Mulsant, Étienne. Mulsant was born in Mornant, Département du Rhône, France, on March 2, 1797. He died on November 4, 1880, in Lyon, France.

Mulsant obtained his education at the colleges in Belley, Roanne, and Tournon. After graduation he first worked at a commercial establishment. At that time (1830) he published his first paper: "Lettres à Julie sur l’entomologie . . .", which was a discussion of different groups of insects (interspersed with short pieces of his own poetry) in the form of letters written to the young lady who eventually became his wife. Later Mulsant went to Lyon to join his parents, and eventually became the curator of the library of the city of Lyon and the professor of natural history at the lycée in Lyon. He held these two posts his whole life, while at the same time proceeding tirelessly with his entomological studies. In addition to his entomological work, Mulsant also published on ornithology (including a paper on humming birds) and on general natural history. He was an honorary member of the Société entomologique de France, and a corresponding member of the Académie des Sciences.

Mulsant was one of the most eminent and prolific European coleopterists (although he also published on Heteroptera) of the nineteenth century. The list of his entomological publications contains almost 250 items, in addition to a long list of his contributions to the series Histoire naturelle des Coléoptères de France (some in coauthorship with Rey—see under Rey), Histoire naturelle des Punaises de France (in coauthorship with Rey), and eight volumes of Opuscules entomologiques.

Mulsant treated the Staphylinidae, in coauthorship with Rey, in nine volumes of the Histoire naturelle des Coléoptères de France between 1872 and 1878. Four additional volumes were published solely by Rey between 1880 and 1883 (see under Rey). The meticulously executed, detailed descriptions of all taxa in these treatments are well known to anybody seriously involved in the taxonomy of the family. The series became a standard reference for a long time.

Mulsant described in Staphylinidae 361 species (almost all in coauthorship with Rey, 1 in coauthorship with Godard, and 1 by himself) and 109 genera (in coauthorship with Rey). [A.S.]


Münster (also Munster), Thomas Georg. Münster was born in Kristiania, Norway, on March 1, 1855. He died on March 10, 1938, in Oslo, Norway.
Following the family tradition, Münster took his degree in mining geology at the university in Kristiania. He worked for some time in the metallurgical laboratory of the Kongelige Frederiks Universitet in Oslo, and later for the Norwegian geological survey, where he was responsible for the geological mapping of the country. At the same time he pursued a career with the Kongsberg Silver Mine, where he ended up as a mint-master. He left Kongsberg in 1906, when he was appointed the superintendent of mines of the Finmarken (1906) and Östand (1911) districts. He retired in 1918.

Münster was one of the early, widely respected, Norwegian entomologists who provided the groundwork for Norwegian coleopterology. In 1904, Münster was one of the founders of the Norsk Entomologisk Forening, and in 1920, as one of the initiators of the journal Norsk Entomologisk Tidsskrift, he became the main editor of it. He became honorary member of the Norsk Entomologisk Forening, the Svensk Entomologisk Föreningen, and the Finnish Entomological Society in Helsinki.

Münster published 72 papers, mostly dealing with various beetle families of the northern fauna. Numerous papers included Staphylinidae, e.g., the Norwegian Quediini (1923), members of the genera Atheta (1923, 1932), Arpedium (1933), Olophrum (1935, 1936), etc. He described 16 taxa at the specific level and one taxon at the generic level in Staphylinidae. His large collection of beetles and library went in 1918 to the Universitets Zoologiska Museum in Oslo, and his spare collection (mainly Norwegian species) to the museum in Bergen. [A.S.]

