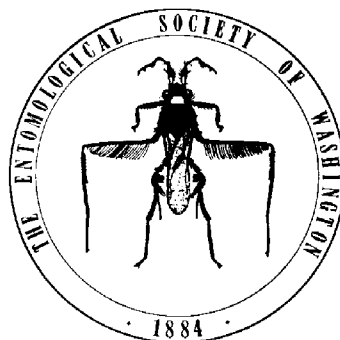


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RECENT ADVANCES IN
DIPTERAN SYSTEMATICS:
COMMEMORATIVE VOLUME
IN HONOR OF
CURTIS W. SABROSKY

Edited by
WAYNE N. MATHIS AND F. CHRISTIAN THOMPSON



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EDITORS' PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Curtis W. Sabrosky is a distinguished member of the Entomological Society of Washington, and the Society wishes to further honor him through publication of this *Festschrift*. *Festschrift*, a German word meaning festive or celebrative writing, describes this undertaking, as it is traditionally a collection of papers written by colleagues to commemorate a distinguished associate. As such, it is appropriate that this *Festschrift* reflect the areas of distinction for which the honor is bestowed. Two long-time friends were asked to write about the man himself.

Most of the contributions are concerned with description of new taxa of flies. Diptera are an immensely diverse order of insects, and one of Curt's major accomplishments has been to describe them. It is fitting that many new taxa described herein are patronyms in his honor.

Descriptions need names to convey the concepts they describe, and to be effective, these names should be generated in a precise and logical fashion. Thus, nomenclature, or the science of names, is essential. Some of the contributions of this *Festschrift* deal with nomenclature and stand as a reflection of Curt's distinguished service on the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature and the writing of its Code.

Scientific names in zoology are classified in a natural and logical hierarchy, as suggested by the character evidence of the animals they represent. A few of the contributions herein explore aspects of the natural hierarchy of various taxa within Diptera.

Numerous persons assisted with the publication of this *Festschrift*. Although we cannot mention them all, it is appropriate to acknowledge David R. Smith, editor of publications for the Society. His support, particularly as demonstrated through many hours of patient editorial overview, is greatly appreciated.

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Curtis W. Sabrosky