

Editor's Note

As many members of the biology community are already aware, Dr. Rufus R. Humphrey died this past fall. He was 85 years old at the time of his death. After being awarded the Ph.D. degree from Cornell University in 1923, he began his career at the University of Buffalo (now the State University of New York at Buffalo). For some 34 years he was on the faculty of the Anatomy Department, until his retirement in 1957. He then moved his collection of axolotls to Indiana University, where he established the I.U. Axolotl Colony. Active in research right up to the day he entered the local hospital (after complaining of symptoms of heart disease), he had several manuscripts in press at the time of his death. In the next issue of the Newsletter, his complete bibliography will be published, for, by then, all of his final papers will have been published. As a scientist, teacher, scholar, and gentleman, he will be remembered in the fondest ways by all of us who had the distinct pleasure of having been associated with him.

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In the last issue of the Newsletter, mention was made of new space which was acquired by the Axolotl Colony. We recently had a telephone installed in the room where the desks of Ms. Fran Bacher (geneticist) and Mr. Larry Lawrence (manager) are located. The number is (812)-337-8260. Generally, we prefer requests for material in writing. But, should a telephone conversation be desirable, for either requesting animals or information, please contact either Ms. Bacher or Mr. Lawrence at that number. We plan to install an automatic answering device for the telephone. When we are not able to answer the telephone, the answering device will record your message, and your call will be returned.

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Call for information: In the next issue of the Newsletter, we plan to publish a directory of axolotl colonies. We would like the director of each colony (large or small) to send us a brief description of the colony, including a list of the types of stocks or mutant genes maintained in the colony. Responses from even relatively small operations (few dozen animals) will be appreciated. Please provide this information by early September, 1978, for inclusion in the fall issue (published in October).

George M. Malacinski