

# A Personal History of *The Veliger* and The California Malacozoological Society, Inc.

by

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As one of the few persons still available who remember the beginnings and subsequent growth of *The Veliger*, I have been asked to set down my recollections of its first 25 years. I am proud to have been involved over the years in several different ways with *The Veliger* and its governing body, the California Malacozoological Society, Inc. (CMS) (Table 1).<sup>1</sup> Since its modest beginning in 1958, the developmental stages of *The Veliger* may be likened in some ways to those of a molluscan veliger, and it has been my privilege to watch this small hatchling become a thriving adult—a credit to its founder and to those who worked in its behalf.

The title, "The Veliger," was chosen by its founding Editor, Dr. Rudolf (Ruedi) Stohler (Figure 1), University of California at Berkeley (UCB), because from its outset he "hoped it would always continue to grow." Pronunciation of the word "veliger" is variable, even among biologists, as VEH' lih jer; VEL' ih gur; VEE' lih jer; and VEE' lih gur.

*The Veliger's* logotype represents the veliger of an unknown species of the gastropod genus *Crepidula*, drawn by Mrs. Emily Reid (Figure 2) (UCB). Based on her drawing, the masthead was designed by Amadeo Tomassini, a typographic artist in the Printing Department of UCB who designed the United Nations Charter in 1948.

In 1952, a group of shell collectors in the Berkeley area formed the Northern California Malacozoological Club (NCMC). Monthly meetings were held at the Oakland Museum; annual dues were \$1.00. Dr. Rudolf Stohler was the club's scientific advisor and a charter member. In 1956, as the group grew and space at the museum became in-

adequate, its meetings were moved to the Life Sciences Building (LSB) on the UCB campus.

The first mimeographed issue (Volume 1(1)) of *The Veliger* was published as the newsletter of the NCMC on 27 June 1958. Helen Hunt was Editor; stencils were typed by Dr. Stohler's daughter Heidi on an ordinary typewriter, typing them twice in order to achieve two nearly justified columns on each page. Volume 1(1-4) contains a total of 40 pages.

Metamorphosis of *The Veliger* began when Volume 2(1) (July 1959) was published. Although the body of the text was still mimeographed, end papers and a new granite-paper cover were now printed by Dr. Stohler with hand-set type on a hand-operated press at his home. For the first time, a black and white halftone plate was included, in a paper on California oysters by Dr. Leo G. Hertlein of the California Academy of Sciences (CAS) (HERTLEIN, 1959). The quality of the halftones improved with each new issue. Heidi still typed the text, and Ruedi was the new Editor. By publishing professional-quality papers from Dr. Myra Keen of Stanford University (SU), Dr. Hertlein, and others, Ruedi had started fulfilling a lifelong dream of producing his own journal.

Distribution of that particular issue is still a vivid memory. At approximately 12:05 a.m. on 30 June 1959, the journal was slipped under the bedroom doors of all those attending the annual conference of the American Malacological Union, Pacific Division, at Asilomar, California. Many of us were still awake, visiting friends and making considerable noise. When we heard the "whoosh" of paper sliding under our door, we went to see who could be there at that hour, expecting to be asked to quiet down.

The opened door revealed a smiling Ruedi Stohler, the delivery person of Volume 2(1). It bore the date July 1, 1959; by way of the early morning delivery, he had maintained the taxonomic integrity of the legal publication date. Free to non-subscribers, that issue introduced *The Veliger* to a large new audience.

During that volume-year (fiscal 1959-1960), other ma-

<sup>1</sup> Abbreviations used: 1(1)—Volume 1, No. 1 (etc.); BML—Bodega Marine Laboratory; CAS—California Academy of Sciences; CMS—California Malacozoological Society; LACM—Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History; LSB—Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley; NCMC—Northern California Malacozoological Society; SU—Stanford University; UCB—University of California, Berkeley; UO—University of Oregon; WSM—Western Society of Malacologists.



