

### **Leonora (Dolly) Katherine Gloyd (1902-1993)**

Leonora Katherine Gloyd was born August 29, 1902 in Kansas. She married Howard K. Gloyd, together they had a child, Helen K. born in 1940 (another unknown?) Mrs. Gloyd worked primarily at the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

An entomologist and dragonfly expert (Odonata), Leonara Gloyd was described as a diligent and meticulous worker on American Odonata. Her qualities of curation and library skill were greatly respected. She was Assistant in Odonata to E. B. Williamson, who had become the Research Associate in Odonata at the University of Michigan. Williamson had donated his own private collection, considered the most extensive in North America, and Mrs. Gloyd worked at his side during the years 1928-33. These years were notable for the development of Odonata collections and active research. Upon Williamson's death in 1933, Gloyd continued to care for this collection, completing one of his papers and conducting a number of studies of her own.

Her husband, Howard Gloyd, an herpetologist at the University of Michigan, left in 1936 to become director of the Chicago Academy of Sciences. Leonora Gloyd worked for the Illinois Natural History Survey during this time, while raising her children and maintaining a connection to the UMMZ to pursue her work with Odonata. After H.K. and L.K. divorced, Leonara moved back to Michigan to UMMZ, an association with the UMMZ that lasted nearly 70 years.

In her earlier years in Ann Arbor, Mrs. Gloyd traveled in several expeditions to the U. S. Southwest, as well as some in Michigan, and collected around the Ann Arbor area. From 1932-1936, she collected frequently at Third Sister Lake in Saginaw Forest off Liberty Road in Ann Arbor. Mrs. Gloyd eventually described the damselfly *Enallagma vernale* after examining some unusual *Enallagma* from Third Sister Lake collected by a colleague in 1919. During the 1930s too few additional specimens provided enough detail to present formally until 1939 when she finally published her description, although there is still debate as to its validity. Leonara Gloyd provided an immense amount of help to students in the group. From the 1930s until the late 1980s, she identified many specimens sent to her by others, and many researchers have acknowledged her assistance in their publications. She contributed about 1700 Michigan specimens to the UMMZ collection, including a very large collection of *Amphiagrion* specimens. She was a world expert on *Agria*, and her copious notes were valued by researchers for their description of every taxon described under the genus.

Leonara suffered a stroke in 1986, and by 1987 her writing was unintelligible. She died in Plano, Collin County, Texas, June 2, 1993.

#### **Chicago Academy of Sciences Publications:**

Gloyd, Leonora K. *Gomphus subapicalis* Williamson, a synonym of *Gomphus lentulus* Needham (Odonata). Bulletin of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, vol. 6, no. 5. Chicago Academy of Sciences, 1941.

Gloyd, Leonora K. The identity of three geographically misplaced species of Odonata. Bulletin of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, vol. 6, no. 6. Chicago Academy of Sciences, 1941.

Gloyd, Leonora K. The status of the generic names Gomphoides, Negomphoides, Progomphus, and Ammogomphus (Odonata: Gomphidae)

Gloyd, Leonora K. The union of *Argia fumipennis* (Burmeister, 1839) with *Argia violacea* (Hagen, 1861) and the recognition of three subspecies (Odonata)

Gloyd, Leonora K. The dragonfly fauna of the Big Bend Region of Trans-Pecos Texas

Gloyd, Leonora K. The taxonomic status of the genera *Superlestes* and *Cyptolestes* Williamson, 1921, (Odonata: Lestidae)

Gloyd, Leonora K. A new species of *Archilestes* from Mexico (Odonata: Lestinae)

Gloyd, Leonora K. A new species of the genus *Libellula* from Yucatan

**References:**

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