

**REMEMBER:
2009 Membership fees are
due on 1 February 2009**



ANNUAL CIRCULAR 2009

International Society of Limnology
Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL)

Commentary from the General Secretary-Treasurer

1 January 2009

I hope that you have enjoyed your 2008 membership. Editor in Chief, Jack Jones and the publisher, E. Nägele have with remarkable speed produced 4 Parts of the Proceedings Volume 30 and we plan to have the next 4 Parts out in 2009. When Vol. 30 is done, we will continue to publish "SIL-papers" in a regular journal. The Publication Advisory Committee has not yet made a recommendation to the Board –it is a difficult decision. However, we are close. Professor Grobbelaar is continuing his work for the 31th Congress in Cape Town. This is the good news.

Unfortunately SIL has some financial problems. This has nothing to do with the global financial crisis, nor has the Board increased SIL expenditures. At the Congress in Montreal it was decided to increase the dues by 10%, this was not enough. With the general increase in prices over the past years, the rather weak US \$, and a deminishing membership, and with rather many members who "forget" to pay the modest amount of dues, we are draining our resources faster than the dues are coming in. We must cut spendings and increase income, otherwise a bankruptcy is threatening in a not too distant future. To work against the tide the Board has decided:

- We ask the membership voluntarily and urgently to increase their payment of dues for 2009 by 20-30\$ or the equivalent in your currency. Only the General Assembly can make a mandatory increase in dues; the increase now is a request from the Board and is a voluntary measure. We really do need a lot of volunteers
- SIL news will for the moment be published only electronically on the homepage

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- Page charges for pages above 4 in the Proceedings will be increased by 25%
- Direct payment of dues via a credit card will be made easier via a PayPal system and a link on the home page
- We urge the members who pay through National Representatives to pay promptly (and voluntarily increase the fee) and the NRs to keep a firm handle on the payments of members
- We need to find new members: We need to keep the membership in a healthy condition, increasing and with a decreasing age profile
- New Tonolli fellowships are postponed for the next year

The Board hopes that you are as committed to SIL as we think you are.

--Morten Søndergaard, SIL General Secretary-Treasurer

VISIT THE SIL WEBSITE

www.limnology.org

Did you know that you can now pay your SIL dues directly online, or find various ways to pay dues at the SIL website? On the website, information is available on awards, committees, membership, national representatives, publications, statutes and, working groups as well as links to other sites. In addition, we have initiated a placement service for job offerings. Visit often as information is updated regularly by SIL webmaster, Gordon Goldsborough, University of Manitoba, Canada.

Thoughts on Ponds

There is great excitement in the world of pond ecologists. Ponds (and I mean ponds that really are very small bodies, not just moderate sized lakes in New England) have always been the Cinderellas of limnology. We have lost enormous numbers of them to drainage and filling-in, in the interests of intensive agriculture, but millions of them remain in the wet tropics, the boreal regions and arid areas. They have often been ignored, notwithstanding that they contain a major proportion of freshwater diversity, that they are often the last, fish-free refuges of endangered amphibians and those invertebrates that have exquisite mechanisms for survival on drying, and that they have been the gateway through which, in youth, many of us passed into the greater portals of freshwater ecology.

There are journals for Great lakes and Oceans, but there are none for ponds. The European Water Framework Directive, purporting to improve the ecological quality of all European waters, does not oblige us to consider standing waters smaller than 50 hectares, which excludes most of the standing water bodies of Europe. And if you did your Ph.D. on small ponds (I did!) people tend to look pityingly on you from the decks of their large ships.

It may have all changed with two papers by John Downing and his colleagues. Small bodies of water dominate the total area of lakes (Downing *et al.* 2006). OK, we knew that. It's in Bob Wetzel's textbook, but the data has been greatly increased and improved. But much more important, they collectively store carbon at vastly greater rates than large lakes and even the oceans (Downing *et al.* 2008). They are in the front line of climate change and the Earth's carbon balance. Pond ecology is not the railway sidings; it is the main line.

Small things matter. As I write, a huge international investment bank has collapsed into its own greed, whilst in India, micro-financing schemes, lending very small sums to individuals to develop their activities, have proved remarkably successful and are thriving in their modest ambitions. So too it is with individuals and small organizations. SIL is a relatively small player in the scientific world, but its size is its strength, for many of its members know many others and new members from new places are enfolded with warmth, especially at our Congresses.