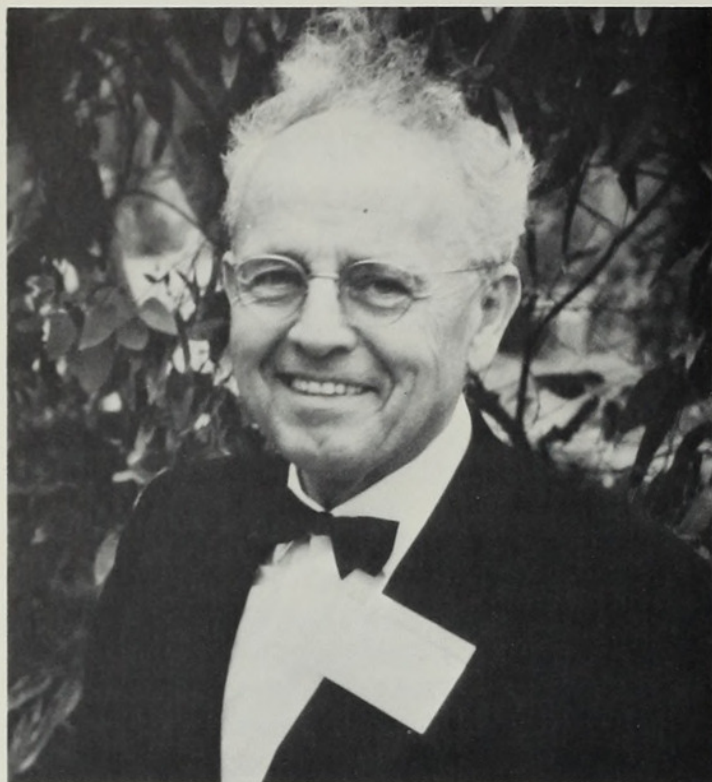


Figure 1

Dr. Rudolf (Ruedi) Stohler, founding Editor of *The Veliger*; photograph by James H. McLean.

major changes took place. The Northern California Malacozoological Club was incorporated under California law as a non-profit educational corporation, to protect its members from individual lawsuits. (Although an unincorporated club's members can be sued separately and collectively if someone is injured during a club-sponsored event such as a field trip, a corporation can be sued for no more than the amount of its assets.)

I have special reasons to remember the Volume 2(4), April 1960 issue. In it my husband Crawford and I, with our friend Cliff Weaver of Hawaii as co-author, proudly published our first scientific paper. It concerned the identification of *Cypraea ostergaardi* Dall, 1921, placing *C. alleni* Ostergaard, 1950, in synonymy (CATE, C. N., *et al.*, 1960). By then I was well enough acquainted with Ruedi Stohler to mention that Cliff Weaver's name had been misspelled on the cover, and that there were two typographical errors in the text. Suddenly I was Assistant Editor, with the job of proofreading each issue. At Volume 6, I was officially elevated to Associate Editor. My name now appeared on the cover, and my "salary" was increased by adding another zero each year. We joked a good deal about that nonexistent salary; I was worth every zero of it. (The proofreading job continued for 27 years, from Volume 3(1) through Volume 29(4). By then the new Editor, the authors, and the readers at Allen Press [our present printers] had been checking the proofs for 4 years; having become redundant, I retired from that appointment.)

NCMC's annual dues, now called subscriptions, were raised to \$2.50 for Volume 3. An Editorial Board was appointed; its roster of ten distinguished scientists appears inside that volume's front cover. These are the referees to whom papers submitted to Dr. Stohler for publication were referred for review, prior to acceptance or refusal.

Volume 3(1) (July 1960) found the Editor's office at LSB resplendent with a new IBM® electric typewriter, the latest word in technology. Both Ruedi and Heidi used it to prepare the now-longer issues; it was a giant step forward, automatically producing fully justified margins and giving the journal a more professional appearance. The issues were no longer mimeographed, but offset by the UCB Printing Department, and the finished pages were then delivered to Ruedi's home.

Depending upon the size of the issue and number of reprints ordered, somewhere between 20 and 30 cartons of pages were delivered; that is approximately 200 to 300 reams of paper, all extremely heavy. Some, containing halftone plates on coated stock, were even heavier. Total weight of all the finished pages was somewhere between 490 to 735 kg per average issue; the mailbags, containing nearly 1000 processed issues plus authors' reprints, weighed a good deal more.

