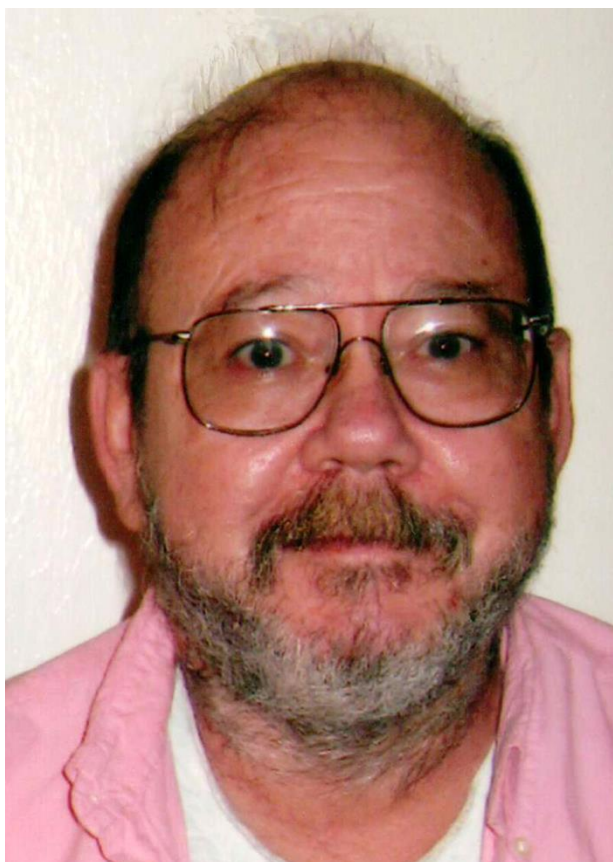


## Obituaries

### Michael David Hubbard (1946–2012)



Michael D. Hubbard (4 Nov 1946 – 4 May 2012) passed away after a brief illness. To those who knew him in Tallahassee and to colleagues around the world it was a shocking and painful loss. Beyond the personal recollections of his friendship and humor, he is remembered as the founder of the website “Ephemeroptera Galactica,” an online compilation of historic literature on mayflies. He was among the first to realize the importance of online access to what is termed “legacy literature” because of its unique scientific and legal importance. In 2012, Richard Mankin of the U.S. Department of Agriculture gave a presentation on “Legacy literature – a need for virtual libraries.” Years earlier (December 1999) Mike had recognized this need when he founded Ephemeroptera Galactica, a website that continues now under the direction of Arnold Staniczek of the State Museum of Natural History Stuttgart (Staatlichen Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart). The current link is <http://www.ephemeroptera-galactica.com>.

Mike was born in Texas and his family moved to Vero Beach (Florida) a few months later. He earned a BA in Zoology from the University of Miami in 1968 and then went to Florida State University (FSU), Tallahassee, where he earned an MS degree in population ecology under Dr. Daniel Simberloff in 1971. While in graduate school he became a friend of Manuel Pescador and developed an interest in aquatic entomology at Florida A&M University (FAMU), where he worked part-time for some years and became a Research Associate in 1975. He received his PhD from FSU in 1984, and later joined the faculty at FAMU where he remained until retirement as a

full professor in 2009. Emeritus Professor status was awarded in 2010, in recognition of his work at FAMU on numerous academic committees, the faculty senate, and his editorial skills.

His work on the Ephemeroptera literature resulted in the publication of many catalogs of literature and species (Argentina, Brazil, India, Philippines, Hong Kong, Thailand, South America, the extant world and the fossil record). As part of other projects, he spent two months in Sri Lanka collecting mayflies in 1978, participated in a French language program in Togo in 1988, and took a sabbatical in Lausanne at the Museum of Zoology in 2005. Some of the results of the Sri Lanka trip were used for his PhD dissertation: the Baetidae were published with Ingrid Müller-Liebenau, the Teloganodidae with Michel Sartori, and other publications covered Ephemeridae and Polymitarcyidae. In addition to these trips, he attended every international conference on Ephemeroptera from 1975 to 2008 and had a diverse and international assortment of friends with whom he partied at any locale or at his always open home when they visited Tallahassee.

As he had a strong interest in rules of nomenclature, he published several papers dealing with nomenclatural issues and taught a graduate course on the subject. From 1983 to 1999 he served as a Systematics Subject Editor for the Florida Entomologist (on the internet in 1995), and later served as Ephemeroptera editor for *Zootaxa* after it was founded, continuing in this position until shortly after retirement. He was responsible for the website of the Permanent Committee of the International Conferences on Ephemeroptera, and was similarly active in the North American Benthological Society where he formerly served on the Computer Information Committee and Public Information and Publicity Committee.

In addition to the mayflies, he maintained a lifelong interest in ants and a side interest in Zoraptera. About the only things that didn't interest him were organization and formality. Among his papers is the ongoing, unfinished manuscript which he updated at several international conferences on "Marginal Biogeography: or Places Where There are No Known Mayflies." We are considering completing the project for the next international conference.

Michael is survived by his wife, Kathleen Hubbard, and three sons, Bonner, Eli, and Andrew.

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