**Sources:**
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**Naomi, Shun-Ichiro.** Naomi, of Japan, was born on October 31, 1955. He dedicated himself to studying the family after he realized the group was unfamiliar to amateur entomologists because the species were so difficult to identify. He is interested in the Steninae, Megalopsidiinae, Piestinae, Osoriinae, Tachyporinae, and Trichophyinae of the eastern Palaearctic region. One of his major contributions is a series of 11 articles on the comparative morphology of the Staphylinoidea. He has published many articles on the Steninae of the eastern Palaearctic, particularly Japan. He has also published taxonomic articles on Anisolinus, Amichrotus, Phytolinus, Velleius, Ocyopus, Siagonium, Trichophya, Thinobius, and Megalopinus, has revised the Xanthopygina and Leptochirini, and the genera Piestoneus, Nacaeus, Lispinus, Neolosus, and Sepedophilus of Japan, and has worked on the Osoriinae of Japan. One of his goals is to
write checklists of the Steninae and Tachyporinae of Japan. He has described 176 nominal species and 5 genera.

**Navarrete-Heredia, José Luis.** Navarrete-Heredia, of Mexico, was born on January 28, 1964. His interest in staphylinids was initiated by his work on beetles associated with mushrooms and his interactions with Campbell and Smetana during a visit to Ottawa in 1988. That interest was cemented a year later due to discussions with Newton and Thayer while visiting the Field Museum. He is pursuing studies of the taxonomy and ecology of the Oxyporinae, Scaphidiinae, Staphylininae, and Tachyporinae of the Neotropics, particularly Mexico. He has published a general discussion of the Staphylinidae of Mexico, articles on *Sepedophilus*, *Styngetus*, and *Oxyporus*, along with an article on the natural history of two species of *Philonthus*. He is working on a guide for identification of the staphylinid genera of Mexico and a revision of *Glenus*. He hopes to revise or review the Neotropical genera of the Philonthina and Xanthopygina and is interested in working with *Philonthus* and *Belonuchus* of the region. He has described two species.

**Newton, Alfred Francis.** Newton, of the USA, was born on September 11, 1944. He collected beetles as a teenager and became interested in the family in graduate school because the group was large, diverse, and seemed challenging, the species were easily collected in a standardized fashion for surveys and ecological studies, and, at the time, there were few others working on them. He is interested in the entire family but particularly the Staphylininae, Osoriinae, and various smaller subfamilies. Much of his work is focused on elucidating the higher classification and phylogenetic relationships within the Staphylinoidea. His published work includes annotated (coauthored) catalogs of the genera (with their type species) of the Pselaphinae and the Scydmaenidae, a catalog of the family-group names of the Staphylinioidea and the current classification, and the description of the single genus and all the species of a new subfamily (the Protopselaphinae). He has contributed to understanding of fungivory and to distributional patterns in the south temperate regions. He has published on genera in a number of subfamilies and has often included a general discussion of the classification or position of the genus in the subfamily or some other general phenomenon. One component of his work is the integration of adult and larval characters into the classification. His long-range goals include continuation of the higher classification and understanding of the phylogeny of the Staphylinoidea, further work on the biogeography of the south temperate fauna, and completion of a various species-level studies. He is currently completing (with others) a guide to the staphylinid genera of Mexico, a revision of the New World *Platyracus*, and a review of the suprageneric classification of the Osoriinae. His skill as a collector and his collaboration with others has resulted in a collection of more than a million adult and larval Staphylinidae and he has built the world’s largest larval collection of the family. He has described 1 species and 2 genera and coauthored 14 other species and 2 more genera.
Nordmann, Alexander. Nordmann was born in Rantasalmi (county Wiborg), Finland, on May 24, 1803, of a Germanized Finnish family. He died on June 25, 1866, in Helsingfors, Finland.

Nordmann studied at Åbo and from there he went to Berlin, where he became a student of Rudolphi. While in Berlin, he wrote his work *Mikroskopische Beiträge* in which he for the first time brought attention to parasitic Crustacea and Trematoda. The work attracted attention and he was given a professorial chair in Odessa. While there, he explored the extinct and recent fauna of southern Russia and published the results in several important publications. In 1849 he was appointed professor to succeed R. F. Sahlberg at the University in Helsingfors, a post he held until his death. Nordmann was not very popular among his colleagues and students at the university, in part because he refused (supported only by Mäklin) to consider any work done on Finnish fauna and flora important. In his old age Nordmann became “an original character”, and none of his later work received the recognition of his early work.