You know what's coming! We are small and that is good, but we have been getting a bit smaller and that isn't, because we need a critical mass to keep going and promote wise use of freshwaters over the whole world. There has been a modest increase in membership in the last year but we can do better. There is a membership application form attached to this circular. Please, everyone, use it to recruit one more colleague or student and then we can safeguard our activities. We need not be a great ocean; lots of small ponds may be just as important. But we do need to look after them.

--Brian Moss, SIL President

Downing, J.A., Cole, J.J., Middleburg, J.J., Striegl, R.G., Duarte, C.M., Kortelainen, P., Prairie, Y.T. & Laube, K.A. (2008) Sediment organic carbon burial in agriculturally eutrophic impoundments over the last century. *Global*

Biogeochemical Cycles 22, GB1018, 1-10.

Downing, J.A., Prairie, Y.T., Cole, J.J., Duarte, C.M., Tranvik, L.J., Striegl, R.G., McDowell, W.H., Kortelainen, P., Caraco, N.F., Melack, J.M. & Middleburg, J.J. (2006) The global abundance and size distribution of lakes, ponds, and impoundments. *Limnology & Oceanography* 51, 2388-2397.

FUTURE CONGRESSES

31ST SIL CONGRESS: **Cape Town, South Africa**

It will be an honor to welcome SIL members and other interested persons to the 31st SIL Congress, to be held in Cape Town, South Africa in 2010.

South African limnology and aquatic sciences have a proud history and the Limnological Society of southern Africa (LSSA) was formed in the early 1970's. In order to include the marine environment this was changed to the Southern African Society of Aquatic Sciences (SASAQS) and *Daphnia* always dominated the logo. Annual congresses became the limnological (and social) event of year and meetings were also held in neighbouring countries like Namibia and Zimbabwe (the latter organized by Richard Robards).



Photo of delegates who attended the 1974 congress in Bloemfontein. Amongst others the person encircled on upper left is Johan Grobbelaar (LOC Chair), upper right is Richard Robards and middle front is the late Prof. Harald Sioli from the Max-Planck Institute for Limnology.

The limnological landscape is varied as the topographical and climatic differences from one of the oldest deserts (Namib) in the world on the west coast, to the high mountains of Lesotho (Maluti and Drakensberg Mountains), coastal lakes on the southern Cape Coast, to the semi-tropics of Kwazulu Natal. Visitors to southern Africa essentially want to see and experience the amazing natural heritage, the BIG FIVE (lions, elephants, crocodiles, etc.), and the scenic beauty. We will ensure that this will be an integral component of the pre- and post congress excursions.

The 31st Congress of SIL will be held from **15 - 20 August 2010 in Cape Town**, also referred to as the Mother City of South Africa. Overlooking the city is Table Mountain a national park with some 2,200 species of plants made up of many members of the famous

Proteaceae family. In the bay lies Robben Island where our former President Mandela spent some 27 years in prison, and in the shadows of Table Mountain, Groote Schuur hospital can be found, where the world's first heart transplant was done by Dr. Chris Barnard.

The 31st Congress will be special and we urge everyone to start their planning so that as many as possible will attend, share in scientific interactions and experience a little of Africa. One of our aims is to enable young limnologists from Africa to attend the congress and interaction opportunities will be setup for them to meet and discuss their research and problems with experts. According to predictions Africa will severely be affected by climate change and this will be one of the major topics of the congress.

Till we meet in Cape Town!

--Johan Grobbelaar, Chair LOC

32ST SIL CONGRESS:

Debrecen, Hungary will be the venue for the 32nd congress in 2013.

33rd SIL CONGRESS:

The 33rd congress will be held in Turin, Italy, in 2016.

FUTURE CONGRESS PROPOSALS:

Want to host a SIL Congress in your country? SIL members who have recommendations or want to make inquiries leading potentially to a proposal for sponsorship of a congress are urged to contact the SIL General Secretary – Treasurer.

PUBLICATIONS

PROCEEDINGS VOLUME 30 (Montréal, Canada):

SIL Volume 30 is in the works.

