FAB Mission

To provide a forum for the exchange of information and training for aquatic biologists and scientists in related disciplines

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In this Issue

Announcements – Part 1
2026 Upcoming Meeting and Workshop
2026 Spring Freshwater Taxonomy Workshop Recap
Conferences of Interest
Literature
Announcements – Part 2
News & Books
Meeting Minutes
FAB Membership

Announcements – Part 1

Upcoming Meetings

39th Annual FAB Meeting

September 17– 18, 2026

The 39th Annual Meeting of the Florida Association of Aquatic Biologists will be held at the Orlando Wetlands Education Center in Christmas, Florida.

The call for abstracts is posted on the FAB website as well as details on registration, student travel award, and hotels.
*Remember, student presenters attend for **FREE!***

2026 Fall Marine Workshop

October 28 – 30, 2026

The Fall Marine Workshop will be held at the University of Tampa's Marine Education Center in Tampa, Florida. The taxon presented is Pycnogonida, led by Bonnie Bain of Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah and Utah Tech University, St. George, Utah.

Information will be posted on the FAB website when finalized.

2026 Spring Taxonomic Workshop Recap

The Workshop was led by Dr. Fredric Govedich, Associate Professor of Biology and Department Chair at Southern Utah University in Cedar City, Utah. We are sincerely thankful to Dr. Govedich for traveling to Florida and providing an exciting and informative workshop on leech characters and biology. The participants had some fun collecting live leeches from around the Gainesville area to view with Dr. Govedich in the lab. Everyone at the meeting thoroughly enjoyed Dr. Govedich's funny leech and travel stories, too!

Dr. Fredric Govedich lectures participants at the 2026 Spring Taxonomic Workshop in Gainesville, FL

Sampling for leeches in the Sante Fe River

2026 FAB Spring Workshop Attendees

Attendees from left to right: Scott Duncan, Dr. Fredric Govedich, Bonnie Bain, Jennifer Davenport, Marc Minno, Julianne Knight-Gray, Dana Denson, Vicki McGee, Todd Risk, Jessica Reker, Joshua Farre, Efrain Tavarez, Kiana Maldonado, Isabel Evelyn, Gary Warren, Kasey Fralick, Julie Christian, Doug Strom, Dave Karlen, Not Pictured: Matt Scripter

Can you guess the movie? Answer on page 11

Conferences and Meetings of Interest

- Society for Freshwater Science (SFS) May 23-27, 2027. Omaha, Nebraska
- North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) November 3-6, 2026. Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada
- Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanology (ASLO) February 28-March 5, 2027. San Juan, Puerto Rico
- The Ecological Society of America (ESA) July 26-31, 2026. Salt Lake City, Utah
- The Crustacean Society January 3-7, 2027, Pittsburgh, PA
- Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation (CERF) November 7-11, 2027. San Juan, Puerto Rico

For an extensive list of related conferences, visit:
https://conferenceindex.org/conferences/marine-science
https://conferenceindex.org/conferences/ecology

Literature

Álvarez, R., M. Di Domenico, L. Harris, E. Keppel, J. Langeneck, M.A. Meca, P. Lana & N. Budaeva, 2025. Molecular phylogeny of *Naineris* and Protoaricia (Annelida: Orbiniidae) with the reinstatement of *Theodisca*. Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society 205(4): zlaf161

Anker, A., P.C.R. Flores & M.S. Nizinski 2025. A new deep-water species of the alpheid shrimp genus *Salmoneus* Holthuis, 1955 (Decapoda: Caridea) from East Flower Garden Bank off Texas, USA. Zootaxa 5725(4): 583-590

Boyer, F. & W. Frenzel 2026. Description of a new *Gibberula* species (Volutoidea: Cystiscidae) from eastern Florida. Iberus 44(2): art475

Delgado-Blas, V.H., M.A. Quintal-Aké, & R.G. Uc-Peraza 2025. A new species of *Streblospio* Webster, 1879 (Annelida: Spionidae) from the Caribbean Sea. Zootaxa 5722(2): 184-198