Nordmann’s contribution to the study of Staphylinidae comes through his early work “Symbolae ad Monographiam Staphylinorum”, published in 1837 in St. Petersburg. In this paper he described 89 new species and 17 new genera, and also presented an original division of the family. The paper is still frequently consulted for nomenclatorial and taxonomical purposes. [A.S.]


Normand, Henri. Very few biographical data for Normand are available. The exact date and place of birth are unknown, as well as the exact date of death, but he likely died between June 24 and September 23, 1959 (judging from the reports of the “séances” in the *Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France* for the year 1959 (volume 64) that include reports of recent deaths of the members. He almost certainly died in Le Kef, Tunisia.

Normand spent almost his entire life in Le Kef, at least partially as a head of a hospital there. He was a life member of the Société entomologique de France since 1895, a Grand-officier de la Légion d’honneur, an Officier d’Académie, and a Chevalier du Mérite agricole.

Normand was an expert on the beetle fauna of North Africa, particularly that of Tunisia. He published many papers dealing with many beetle families. Many of them were parts of two series: *Nouveaux Coléoptères de la Faune tunisienne* and *Contribution au catalogue des Coléoptères de la Tunisie*. His last paper was published in 1955. He described 68 species in Staphylinidae. [A.S.]

Notman, Howard. Notman was born in Brooklyn, New York, USA, on April 20, 1881. He died on August 8, 1966, in Topanga, California, USA.

Notman was a man of varied talents whose interests included science, art, and music. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1903, but he was also an accomplished artist, having studied under Constantin Herzberg at the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. His overriding interest, however, was entomology, in which field he was apparently self-taught. His aptitude in entomology was revealed at the age of 15, when in 1896, he captured a rare neuropteran insect, *Neurinia pardalis*, in the Adirondacks. Young Notman sent the specimen to the State Entomologist, along with a colored figure of his own making. This marked the first sighting of this insect in New York State.

Notman had a summer home in the Adirondacks, and much of his collecting was centered in the area around Keene Valley. The rugged surroundings of the Adirondacks also furnished the subject matter for many of his paintings. Notman specialized in beetles and butterflies and by the 1920s his collection contained an estimated 75,000 specimens. He apparently devoted most of his free time during the first three decades of the twentieth century to collecting beetles and publishing descriptions of newly discovered species. In the 1920s he served as the editor of the *Journal of the New York Entomological Society* (1920–1924), and acted as the corresponding secretary of the Brooklyn Entomological Society (1923–1925). He was also a fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences. In 1931, the Notman family moved to Todt Hill on Staten Island, and there Notman kept a close association with the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences. During the 1940s, Notman either lost interest or greatly reduced his beetle collecting activities. In 1948, he donated his entire beetle collection, including the types of the taxa he described (96 species and 10 genera in Staphylinidae) to the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, where it is still kept today. In the same year, he moved to Topanga, California (his family remained on Staten Island), and lived there until his death in 1966. [A.S.]

Olivier, Guillaume Antoine. Olivier was born in Arcs, near Fréjus, France, on January 19, 1756. He died on October 10, 1814, in Lyon, France.

He studied medicine at Montpellier, but at the same time, through his acquaintance with the naturalist P.M.A. Broussonnet, he became interested in natural sciences. Later, with the aid of Broussonnet, he was employed in an economic study of natural products around Paris. He did so well that the wealthy amateur entomologist Gigot d’Orcy engaged him to collect insects in several European countries, which gave him the opportunity to accumulate material for his *Encyclopédie Méthodique*, as well as his encyclopedic work on Coleoptera (see below). During the French Revolution, Olivier was sent on a commercial mission to Persia (the plan to establish the commercial relations with Persia was abandoned while Olivier was there). He spent six years there and eventually returned to France, bringing with him large natural history collections from both European and Asiatic Turkey (Asia Minor), various Mediterranean Islands,
Persia, and Egypt. He proceeded to describe the insects and other animals from these collections. Eventually he was appointed professor of zoology at the Veterinary School of Alfort near Paris, and was elected a member of the Institut de France in 1800. He became one of the most renowned and sought after entomologists of that time. He was also a good friend of Fabricius and a protector and provider for poor Latreille during the politically unstable, revolutionary period from 1810 until his death in 1814. Apparently Olivier died of an aortal aneurism.