Circling his dining room table, Ruedi collated each issue and the authors' reprints by hand. Collating one average issue of 100 pages or so and its concomitant reprints required a 10-km circuit. He also performed all the mailing tasks, filling mailbags with issues he had stuffed into pre-addressed envelopes and sorted by zip code. The stacks of mailbags filled the Stohlers' front hallway before delivery to the post office on publication date, having been moved from house to car in countless trips with a little red wagon. Ruedi also typed, addressed, and mailed invoices printed on his small press. This routine continued through 25 years, growing larger year by year as the journal grew.

In those early years, I flew from Los Angeles to Berkeley on a quarterly basis as each issue's preparation drew to a close. Every morning, Ruedi settled me into some available vacant room in LSB, where I corrected the proofs without access to a dictionary or other references. He brought new batches daily, picking up the previous day's edited pages and bringing new ones to read, along with corrections to be checked again. Each issue's stint required three or four days' work; time permitting, it was usually read through twice. At press-time, we offered a hopeful toast (in diet soda) for a perfect issue, free of typographical errors.

The most important event of all came with Ruedi's purchase in Los Angeles of a decrepit, 30- to 40-year-old, but operative, Mergenthaler® Linotype® machine prior to the start of Volume 6(1) (1963). It was a great bargain, its market value then being about \$10,000 to \$15,000, whereas its cost was only \$1800. During the first few years he used it, Ruedi personally added four times that amount to its value by purchasing new matrices, extra Linotype® magazines, kerned ligatures, dingbats, and specialized fonts; everything possible was done to improve the product typographically.





Figure 2

Mrs. Emily Reid (left); photograph by Phyllis Thompson-Spewart. Mrs. Jean M. Cate (right); photograph by Jennifer Nelson.

Since it was not feasible at that time to move the Linotype<sup>®</sup> machine to Berkeley, Crawford and I searched for low-rental properties reasonably near our home, such as vacant garages and store-front buildings. Not finding a suitable location, we finally added a building on our property to house the huge machine. It also held a screeching metal-cutting printer's saw to cut lead slugs of cold type for tabular material; wooden storage cabinets to hold printer's chases, both full and empty; and a small work area for page make-up, the carpentry having been done by Ruedi and hauled to Los Angeles in his car.

With the building completed, the Linotype<sup>®</sup> machine was installed and Ruedi went home to put the next issue together in the old typewritten way, as it was too close to the next deadline to risk a breakdown on the unfamiliar machine.

During Ruedi's absence, Crawford and I carefully covered the Linotype<sup>®</sup> machine, later dubbed "The Beast," with a plastic dropcloth to ward off dust. We didn't realize that the extra-thick concrete floor, designed to hold the 3000-kg machine, had not completely cured as a floor of normal depth would have done by that time. We had thus created an efficient, constant vapor-bath under the dust cover while the concrete slowly dried beneath it for several weeks. This caused rust in all the many nooks and crannies of the contraption, but there wasn't a speck of dust on it.

We were stunned when we saw what had happened. Ruedi didn't scold, but went directly to work dismantling the machine and removing the rust—a monumental job.

After thorough cleaning, it was overhauled by a specialist. Ruedi's next step was to learn to repair it, and repair it he did, over and over again, throughout its existence. Starting with Volume 6 and its supplement, 20 volumes and 8 supplements were produced on *The Beast*, though not without innumerable breakdowns during its many years of service.

Ruedi was at work shortly after 4 a.m. each day, having risen at 3 to light the fire under the lead-melting pot. Later an automatic timer-thermostat was installed to light the gas flame at 3 a.m., thus giving him an extra hour of sleep while the lead melted. When the supply of lead ingots was depleted, he melted down batches of used type-slugs, with approximately one large meltdown per issue. By adding a toner containing zinc and antimony to the molten lead, he created new ingots in iron molds, thereby recycling the old ingots several times. There was, of course, constant exposure to the lead fumes whenever the machine was operating—a serious health hazard. A fan and air conditioner were installed to help expel the fumes, but they did not totally alleviate the problem.

Typesetting for each issue required about 3 weeks of very long days. When the pages were nearly ready, Ruedi placed the heavy load of printer's chases full of type in his 27-year-old Chevrolet for the 312-km drive north.