Dugger A.R. & K.N. White 2025. Caribbean Amphipoda (Crustacea) of Panama. Part V: parvorder Amphilochidira. ZooKeys 1259: 57-102

Hogan P.N., D.C. Houghton, K. Murray-Stoker, R.E. DeWalt, A.K. Rasmussen, & J.C. Morse 2025. An analytical synopsis of caddisfly (Insecta, Trichoptera) taxonomic history and progress in Canada and the United States. *In*: Ríos-Touma B., P.B. Frandsen, R.W. Holzenthal, D.C. Houghton, E. Rázuri-Gonzales, S.U. Pauls (Eds). Proceedings of the 18th International Symposium on Trichoptera. ZooKeys 1263: 105-122

Maciolek, N.J. 2026. Anoplosyllinae Aguado & San Martín, 2009 (Annelida: Syllidae) from shelf and slope depths in the northwest Atlantic Ocean, primarily off New England, slope depths in the Gulf of Mexico off Louisiana, and shallow water in British Columbia in the Northeast Pacific. Zootaxa 5758(1): 1-78

Mayorga, A., C. Lim, K. Yano & Y. J. Bae 2025. Revisiting the functional morphology of mandibular tusks in burrowing mayfly larvae (Insecta: Ephemeroptera): analysis using micro-computed tomography and 3D morphometrics. Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society 205(1): zlaf122

McMurray, S.E., C.R. Bolin, J.S. Faimen, A. Roberts & B. Simmons 2026. A Guide to Missouri's Freshwater Mussels. Missouri Department of Conservation. 94 pp.

Poore, G.C.B. (ed.) 2026. Marine Crustacea Isopoda: guide to families and genera of the world. Memoirs of Museum Victoria 86(i–vi): 1-485

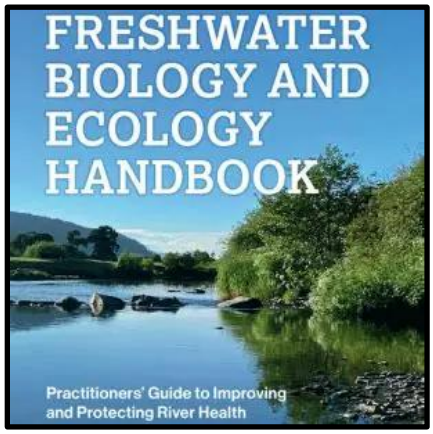
Rasmussen, A.K., D.R. Denson, A.B. Orfinger & S.C. Harris 2025. Diversity and distribution of the Trichoptera of Florida, United States, with descriptions of five new species. Proceedings of the 18th International Symposium on Trichoptera. ZooKeys 1263: 389-439.

Tennessen, K.J. 2026. Description of the nymphs of *Nehalennia integricollis* Calvert and *N. pallidula* Calvert (Odonata: Coenagrionidae). Zootaxa 5793(2): 587-595

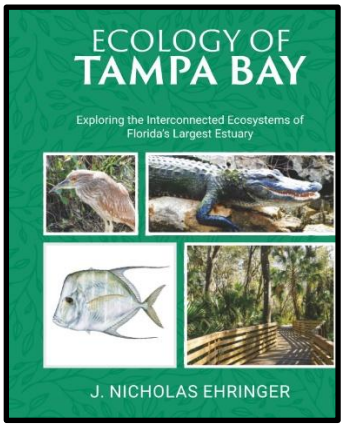
Wittmann K.J. & P. Chevaldonné 2026. Biodiversity, complete inventory, taxonomy and keys to the species of Mysidae (Crustacea, Mysida) from marine caves of the Caribbean with revision of three genera and description of three new species. ZooKeys 1283: 93-204

Announcements – Part 2

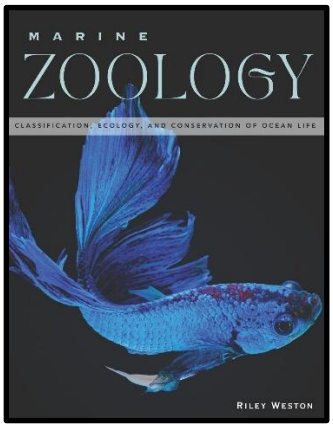
News & Books



Freshwater Biology and Ecology Handbook (digital copy)