Olivier’s most important work is his publication dealing with Coleoptera: *Entomologie, ou histoire naturelle des insectes, avec leurs . . .*, published in six volumes with 363 color plates (1789–1808). He treated the Staphylinidae within three genera: *Staphylinus* (56 species), *Oxyporus* (1 species), and *Paederus* (7 species), essentially following Fabricius in this respect. Olivier named 18 species of staphylinids. [A.S.]


Olliff, Arthur Sidney. Olliff was born in Millbrook, Hampshire, England, on October 21, 1865. He died on December 29, 1895, in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

Olliff was employed as a young boy by E. W. Janson to prepare insects, and later did similar work at the British Museum. He became curator and private secretary to Lord Walsingham until he left England for Australia in December 1884, to take the post of the assistant zoologist (entomologist) at the Australian Museum in Sydney. He held this post until 1890, when he was appointed Government Entomologist at the Agricultural Department of New South Wales, a post he still held at the time of his early death.

Olliff’s contribution to the knowledge of Staphylinidae lies in his three parts of “A Revision of the Staphylinidae of Australia”, published in 1886 (parts 1 and 2) and in 1887 (part 3). In these three papers Olliff provided a basic treatment of Australian Staphylinidae. Combined with contributions by Blackburn, who worked on the Australian members of the family at
about the same time, these were the only treatments of the group for Australia until Lea published his first article on staphylinids the year Olliff died. His treatment was rather conservative at the generic level (he explained his philosophy in the introduction), resulting in very few new genera being described, mostly for quite distinctive taxa. Strangely enough, Olliff never worked on the family again, but this was perhaps due to the fact that he died when only 30 years old. He published 72 papers, but only three dealt with the Staphylinidae. Olliff described 49 species and three genera in Staphylinidae. His collection, including the types, is housed partly in the Australian Museum in Sydney, partly in the British Museum (Natural History), London. [A.S.]


**Orousset, Jean.** Orousset, of France, has worked primarily with the tiny staphylinids of the Euaesthetinae and Leptotyphlinae, particularly species of *Edaphus*, *Octavius*, and *Leptotyphlus*. He also published articles on other genera such as *Phloeocarhis* and *Cylindropsis*. He has named 157 species and 5 genera.

**Outerelo, Raimundo.** Outerelo, of Spain, was born on October 13, 1947. He started working on the family during his faunal investigations of the group in the Guadarrama Sierra of Spain. He is broadly interested in the Staphylindae, particularly those of the Palaearctic region. He has published a number of articles on the Leptotyphlinae, an identification guide to the subfamilies and genera of the Staphylindae of the Iberian Peninsula, along with taxonomic articles on *Quedius*, *Leptactus*, *Xantholinus*, *Phalacrotilus*, *Scopaeus*, *Domene*, *Oedichirus*, *Lathrobium*, *Phloeocarhis*, and *Lusitanopsis*, among other genera. Much of his current work is directed at the edaphic and cavernicolous fauna, particularly the Leptotyphlinae, Osoriinae, and Pselaphinae (*Mayetia*), and his long-range plans are to improve knowledge of the Staphylindae of the Iberian Peninsula. He has published 27 nominal species.