To complete the issue, each page was carefully composed, not only according to its content, but also to balance attractively. Blocks of wood in various sizes and shapes were inserted in the made-up page of type, leaving uninked



spaces on the "repro" proofs to allow for adding tabular matter and text figures. The text was spaced out, by hand, with slim strips of paper and board so that both columns would come out even at the bottom of each page. The pages of type were then inked, pulled, proofread, and corrected. Then, at last, the final repro proofs were run. These went next to Emily Reid for final pasteups. At this stage, the UCB Printing Department took over for the offset process, and when the finished product was delivered to Ruedi's home, the collating began, again.

Emily Reid holds a very special place in the history of *The Veliger*, though she has always worked quietly in the background, with little public knowledge of the important rôle she played in our production. After producing the logo, she soon became irreplaceable in other areas as well. From the first illustrated issue, Volume 2(1), she did all the graphics: pasting up photos, labeling tables, illustrative plates and charts—always matching in both style and scale with the journal, Ruedi having supplied appropriate printed letters and words in the journal's Baskerville© type style. She also provided meticulous drawings, and excellent maps for type localities and other uses; many authors engaged her work to illustrate their papers. Emily was unquestionably an essential part of the staff, volunteering her time and impeccable talent to help achieve and maintain our high standards for over 25 years. From the start, she was indispensable in making *The Veliger* a journal of the highest quality.

The year 1961 brought an innovation to the pages of *The Veliger*: color plates. Dr. G Dallas Hanna of CAS was then developing a new process of printing color plates, using an extremely fine, 300-line screen—the first time color separations of that high quality had been produced. He kindly furnished us with sample runs at cost; we paid only for the paper, ink, and other production costs—a great bargain, at \$100 per plate. The exact superimposition of colors known as "register" is so critical at the 300-line level that Mrs. Margaret Hanna, working alongside her husband, carefully scrutinized the register of each plate and destroyed all that failed to measure up to their exacting standards. The first of these plates appeared in *The Veliger* as Plate 1 in Volume 4(1). Such fine screens are no longer in use today in the United States for commercial color work, as their production is so difficult that the cost is prohibitive. Sharing that privilege with CAS, *The Veliger* had the benefit of Dr. Hanna's labor and his unique system for a few years, and published several color plates.

One of the most important developments in *The Veliger's* metamorphosis occurred during Volume 6(3), when what might be called its vestigial operculum was shed. In 1963, members of the Northern California Malacozoological Club (NCMC) made it known that they could no longer manage the burgeoning business of *The Veliger*. Business management of the journal had become too big a burden for the NCMC to carry any longer. The club left its newsletter in Dr. Stohler's care, to revert to being a shell club, not publishers of a scholarly journal. An amicable agreement

was made, with *The Veliger* assuming all assets and liabilities of NCMC pertaining to *The Veliger*, and relinquishing claim to its accumulated library materials. Assets included the Veliger Endowment Fund and the Veliger Operating Fund, plus all back issues of the journal—a total value of less than \$3000. The printing machinery and equipment were Dr. Stohler's personal property.

A new organization was now needed to manage development, business affairs, and the fiscal assets of *The Veliger*. Preliminary plans were made, and the framework of the new society was ready by the time legal details of its incorporation were completed. On 21 December 1963, The California Malacozoological Society (CMS) was organized, a similar name purposely being chosen to reflect credit on NCMC. Twelve charter members were named, and officers elected (Table 1). Incorporation was discussed, and committees were formed for Bylaws, Finance, and Publication. The cost of incorporation was shared by the charter members, requiring a donation of only \$5.00 each, thanks to the kind assistance of Attorney Harry Poppic, who had also donated his services earlier for NCMC.

Two classes of membership were named: Regular Members, with voting rights on the Executive Board, and Affiliate Members, without vote. Affiliate Members are individuals who receive the journal with paid-up membership in the Society. A third category, Subscribers, includes non-member institutions such as libraries, museums, and universities.

The two funds acquired from NCMC, the Endowment Fund and the Operating Fund (the early earnings of the journal), were established as the financial basis of the new corporation. The Endowment Fund's assets are derived from donations and other sources; only the income from its principal is available, and it is designated solely for the expenses of publishing the journal. The Operating Fund—fed by income from the Endowment Fund and such other sources as membership dues, subscriptions, designated contributions, sales of reprints, supplements and back issues—pays all expenses connected with publication and distribution of *The Veliger*.

