance resilience. Indeed, a multidisciplinary effort is needed to unravel plant acclimation and adaptation strategies and upscale gained information to evaluate implications for the productivity of croplands, forests, and natural ecosystems. For more details, please visit:

https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU22/session/42362

Veronica De Micco, Angelo Rita, Jesus Julio Camarero and Leo Marcelis, Italy

From Forests to Heritage in Amsterdam, 19-21 April 2022

An on-site international meeting will be held in Amsterdam from 19-21 April 2022, entitled "From Forests to Heritage", and dedicated to the processing of wood in the past for the production of furniture, works of art, buildings, ships, and other timber structures. Contributions will be interdisciplinary and cover the fields of dendrochronology, wood science, art and building history, archeology, and museology. Registration closes on 4 March. Closer to the conference date, a link will be provided to visualise the conference through live-streaming or other digital means. Please consult the website: https://event.forests2heritage.nl/

Pieter Baas, the Netherlands

Side Event on Xylarium Networking and Wood Identification, the XV World Forestry Congress, Seoul, May 3 2022

A side event titled "Promoting legal Timber Trade through Developing Xylarium Networking and Integrated Wood Identification System" will be organized during the XV World Forestry Congress (WFC) held in Seoul, South Korea, May 2-4, 2022. In this session, both challenges and opportunities for setting up a networking of wood collection and developing a wood identification system to support international legal timber trade will be discussed. The session will be organized at 6.30 pm-8:00 pm (UTC+9:00), May 3, 2022, at the venue of COEX of South Korea in a Hybrid way of virtual and factual meeting. For more information, please contact Dyah Ayu at dyahayuagust91@gmail.com

Ratih Damayanti, Indonesia

The 4th World Teak Conference in Ghana, 5-8 September 2022

The Organizers of the 4th World Teak Conference (TEAKNET, IUFRO DIV5.06.02, ITTO, and FAO) have now announced the new date for the 4th WTC which is to be held from 5-8 September 2022, Accra, Ghana. Because of the pandemic, the conference will be held adhering to the COVID-19 protocols. The Abstract submission platform for papers and posters will be re-opened from 01 January to 28 February 2022. For more details please visit the conference webpage:

https://www.worldteakconference2020.com/

P. K. Thulasidas, India

Obituaries

In Memoriam Emma E. van Nieuwkoop

Emma van Nieuwkoop (for friends Emmy) passed away at her home in Oegstgeest on 12 January 2022 at the age of 88. Emma's role in the IAWA started in 1977 when the IAWA Office had moved from Syracuse, NY to Leiden, and the IAWA Bulletin had to be produced in-house in the Rijksherbarium, the new hosting institution. Emma, a high-level secretary of the institute accepted the challenge and developed text and lay-out editing into a fine art in the 43 years she produced firstly the IAWA Bulletin, then its new Series, and from 1991 onwards the renamed IAWA Journal. In the process, she mastered the quickly evolving techniques from composer typing with text stored on magnetic cards to sophisticated computer software layout packages. In 2019, her last year as desk editor she produced the Jubilee Volume 40 of 882 pages, including three beautifully executed special issues on wood formation, fossil woods, and cell wall ultrastructure. For many years she also served as a financial administrator and membership secretary of our Association. In that role, she was enormously helpful to many members, especially those who experienced problems with international money transfers. She made many long-distance friends in our IAWA family. Her great services to the IAWA were recognised in 2005 when the IAWA Council elected her an Honorary Member. A well-deserved honour was awarded during the IAWA Social Hour at the XVII International Botanical Congress in Vienna. All her work for IAWA and its members was truly a labour of love. We will miss her very much.

Pieter Baas, the Netherlands



Photo of Emmy (from left to right the third)

Taken by Frederic Lens during a 2019 meeting in Leiden, the Netherlands

In Memoriam Dr. Sherwin Carlquist



The IAWA mourns the recent loss of Dr. Sherwin Carlquist, age 91, one of the largest exponents in Plant Anatomy and arguably the greatest wood anatomist of our times. Sherwin Carlquist has revolutionized botany by studying the interactions of wood anatomy, ecology, developmental and evolutionary biology. His numerous books and over 200 articles leave us a legacy that will never be overlooked and will still trigger new, innovative studies in our field for many years to come.

Pieter Baas, the Netherlands

In Memoriam William Louis Stern (1926 – 2021)

William Louis (Bill) Stern passed away on 1st November at the age of 95. Bill had a long and illustrious career as a botanist. He was a life member of IAWA. From 1951 to around 1982 his focus was on wood anatomy and then his attentions moved on to orchids, culminating in volume 10 of the Anatomy of the Monocotyledons: Orchidaceae in 2014. Bill's last major wood publication was the incredibly useful Index Xylariorum III (IX3) in 1988, of which he had published the first version in 1957. There's a photo in IAWA Bulletin 9(4): 394 of him receiving the first printed copy of IX3 from Pieter Baas in Madison in October 1988. Peter first met Bill at Kew and inherited the task of compiling the next version IX4, quickly

realising just how big a task this was, especially since Bill hadn't had the benefits of email! The latest iteration of IX4 can be found on both the IAWA and GTTN websites. Thirty-three years since IX3 younger wood anatomists may not realise just how influential Bill has been in the wood science world. After spending 1944-46 in the US Naval Reserve he went to Rutgers University where he gained his BS in 1950 and then the University of Illinois for his MS in 1951 and PhD in botany in 1954. From 1953 to 1960 he was instructor and curator and then professor of wood anatomy at Yale University School of Forestry and then moved to the Division of Woods in the Department of Botany at the Smithsonian Institution until 1967 when he became Professor of Botany at the University of Maryland until 1979. The Yale wood collection is now at the USDA Forest Service Forest Products Lab in Madison under the acronym SJRw, in honour of its founder Samuel J. Record.