**Pace, Roberto.** Pace, of Italy, was born on May 7, 1935. He began his work on the Staphylindae as a result of his studies of the literature at the Museo Civico de Storia Naturale de Verona, the support of S. Buffo, G. Osella, and A. Zanetti, the influence of the works by Coiffait, Smetana, Besuchet, and Jeannel, and the availability of collections held by museums and colleagues. He is primarily interested in and most of his published work has been on the Leptotyphlinae and Aleocharinae. He has concentrated his efforts on the Leptotyphlinae of the Mediterranean region and the Aleocharinae of the Indian, Indomalay, Papuan,
east African, Madagascan, and Neotropical regions, but has published on the taxa of other regions as well. He has published more than 200 articles, many of them major treatments of the fauna of a region. The bulk of his publications have been on the Aleocharinae. A few of his major works include his monograph of the *Leptusa* of the world, his treatment of the Leptotyphlini of Italy, and the Aleocharinae of the Galapagos, the Mascarenes, and New Caledonia. He also found and described *Crowsoniella relicta*, later assigned to its own family. One of the hallmarks of his work is habitus and genital illustration for each species. The number of new taxa he has described is phenomenal. In 1973 he described his first 3 species; since then he has described new species and genera at the average rate of more than 100 taxa per year, with a low of 2 in 1974 and a high of 386 in 1991. Through 1998 he described more than 2,400 species and more than 200 genera. His goal is to make the Aleocharinae more easily identifiable, in part through the publication of carefully prepared illustrations. He hopes that his work will lead to a revision of the generic and tribal classification, which, at the moment, he believes is premature because of the vast amount of undescribed material.

**Palm, Thure.** Palm was born on January 30, 1894, in Bellinga near Ystad in southern Sweden, where his father was an estate manager. He died on May 2, 1987, in Malmö, Sweden.

Palm was a blessed coleopterist who managed to stay in excellent physical and mental condition well into his 90s, which allowed him to continue his research work and field activities until near his death. For example, in 1981, when 87 years old, he collected for a month in Malaysia, on Penang Island and in the Cameron Highlands; in 1986, at 92, he wrote to me about his recent collecting in west Africa and in Bulgaria!

Palm’s interest in insects started as early as 1912, when he was a student in Ystad. In 1918, after passing an examination, he became the forestry officer in Domänverket and in 1920 an assistant in the Ombergs district. Around 1926, Palm started to seriously study Swedish Coleoptera, particularly those of importance for forestry. In addition to many short contributions, he published two books dealing with the beetles inhabiting the wood and bark of the deciduous trees of northern Sweden in 1951 and of middle and southern Sweden in 1959; these books contain ecological and bionomical data for many members of Staphylinidae. His attention to the faunistic-ecological aspects of coleopterology, his enormous experience and knowledge in the field, and his excellent taxonomical skills were Palm’s trademarks. In 1953, he received an honorary doctor degree from the University in Lund for his exceptional achievements. He was one of the most recognized Swedish coleopterists of modern times.

Palm published over 200 papers, many of them dealing with the systematics, faunistics, and ecology of Staphylinidae. He treated the family in an excellent way within the series Svensk Insektafauna, published in seven parts between 1948 and 1972. He described 22 species in Staphylinidae. He donated his Coleoptera collection to the University of Lund, where it is still housed. [A.S.]
Paykull, Gustaf. Paykull was born in Stockholm, Sweden, on August 21, 1757, the son of the army major Carl Fredrik Paykull and Beata Charlotta Simming. He died on January 28, 1826, in Stockholm.

Paykull received his early education by private tutors. During his youth he stayed temporarily at the estate Hesselby close to Uppsala, where Linne often made his excursions. Paykull’s interest in natural history was probably stimulated by these outings with Linne. He also showed interest and talent in classical poetry and literature, and during the 1780s several literary works were written, among them comedies and tragedies written in classical Greek style, as well as translations of Anacreon, Sappho, and Bion. However, his literary efforts met with rather modest success, and for that reason, it was said, he turned his attention to natural history. After graduation from the University of Uppsala, Paykull embarked on his career in 1779, which in 1796 led him to an appointment as the principal assistant secretary in the federal administration. This position brought him the necessary contacts and made him also a wealthy man.