Ecology of Tampa Bay: Exploring the Interconnected Ecosystems of Florida's Largest Estuary



MARINE ZOOLOGY: Classification, Ecology, and Conservation of Ocean Life

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Florida Association of Aquatic Biologists
05/07/26, 2026
DRAFT

Doug Strom, presiding
Attendees: Jennifer Davenport, Doug Strom, Scott Duncan, Craig Duxbury, Rob Mattson, Peggy Morgan, Andy Rasmussen, Holly Sweat, Carrie Scarola, Julianne Knight-Gray, Wayne Price, Matt Scripter, Jada Brown, Todd Risk

Doug distributed copies of the FAB Constitution, EC members list and EC Meeting Protocols

Doug called the meeting to order at 1136.

Approval of the Minutes: The draft minutes from the 38th Annual EC were published in the 2026 March Newsletter in draft form. There were no corrections or objections. Scott moved the minutes for approval and Julianne seconded the motion. The EC voted and unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Awards: Rob Mattson, for Shannon McMorrow, Chair
There are no current nominees. FAB presents two special awards: Contributions to Florida Aquatic Biology and Contributions to FAB. Please send suggestions to Scott.

Jennifer suggested we offer the Lifetime Membership Award to a deserving member who will be presented with the award at the upcoming annual meeting. Julianne Knight-Gray proposed the motion and Todd Risk seconded. It will be kept secret until the Annual Meeting.

Bylaws: Doug Strom, Chair
There are no current or pending changes to the bylaws. Any other issues with or suggestions for the bylaws should be directed to Doug.

Editorial: Peggy Morgan, Chair
Peggy is working on the next edition of the FAB Newsletter slated for publication in July/August, 2026 and will send it to Julianne for editing. Please send Annual Meeting and Workshop announcements, literature, news items, and other items of interest to Peggy at Pegrat307@msn.com.

Treasury (Finance and Endowment): Scott Duncan, Chair
The FAB checking account as of May 07, 2026, was $20,544.02. The two workshop's proceeds and expenses have not been included. On May 1, 2026, the Endowment Fund was $ 67,639.71.

Jennifer Davenport and Dave Karlen are designated signers for the checking account.

When Scott and Rob went to Wells Fargo at the end of January to transfer the accounts from Rob to Scott, they found that it was not correctly set up. FAB wasn't designated as a non-profit and Wells Fargo was unable to change it, so we had to close the old account and reopen a new non-profit account. Wells Fargo had set it up incorrectly.

Internet: Jennifer Davenport, Chair
Jen reported that she is trying to replace Rob's address with Scott's on the FAB Business Profile, but it keeps getting errors. She is continuing to work on it with Google.

The cost of the Weebly monthly internet plan has increased from $22 to $27. Jen says we could go to a lesser plan ($15/month). This plan does not include item reviews (for merchandise we sell), PayPal or priority support, which we currently have. We would still have full phone support, just not priority.

Julianne motioned that we change our account to the less expensive plan suggested by Jen. Rob seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Jen will make the change in August when the account comes due.

There was some discussion regarding ADA accessibility of our website. Evidentially, someone in Gainesville is suing organizations for not providing adequate ADA accessibility.

Holly Sweat has been going through this for Smithsonian's IRL species inventory website because of a lot of new accessibility requirements. One of the biggest things that took care of a lot of the requirements was to make sure that the website is readable by a screen reader, which sight impaired people will have. There are tools online that you can download that allow you to see if the web page is compatible with ADA requirements. We should check into this, and it might be something that's pretty quick and easy to do.

Doug and Jen will be looking into this, perhaps with Holly's help.

Membership: Carrie Scarola, Co-Chair
Carrie reported that FAB currently has 34 paying members as of January 06, 2026.

Jada Brown suggested that a student membership discount be offered in the future. The Membership Committee will discuss and present a proposal to the EC. Doug will check what the FAB Constitution says about students. Jada offered to assist the Committee.