Incorporation and bylaws were both completed by 4 February 1964. Annual dues were set at \$5.00 for Volume 7. In March, the society was granted both federal and state tax-exempt status as a non-profit, scientific educational corporation; "Inc." became a part of our official title and the new corporate name appeared for the first time in November 1964, on the cover to the Supplement to Volume 6. The first three Trustees (Table 1), on a revolving 3-year schedule, were elected from among the Regular Members during March. The duty of the Trustees is to administer the Endowment Fund, the principal of which is unavailable without their signatures.

Until now, our state charter's tax-exempt clause, an inherent part of the state law on non-profit businesses, had not held a special meaning for *The Veliger*, not being a factor in a shell club's ordinary business. Lacking a product to sell, a shell club pays no sales tax, and seldom



Table 1  
Executive Board members, California Malacozoological Society, Inc.

| Charter Members, 21 December 1953  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| President: Dr. Cadet Hand,* UCB; Bodega Marine Lab.  |   | Dr. Ray Ghelardi,*† UCB; BML           |
| Vice President: Allyn G. Smith,* CAS   |   | Dr. Leo G. Hertlein,* CAS              |
| Treasurer: Dr. J. Wyatt Durham,*† UCB  |   | Dr. A. Myra Keen,* SU                  |
| Secretary: Dr. Ralph I. Smith,*† UCB   |   | Dr. Robert C. Miller,* CAS             |
| Dr. Donald P. Abbott,* SU  |   | Dr. Frank A. Pitelka,*† UCB            |
| Crawford N. Cate,*† LACM   |   | Dr. Rudolf Stohler, Editor,* UCB       |
| Members Elected Later, in Chronological Order  |   |  |
| 28 September 1965:   | Dr. Charles Stasek,† UCB                        | Dr. Ray Ghelardi† resigned             |
| 16 September 1966:   | Dr. Edmund Smith, Pacific Marine Sta.           |  |
| 21 February 1967:  |   | Charles Stasek† resigned               |
| 14 November 1968:  | Dr. Victor Zullo, UCB                           | Dr. Robert Miller* resigned            |
| 5 August 1971:   | Dr. Peter Rodda, CAS                            | Dr. Victor Zullo resigned              |
|  | Dr. James Valentine, UC, Davis                  |  |
|  | Dr. James Nybakken, Calif. State Univ., Hayward |  |
| 15 January 1972:   |   | Dr. Leo Hertlein,* deceased            |
| 30 November 1972:  | Dr. Warren O. Addicott, U.S. Geol. Survey       |  |
| 17 August 1976:  |   | Allyn Smith,* deceased                 |
| 28 September 1977:   | Dr. Carole Hickman,† UCB                        |  |
|  | Dr. David Phillips, UC, Davis                   |  |
| 17 November 1980:  |   | Dr. James Nybakken resigned            |
| 9 August 1981:   |   | Crawford Cate,*† deceased              |
| 30 July 1982:  | Mrs. Jean Cate†                                 |  |
| 1 April 1983:  |   | Dr. Rudolf Stohler* resigned as Editor |
| 21 April 1983:   | Dr. David Lindberg, UCB                         |  |
|  | Dr. Terrence Gosliner, CAS                      |  |
| 25 September 1985:   | Dr. Eugene Coan, CAS; LACM                      |  |
| 4 January 1986:  |   | Dr. Myra Keen,* deceased               |
| 18 January 1986:   |   | Dr. Donald Abbott,* deceased           |
| 28 September 1986:   |   | Dr. Frank Pitelka*† resigned           |
| 4 May 1987:  | Dr. James Carlton, UO                           |  |
|  | Dr. Barry Roth, CAS                             |  |
| 14 November 1988:  | Dr. James Nybakken, Calif. State Univ., Hayward |  |
| Current Executive Board (April 1989)   |   |  |
| Jim Carlton, Jean Cate,† Eugene Coan (Treasurer), Wyatt Durham,*† Terry Gosliner (President), Cadet Hand,* Carole Hickman (Vice President), Dave Lindberg (Secretary), Jim Nybakken, David Phillips (Editor), Peter Rodda, Barry Roth, Ralph Smith*† |   |  |

\* Charter Member.

† Trustee.

receives donations. However, with *The Veliger* as our qualifying product, tax-deductible charitable donations became available to CMS, Inc., and are welcomed for either fund a donor may designate. Donations are gratefully received on a regular basis today, from both individuals and organizations.