Paykull discovered early that the “art of collecting” provided him with great amusement, and also was a way of making him a man of respect among his contemporary colleagues. He obviously had a good sense of organization and systematics. That ability, combined with his wealth, enabled him to build up one of the largest private collections of natural objects ever seen in Sweden. During the late 1700s Paykull established contacts with many of the leading entomological authorities, including Fabricius in Kiel, who provided him with insights into higher systematics. Paykull’s works accordingly reflected Fabricius’ system, particularly in his monographic treatments of Swedish rove beetles, ground beetles, and weevils, which appeared in rapid succession in 1789, 1790, and 1792. The monographic treatment of Staphylinidae was the first of its kind. All three were, in a way, tests for his *Insecta Svecica* (1798–1800), showing somewhat modernized taxonomy and systematic treatment.

At the turn of the century, Paykull traveled several times abroad, often with the aim of enriching his rapidly growing collections of Mammalia, Aves, and Insecta. His correspondents included Latreille, Marsham, Müller, Rossi, and others, and he met Cuvier and Latreille in Paris. At the Mediterranean Sea he made large collections of birds (these were his second favorite group and he described several new species based on specimens he collected), insects, and conchylia. He also went to St. Petersburg and met there the Czar, who presented him with a diamond ring in appreciation of his literary efforts.

Paykull was a member of several scientific and literary societies, and in 1791 he was elected a member of the Swedish...
Academy of Sciences. He was a respected authority among his contemporary Swedish colleagues, such as Gyllenhal, Schön- herr, Thunberg, and others. He kept an extensive exchange of specimens, but his passionate drive to collect made him sometimes a less wanted guest in the collections. Some curators spoke of specimens being "paykullarized", i.e., kept by Paykull for his own collection. This explains, why some types of De Geer are being discovered in Paykull’s collection. His giant collection, mainly birds and insects, was in a separate building at his large estate Wallox-Säby. The larger mammals were kept in the main buildings at several private estates. The collection comprised some 80 large mammals, 1,362 birds, numerous fish preparations, and 8,600 species of insects!

In 1816, Paykull was appointed baronet and two years later, after some arrangements about the royalties, he donated all his collections to the state in favor of creating a center for their keeping in Stockholm. This was the initiation of the Riksmuseum. According to the contemporary witnesses, the transportation of the collection was a spectacular sight. The ship Amphitrite needed three trips across Lake Valloxen to complete the evacuation.

After his retirement, Paykull spent his last years at Wallox-Säby, making occasional trips to the Riksmuseum in Stockholm.

Paykull described 51 species in Staphylinidae. [A.S.]


Peyerimhoff de Fontenelle, Paul-Marie. Peyerimhoff was born in Colmar, France, on October 7, 1873, as the second son of his father Henri, the mayor of Colmar. He died on January 2, 1957.

Peyerimhoff obtained his education at the Collège Saint-Sigisbert in Nancy and later at the Ecole des Eaux et Forêts in the same city, to become a forester. It was in the latter school where he started his entomology work. In 1896 he was named the Garde général des Eaux et Forêts à Senones (Vosges). Around that time, while doing his first survey of the cavernicolous fauna in Basses-Alpes, Peyerimhoff befriended J. Sainte-Claire Deville, an artillery lieutenant in Nice at that time, who eventually became a celebrated French entomologist.

Peyerimhoff was requested by his brother Henri, who was Maître de Requêtes au Conseil d’État, to come to Algeria to serve in various functions attached to the Station de Recherches Forestières du Nord du Afrique. He eventually became the director of this institution in 1935, and served in this capacity until his retirement in 1937. At that time Peyerimhoff was Inspector général honoraire des Eaux et Forêts and also the Officier de la Légion d’honneur. He was, however, recalled to direct the Station de Recherches forestières du Bois de Boulogne à Alger during the war years of 1939–1942. Only in 1950, due to illness, did Peyerimhoff abandon his interests in this station.
Peyerimhoff’s scientific output was quite copious and wide ranging. The list of his publications stands at around 350 items. In addition to publications dealing with various aspects of his job as a forester, he published many taxonomic papers dealing predominantly with Coleoptera, papers on biogeography, ecology, phylogeny, and papers on cavernicolous beetles. He contributed immensely to the knowledge of the Coleoptera (including Staphylinidae) of North Africa, including the Sahara (in his treatment of Coleoptera in the series Mission scientifique du Hoggar he reported 43 species of Staphylinidae, many of them endemic to central Sahara). He named 80 species and 4 genera of staphylinids. [A.S.]