Members in good standing for 2008 will receive the issues published in 2009.

Members who send their dues payments to a national representative do not receive their publications until acknowledgement of the dues payment has been sent to the SIL office by the national representative. The CD for Volume 30 is released after all papers belonging to Volume 30 have been prepared for publication. If you have questions about the delivery of copies of Volume 30, contact the SIL Business Services Coordinator.

SIL members owe much gratitude to Professor Jack Jones of the University of Missouri for his extensive editorial work.

CORRECT ADDRESSES

Please verify your name and address given on the address label of this circular. SIL cannot be responsible for loss of publications because of unreported changes of address. Also please make sure that we have your correct email address.

SPONSOR A MEMBER

Some members have generously contributed sufficient funds to sponsor a researcher or student of limnology from countries from which it is difficult to pay our modest membership fee. Please contact the General Secretary-Treasurer for details if you are interested in contributing.

Alternatively, we urge you to contribute to our Endowment, Tonolli, or Wetzel Funds.

International Society of Limnology
Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL)

The following countries or regions pay dues of \$55.00 (Regular Members) and \$110.00 (Institutional Members) in U.S. Dollars, by check drawn on an international bank in the USA that is recognized by the Federal Reserve System, or by major credit card (Visa or MasterCard):

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Members from Estonia, Greece, Iceland, India, Luxembourg and Puerto Rico pay at the rate indicated for USA Members in the chart below.

Members in the following countries send their subscriptions to the Business Services Coordinator or their National Representatives at the rates indicated:

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Switzerland	Prof. Dr. David M. Livingstone, EAWAG, Water Resources Dept., CH-8600 Dübendorf, Email: living@eawag.ch	89.	209.	CHF
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U.S.A.	Prof. Dr. Wayne Wurtsbaugh, Utah State University, Dept. of Watershed Sciences, Logan, UT 84322-5210, Email: wurts@cc.usu.edu	77.	180.	USD

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF LIMNOLOGY

Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL)

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- INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER** (libraries, organizations) **from Developing Countries** 110 USD, and **from Developed Countries** 180 USD.
- AFFILIATE MEMBER** National or regional societies with an observer status in SIL and who pay 15% of the annual institutional fee. Affiliate members receive all privileges of membership but not scientific publications.
- LIFE MEMBER** Individuals who make major financial contributions to SIL. The minimum contribution for this category of membership consists of 70 times the prevailing dues. These contributions will be placed in a special endowment fund intended to help young limnologists attend congresses and other meetings sponsored by SIL.

PUBLICATIONS

The *Proceedings (Verhandlungen)* consists of volumes of scientific papers delivered at the triennial congresses of SIL. Irregular *Communications* consists of critical analyses of methods and other topical subjects and are published as finances of SIL permit. *Proceedings* and *Communications* are issued to all members who are in good standing for the year prior publication. Back issues of SIL publications are available for purchase; contact the General Secretary for details. Beginning with *Proceedings 27*, publications are available in printed form or on CD-ROM; please indicate your choice below:

- Printed CD-ROM Both printed & CD-ROM (25. USD Advance payment required; 30. USD if by VISA or MasterCard)

In addition, individual members of SIL can obtain the *Fundamental and Applied Limnology* publication series at a 20% price reduction through the General Secretary.

PAYMENTS

Membership dues for calendar year (s): \$----- Mail application with your remittance to: **Prof. Dr. Morten Søndergaard, Gen. Sec.-Trea., c/o Ms. Denise Johnson, SIL Business Services Coordinator, University of NC at Chapel Hill, CB 7431, GSGPH, 135 Dauer Dr., ESE, 148 Rosenau Hall, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7431, Email: msondergaard@bi.ku.dk, or denisej@email.unc.edu, or to your National Representative (see Annual Circular or SIL Website).**

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- I enclose my check or money order made payable to SIL (Remittance in US dollars being sent from a foreign country *must* be drawn on a major international bank in the USA that is recognized by the Federal Reserve System).

Charge my: VISA MasterCard, Card No. _ _ _ _ _

Expiration date (month) _ _ / (year) _ _ Three (3) digit security code (**must have**) _ _ _

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You may also fax (336.376.8825)/phone (336.376.9362)/email Ms. Johnson with any of the above information if you desire.