Mail ballots were distributed among Board members, requesting approval for the corporation to borrow \$7000, interest-free, from Dr. Stohler. The measure passed unanimously; the loan was made for basic funding of the new corporation. Transfers of funds and back issues of the journal were made from NCMC to CMS in June 1964.

With a few notable exceptions, CMS Executive Board meetings were about what one would expect—several triumphs, a few regrets, financial reports, occasional minor problems, and so on. Rather than outline 19 years' minutes of routine meetings, only those exceptions will be included

here as they occur within the chronology of *The Veliger's* story. Over the years, the original complement of 12 members diminished; some charter members resigned for positions elsewhere, and a few passed away. New members were gradually added as vacancies occurred (Table 1).

One of the early undertakings of the new Executive Board was its unanimous vote to publish a study done by undergraduate students at Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University as the Supplement to Volume 6. The idea of one of our board members, Dr. Donald Abbott, it was an innovative, in-depth study of a single mollusk species, *Tegula funebris* (A. Adams, 1855), with separate projects assigned to individual students along pre-planned guidelines. In a new way of studying marine biology, the resulting student papers were published in the supplement, encouraging young authors while providing a worthy, thorough study of a single species within a short time.



By this time, even Ruedi was more than fully occupied in producing bigger and better issues, plus several sizeable supplements. He was the only contact between authors and reviewers, as that connection was kept confidential. He also managed the banking, investments, and many other duties, while keeping abreast of current literature and writing many of the book reviews in every issue. As he now had a considerable work-overload, I was appointed to a second job as Business Manager, which entailed receiving payments, doing the bookkeeping, and handling general correspondence.

At a meeting in March 1965, a question was raised relative to obtaining a government grant to fund the cost of typesetting and illustrations. The same topic arose fairly frequently at Board meetings, but as Dr. Stohler was opposed to applying for grants to *The Veliger*, no action was taken; he preferred to have the journal earn its own way. By cutting costs wherever possible, it has always been self-sustaining. Although he did not disapprove of grants to individuals, he preferred to manage the journal on its own, and he paid the same annual dues as everyone else, to help toward that end.

Aside from frequent breakdowns of The Beast, there were never any important problems with production. The Beast remained at our house for 2 or 3 years, but always uppermost in Ruedi's mind was the need to move it to his own home, where he would have more time with his family; after all, he was still working full time for the University until his retirement there on 30 June 1969. However, he accumulated a great deal of uncompensated overtime through his special work as Zoology Department Collector and Research Zoologist, requiring him to range the entire coastline of California and into Baja California, Mexico, collecting marine animals—a job that kept him away from home a good deal of the time, often spending 70-hour work-weeks, many of them comprising 7 working days. He used this unpaid overtime and his 5 weeks' earned vacation for the quarterly typesetting stints.

He also used some of this "time off" to dig, by hand, an addition to the cellar beneath his house—a room measuring about 10.7 m L × 3 m W × 2.4 m H. Having no overhead space initially, he began by lying prone under the house and removing the soil, first with a hand trowel and bucket, later graduating to a short-handled shovel and wheelbarrow, and so on. He has said it required "a few months of spare time" to complete the job.

By early 1966 (Volume 9), the new cellar was ready to receive The Beast. Crawford had retired that year, and while we traveled to Australia and the South Pacific, Ruedi and Mrs. Genevieve Stohler stayed at our place for a time to supervise the partial dismantling of his clumsy "dinosaur" and other equipment for the move to Berkeley. The machine had to be maneuvered under our overhanging roof, then wrestled down a narrow stairway at the other end of the move. Despite its age, The Beast served Ruedi in a reasonably faithful manner for another 17 years.

In September of 1964, the Executive Board had approved publication of Winifred Arnold's glossary of malacological terms, and it appeared the following March as a supplement to Volume 7 (illustrated by Emily Reid). At the same meeting, the question of producing an index to *The Veliger* was brought up; it was explained that members of one of the shell clubs were already working on an index for the first 10 years of publication. This item dragged on, seemingly forever, with periodic reports that the index was "progressing nicely." In 1968 it was announced that the index to the first 10 volumes would be finished by the end of 1969. In 1981, we heard this news: "The Index to Volume 10 is complete!" It was also completely lost, as we soon discovered. After several months, half of it was found, totally unusable. We never learned exactly what had happened, but fortunately Dr. Stohler and others had already started planning a comprehensive Index to Volumes 1–25.