Jada also offered to do outreach to students for the FAB Annual Meeting.

Andy asserted that we send reminders to FAB members to pay the annual dues.

Nominating: Craig Duxbury, Chair
Michael Middlebrooks has been nominated for President-Elect beginning January 1, Scott Duncan is now Treasurer, and Peggy Morgan will continue as Secretary through 2026, but indicated that the EC should search for her replacement.

Workshop: Matt Scripter for Michael Mddlebrooks, Chair
Dave Karlen is working on coordinating the 2026 Fall Taxonomic Workshop, which will be held at the University of Tampa Marine Field Station towards the end of October 2026. The taxonomic focus will be Pycnogonidae. The 2027 Spring Taxonomic Workshop will be on Trichoptera, presented by Andy Rasmussen and Dana Denson, who are currently completing a new FDEP Trichoptera guide. It will be held at the usual venue at the University of Florida, Gainesville.

Offering a caddisfly t-shirt for the 2027 Spring Taxonomic Workshop was suggested.

Registered Agent: Julianne Knight-Gray, Chair
Dave Evans, who retired as Registered Agent last year, has helped Julianne transition to her new role as Chair. The Registered Agent manages FAB's tax-exempt status as per a 501(3) non-profit organization. Annual and quarterly reports are required. Dave and Julianne submitted the last quarterly report to the State and Julianne will file the Federal report this summer.

The official address for FAB on Sunbiz is Julianne's home address. Scott has been listed as FAB Treasurer on Sunbiz account.

New Business/Action Items: President, Matt Scripter, is considering two venues for the Annual Meeting in September/October; Orlando Wetlands Park, Christmas, Florida, or The Environmental Learning Center in Wabasso, FL. The former would be free of charge, but he's not yet sure about the latter. There was discussion regarding the best date so as not to interfere with the Fall Workshop, and to accommodate student presenters. Jada Brown preferred September, while Andy Rasmussen thought October was better. Wayne Price stated that many undergraduate students are required to do research over the summer and therefore would be prepared to present in September. It was decided to try to schedule the Annual Meeting in late September.

Matt wants to add short, 3-minute, 3 slide presentations to the Annual Meeting. These would serve as quick updates on taxonomic issues and research projects.

There was discussion regarding the length of the meeting (2 full days or 2 ½ days) and what days of the week it be held.

Follow-up Tasks:

- Internet: Continue to work with Google to replace Rob's address with Scott's on the FAB Business Profile (Jennifer). Change the Weebly monthly plan to a less costly one (in August – Jennifer). Determine ADA compliance of our website (Doug, Jen and Holly)

- Student membership discount for workshops and Annual Meeting: The Membership Committee will discuss and present a proposal to the EC (Shannon, Carrie and Peggy).

- Nominating Committee: Conduct recruitment for member to replace Peggy as Secretary (Craig, Scott, Doug, Peggy).

- Newsletter Content Collection: Send information about upcoming workshops and Annual Meeting, and any relevant content (including group photos from the meeting) and any interesting taxonomy or aquatic ecology references to Peggy for inclusion in the August newsletter. (All Members)

- Financial Report Preparation: Prepare and email the financial report, including the endowment balance, to Craig, Doug, Jennifer, Scott, and others for the business meeting. (Scott)

Julianne motioned to adjourn, seconded by Scott and unanimously approved at 1244.
Peggy Morgan, FAB Secretary
Submitted 06/04/2026

Guess the movie Answer:
African Queen, 1951

Annual Membership fees are due February 15!

Your membership fee covers one year: January 1 - December 31 and is due February 15th of each year. Once registered, you will receive email confirmation of your purchase. If you would like to pay your dues and register for a workshop, you may add them to your cart upon check-out. They will be displayed as separate items on the receipt for easy bookkeeping.

Pay Now by Credit Card (online, preferred method)
or

Check, payable to FAB and mailed to:
Scott Duncan, Treasurer
395 Needle Blvd.
Merritt Island, FL 32953

If you *have not* paid your membership dues for 2026, please add 2026 membership dues ($35) to your cart. To check your membership status, please email: memberships@floridaaquaticbiologists.org