Poppius, Bertil Robert. Poppius was born on July 28, 1876; he died on November 27, 1916, in Copenhagen, Denmark. Detailed biographical data are not readily available.

Poppius was one of the students of J. R. Sahlberg, who considered him a very capable young man. He worked at the Entomological Museum in Helsinki, first as a volunteer and later as an Amanuensis, until he became the custodian at the Zoological Museum in 1912. He held this post until his untimely death in 1916.

Already during his early career, Poppius undertook many extensive collecting trips in the historical Finland, in northern Russia, and Siberia, including a joint trip with the botanist A. K. Cajander to the Lena valley. The rich material of specimens collected during these trips formed a base for his numerous papers dealing with the north Palaearctic beetle fauna, such as “Die Coleopteren des arktischen Gebietes”, published in 1910. He had an excellent general knowledge of Coleoptera, and in addition to Staphylinidae, he also published taxonomic papers dealing with Carabidae. His extensive monograph of the ground beetle genus *Cryobius* is probably one of his most recognized works. While at the museum in Helsinki, Poppius was involved with several groups of insects in addition to beetles. Through O. M. Reuter, he became interested in Heteroptera, particularly when Reuter lost his eyesight in his old age, and he published several large monographs on these insects.

Poppius described 41 species and 1 genus in Staphylinidae. [A.S.]

Puthz, Volker. Puthz, of Germany, was born on July 9, 1941. Volker became intrigued with staphylinids when he found many species of *Stenus* in a single collection of beetles in debris. He was encouraged by other entomologists at the Deutsche Entomologische Gessellschaft, and by Herbert Franz. He is primarily interested in the Steninae, Megalopsidiinae, and Euaesthetinae of the World and in the history of science, particularly for biology and entomology. His goal is to review all the species and genera of the three subfamilies and to publish catalogs and keys for them. He is currently working on the Steninae of China and the Euaesthetinae of Australia. Through 1998 he has described more than 1,300 species and 2 genera, and has published more than 340 articles including a monograph of the African species of *Stenus*, more than 250 articles on the Steninae, 79 on the Euaesthetinae and 21 on the Megalopsidiinae; these numbers do not include the numerous notes reporting species from various sites. When possible, he has published critical illustrations for all species. Probably the most impressive feature of his work is his continual refinement of the taxonomy and classification. His body of work on the Steninae constitutes a major contribution to the understanding of the group.

Raitschev, Ivan Miltschev. Raitschev, of Bulgaria, was born on January 1, 1956. He became interested in the Staphylinidae through one of his professors, Ilko Vassilev. He is especially interested in the species of Bulgaria, and has published a number of articles on species of the country with the goal of making the species of Bulgaria better known. He has named three species.

Rambousek, František. Rambousek was born in Liblice near Český Brod, Czech Republic, on April 1, 1886. He died on September 14, 1931 in Prague, Czech Republic. Rambousek developed his interest in natural history early and he started to collect beetles as a teenager. His attention soon turned to the families Staphylinidae and Pselaphidae, an interest that lasted throughout his entire life. He received his doctoral degree from Charles University in Prague in 1913. He worked briefly as an assistant at the Institute of Zoology of Charles University, and as a teacher at the Academy of Commerce in Prague. In 1916 he was hired by the Research Institute of the Sugar Industry, and established and headed a modern phytopathological section that became internationally known.