Regis, one of Bill's students recalls "In 1969 Bill and his wife Flory took me to Yale to get sectioning blocks of Flacourtiaceae for my thesis. When we arrived, the Yale collection was in a room where the graduate students had pushed cabinets and tables up against the SJRw cabinets so that we could not get to the drawers to find the specimens I needed. The Yale collection was arranged by number so we had to dig into many drawers to find the specimens. Bill was so mad when he saw this mess that after getting my specimens he sent a scathing message to the head guy at Yale. Wish I had a copy of the letter but I did read it before he put it in an envelope and slid it under the office door. I think it was a Saturday or Sunday so no one was around. That began the process of Yale trying to SELL the collection. Eventually, FPL BOUGHT the collection by giving Yale some sort of FS grant (perhaps \$30,000) to do more or less whatever they wanted."

Lee, another of Bill's students remembers him as "a wonderful professor, mentor, and friend. He could be so stern (in fact) and serious in demeanour, but at the same time, had such an upbeat attitude, along with a nutty/goofy laugh when he was tickled about something. He was definitely a true scholar. It was my privilege also to work closely with Bill on the cataloguing and curation of the wood collection at the University of Florida Herbarium (FLASw). That collection originated with a 1938 transfer of wood blocks and other herbarium materials from Dr. H.P. Brown and the School of Forestry, Syracuse University. The wood collection was greatly expanded and enhanced under Bill Stern's tenure at the university, and it was (and is) actively used in teaching and research, including by archaeobotanists and palaeobotanists."

Rusty Russell, one of Bill's students at the University of Maryland considers him to be his number one mentor: "Bill expected your best effort and let you know in no uncertain terms if you failed to measure up. But behind his tough facade, he was rooting for you to succeed. Bill's efforts to elevate the utility and visibility of wood collections were critical to their development over the last 50 years. As an undergrad at Maryland in Bill's anatomy class, he impressed upon me the fundamental nature of plant architecture. And for more than four decades at the National Herbarium, we curated the wood collection even when it was getting little attention from researchers. Even before I retired, however, the pendulum was shifting, and now the value of properly vouchered wood samples is in the mainstream. I'm thrilled that the IAWA did that wonderful homage to Bill while he was still alive so that he could know what a seminal impact he made, not just upon Xylaria, but upon the people that work in them."

During his time with the Smithsonian Bill spent 1963-64 at the Philippine Forest Products Institute in Los Banos. In 1967 he was appointed Professor of Botany at the University of Maryland, was program director in systematic biology for the National Science Foundation in 1978-9, and then moved to the University of Florida in 1979. He was emeritus professor there from 2002. Bill was a member of IAWA Council from 1961 to 1972 and wrote a detailed and fascinating account of the early history of IAWA (1982).



Left to right A.K. Chowdhury (1902-1978), Barry Tomlinson (1932-), Sherwin Carlquist (1930-2021), and Bill Stern (1926-2021) in 1961 at the 10th Pacific Science Congress in Honolulu, Hawaii

Bill's list of achievements and appointments is too long to provide in detail. He edited several journals, especially Tropical Woods from 1953-1960 (all issues are on the IAWA website as pdfs). He was also associate editor of BioScience (1963-6), Economic Botany (1965-75), an editorial committee member of American Journal of Botany (1967-9), editor and founder of Biotropica (1969-72), editor of Memoirs of the Torrey Botanical Club, associate editor of World of Wood (1984 onwards) and on the editorial board of Phytomorphology (1996 onwards). He was President of the Botanical Society of America (1985-6). As well as editing he held various appointments including membership of the Advisory board of Pacific Tropical Botanical Garden (1965-82), Trustee of Fairchild Tropical Garden (1980-86), and Kampong Center for Tropical Botany and Horticulture (1985 onwards).

Bill's teaching and research at Yale, Maryland, and Florida Universities from 1950 onwards means that innumerable students and colleagues benefited from his friendship and knowledge. His enormous contribution to botany in general and wood anatomy, in particular, will be long remembered by those who knew him, and his legacy will continue far into the future. He will be sorely missed.

Peter Gasson, Rusty Russell, Lee Newsom, Regis Miller and Pieter Baas

Call for Newsletter Items

The IAWA Newsletter will keep the IAWA community actively informed and stimulate

members to visit the IAWA website for the latest and detailed news. Please send any news items you wish to share with the whole IAWA community to the newsletter editors Dr. Shan Li (lishan.ecology@hotmail.com) or Dr. Lichao Jiao (lishan.ecology@hotmail.com) or Dr. Lichao (lishan.ecology@hotmail.com) or Dr. Lichao (lishan

Call for Manuscripts of IAWA Journal 2022

The editors of the IAWA Journal would like to encourage new manuscript submissions for Volume 43, 2022. A reminder that subscribers/IAWA members can register for 'Table of Contents' (ToC) alerts on the IAWA Journal homepage.

Lloyd Donaldson & Marcelo Pace Editors in Chief – IAWA Journal