The first of several lively CMS Board discussions, over time, was held in 1966 as to the feasibility of publishing Dr. Joshua Baily's lifelong work on the mollusks of California, handwritten and contained in 50 thick looseleaf binders. The binders were kept in Baily's bank vault, and he was reluctant to lend even a few pages for a long enough period to allow an assessment of their value to malacology. He sincerely wanted it published in *The Veliger*, offering a generous amount of money toward that end. However, we feared that the work was by now so obsolete as to require a long, costly revision; we could not make any promises without first making a careful scientific appraisal of the material. Ruedi Stohler and I went to San Diego to discuss it further, but Baily was adamant about not allowing a single page out of the vault except for the purpose of publication. The hands of CMS were tied, without an opportunity for serious consideration as to whether it would be worth the time, effort, and expense that might be necessary to put it in order for publication. We could assess neither the work itself, nor whether the sum he had allotted would cover both its revision and publication costs. Nothing could be done.

While in session in 1967, we were asked by a visitor whether CMS, Inc. could conduct annual malacological conferences on the Pacific coast. Since producing the journal was our primary aim, and that was already as much as we could handle, no action was taken. The situation was eventually resolved by the independent formation of the Western Society of Malacologists (WSM) in 1969. The WSM brought new readers as well as new authors, among students eager to break into the realm of publishing. While of course they were not the primary source of articles in *The Veliger*, we felt it worthwhile to encourage promising young writers. Among authors who started early with *The Veliger* are Dr. Terrence Gosliner, Associate Curator and Department Head of the departments of Invertebrate Zoology and Geology at CAS, and now President of CMS, Inc., who at age 17 published his first scientific paper in



*The Veliger* (GOSLINER, 1968). Dr. Eugene Coan, now CMS Treasurer, at 19 also published his first paper within our pages (COAN, 1962). Both have since proved their value to malacology many times over.

On 20 May 1969, the most exciting board meeting of all never took place. A few of us assembled in our usual seminar room in LSB: President Cadet Hand, Allyn Smith, Ruedi Stohler, and I were there early, but no one else showed up. Owing to student riots on the Berkeley campus, the police had closed the grounds to all traffic in both directions. We soon realized that trouble was very near to us; students raged through the halls, loudly voicing their complaints. We locked the door, closed the curtain over its window, turned off the lights, and sat there in near darkness for over an hour, waiting out the siege. The *mêlée* was so close that police tear gas seeped in, leaving us coughing, wheezing, and with teary, red eyes.

Since LSB is a science laboratory building, there are emergency showers in the main halls outside each lab, in case of a chemical accident. The rioting students turned on every shower; the halls were an inch deep in water when we left the room. Lacking a quorum, President Cadet Hand adjourned the non-meeting when things quieted down, and we waded out, more subdued than the rioters. I recall being shocked to see bullet-proof vests for the first time that morning, when before starting their tours of duty, the well-prepared police crowded the coffee shop.

After more than 30 years' service, Ruedi Stohler retired officially from the University of California, Berkeley, in June 1969, but unlike many retirees, he had no problem finding ways to keep himself busy.

At a special meeting at Bodega Marine Laboratory in July 1970, it was announced that Dr. Stohler had donated two personal collections of rare stamps to CMS, Inc., and it was no surprise later to learn that the \$6000 realized from their sale had been deposited in the *Veliger* Endowment Fund.

During 1970 (Volume 13), Crawford and I moved from Los Angeles to Sanibel Island, Florida. I created a small branch office in one end of a large utility room, and the long-distance move had little effect on tasks for *The Veliger*; we shipped the proofs by mail, with little delay in service. It was handled that way from then on; it was good to have our own library for references to check on the proofreading. In 1975 (Volume 17), we returned to California, this time to Rancho Santa Fé in San Diego County. In 1977, Crawford suffered a stroke, and was a semi-invalid until his death in 1981. I moved to a smaller home, and was glad to have my assorted duties to do for *The Veliger*.

In 1974, Dr. Donald Abbott proposed publication of another supplement, on the biology of chitons; this was approved by the Executive Board, and was published as a supplement to Volume 18. The Manager's report stated that earnings had remained the same as in the previous year, while expenses had decreased. Donations and memberships had dropped, but institutional subscriptions were

slowly rising. The Glossary edition was sold out; the CMS debt to Dr. Stohler had now been paid in full within 10 years, and all money repaid on the loan had gone to Ruedi's favorite charity, The *Veliger* Endowment Fund.

Due to the narrowing of my peripheral vision from cataracts, the wide, 18-column bookkeeping ledger eventually became impossible to contend with, and in 1975 I resigned from the bookkeeping portion of the Manager's job. Fortunately, I could still read the proofs and continue handling dues, subscription payments, and general correspondence, so I remained as Manager except for coping with the big ledger. (Eye surgeries eventually brought everything back into focus.) But the bookkeeping still had to be done, so for the first CMS hired a part-time bookkeeper, our first paid staff member. We employed three different bookkeepers between 1975 and 1987, when that job was absorbed by Dr. Eugene Coan, the corporate Treasurer on the newly elected Executive Board of CMS.

In 1978, Ruedi purchased a computer for maintaining the journal's mailing list—a great improvement over clumsy Addressograph® plates—and to make address labels for the issues, which were now mailed in plastic sleeves. In 1982, he provided me with a computer as well, to compile certain portions of the index to Volumes 26–50 of *The Veliger*, that assignment having been approved by the Executive Board. My preparation of bibliographic, authors, and new taxa indices for the second half-century of publication continues today, along with proofreading the Trivial Names Index for Volumes 1–25.

In 1979 (Volume 22), we made another change in bookkeepers, and President Cadet Hand appointed me to the newly created position of Bursar, to verify vouchers, pay the bills, and provide quarterly accounting reports.

Based on the erroneous assumption that the long-awaited index to the first 10 volumes was now available, Ruedi proposed preparation of a cumulative index for the first 25 volumes, to be merged with the work supposed already done. His proposal was accepted by the Board at the annual meeting in July 1981.

Ruedi announced that owing to his failing vision, he would resign the editorship of *The Veliger* effective on completion of Volume 25(4), due 1 April 1983. At the same meeting, I was elected to the Executive Board as a Trustee.

In 1982, Board member Dr. David Phillips, having agreed to assume the new editorship, traveled to Lawrence, Kansas, to discuss arrangements with Allen Press, which specializes in publishing scientific journals. Following his report, it was agreed to contract with Allen Press for the printing of *The Veliger*, starting with Volume 26(1).

At that meeting, Dr. Stohler and I both voted for the first time as members of the Board. Though from the beginning he had attended all meetings as Editor and advisor, he had refused, on principle, to vote on his own suggestions.

The final issue under Ruedi's tenure, Volume 25(4) was



published in April 1983, with a total of 406 pages—more than 10 times the 40 pages of Volume 1. Other volumes had exceeded that size: for example, Volume 18 has 424 pages, plus a 128-page supplement. A bound set of the total 25-year work occupies more than a meter of shelf space and a grand total of 9362 pages—all produced by hand on either a typewriter or The Beast, a machine so outmoded that when Ruedi discontinued using it in 1983, workers were paid to dismantle it and haul it away as junk.

Dr. Stohler's day of resignation as Editor of *The Veliger* was officially 1 April 1983. It was the end of a memorable era. An excellent illustrated article about him by Dr. Ralph I. Smith was published in the first issue following Ruedi's retirement (*vide* SMITH, 1983).

\* \* \* \* \*

Now the story of the first quarter-century of *The Veliger* and of the early years of CMS has been told. The facts are there, but it is impossible simply to come to a halt without making some attempt to express the spirit that lay beyond the bare facts of those years. However it may appear, that was far from being a time of difficult, drudging work; for me they were years of pleasure, learning new skills and disciplines, and feeling useful by helping to accomplish a worthwhile task. Ruedi Stohler made all this seem easy, and fun, and it was.

Few lives have been touched by Ruedi's *joie de vivre* and

his ability to impart knowledge in a humorous way—the most effective form of teaching—without being enriched by the association. It would be difficult for anyone who was not there to imagine the pleasure we all had, working together to make *The Veliger* a superior journal, while *The Veliger's* important work was done, too.

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