Rambousek traveled extensively, not only officially but also privately, to collect beetles, staphylinids in particular. He collected extensively in Europe, particularly in the Balkans, and also in North Africa. He took part in the International Entomological Congress in Ithaca in 1928, and afterwards visited many institutions in the United States of America, and also went to Cuba to study the sugar industry there. Needless to say, he collected staphylinids everywhere he went. Rambousek accumulated a very impressive collection and became a widely recognized expert on the family. However his professional duties in the sugar beet industry consumed a lot of his time and energy, and consequently he did not publish many papers on staphylinids. The list of his publications includes about 27 items, one of
them a large book dealing with pests and species beneficial for sugar beets. Rambousek’s large staphylinid collection, including the types, is deposited in the Entomological Department of the National Museum in Prague, Czech Republic. He named 43 species and 4 genera of Staphylinidae. [A.S.]


Reitter, Edmund. Reitter was born in Mohelnice (Müglitz at that time) in north-central Moravia, now Czech Republic (he shares this birthplace with Max Bernhauer, see above), on October 22, 1845. His father was a forester; his mother died when he was a small child. Reitter died on March 15, 1920, in Paskov, Moravia, now Czech Republic.

Reitter graduated from the gymnasium in Opava. While a student there he met Dr. Richter, who stimulated Reitter’s interest in beetles. Following his father’s wishes, Reitter went into farming. In 1869 he took a job as farm manager at the country estate of the count Moritz Saint Genois in Paskov, and later he became the exclusive lessee of the large fishing ponds on this estate. In 1871 he married the daughter of the beer brewer on the same estate; however, his wife, after their daughter died shortly after her birth, died in 1873 at the age of only 18 years. Shortly after that, Reitter received the title of the “count’s controller of fish ponds”. He remarried in 1874, and by that time he occupied himself full-time with entomology. In 1879 he moved to Vienna and started there a specialized business selling insects. His wife stayed temporarily in Paskov, where she gave birth to their son Emmerich in 1880. In 1881 Reitter moved to Mödling, near Vienna, and enlarged his business to include entomological equipment and utensils, as well as entomological literature. His wife and both children followed him there; while in Mödling the family grew by another two daughters. By that time Reitter was already an eminent coleopterologist, and his establishment in Mödling had become a famous meeting place where materials from new collections were accumulated and determined. After his wife’s father died in 1890, Reitter’s wife insisted on returning to Paskov, and the move was made in 1891. Reitter’s business continued to grow in Paskov, so he employed his single sister Maria, his two nieces, and eventually also his son Emmerich. He also received considerable help from Antonín Sequens, a pharmacist and entomologist in Paskov. Reiter’s renown grew further, and his house in Paskov became a meeting place of European entomologists, both famous and beginners. Reitter was always ready to help, and his hospitality and generosity in giving away duplicates from his collection were widely known. In addition to his entomological activities, Reitter was active in
public relations, supporting various public associations (firefighters, etc.). His humanitarian orientation was best documented by the fact that he established and financed a small hospital in Paskov for those wounded during the First World War. He received the title Kaiserlicher Rat from the Austrian government, and many learned societies named him as an honorary or corresponding member.

After Reitter’s death, his wife and the daughters moved to Vienna. His son Emmerich took over Reitter’s business, sold the house in Paskov and moved the business to Opava (Troppau).

Reitter’s son, Emmerich, was also active entomologically, undertaking some collecting trips abroad and building his own beetle collection (one part is at the Department of Entomology of the National Museum in Prague). He also published the journal *Entomologisches Nachrichtenblatt* from 1927 until the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. He died shortly before the end of the war (January 2, 1945) in Opava and is buried there. His son, Ewald Reitter, obtained his Ph.D. degree from Charles University in Prague in 1939. After the war he continued to run the entomological business in Opava, and was associated with the Opava Museum. In 1949 he moved to Germany, and later opened his own business with entomological equipment and utensils. The business no longer exists.

Edmund Reitter was undoubtedly one of the geniuses of coleopterology. His friend Ganglbauer considered Reitter to have unequaled ability to find new usable characters on specimens studied many times by others. Reitter decided to pursue a professional entomological career when he was 34 years old in 1879 while he was in Vienna. His enormous drive and productivity is best documented by the following data: by 1892, he had already published 386 papers in 18 journals; by the end of 1902 the number increased to 641 papers; and by 1915 it was 949 papers. The total is just over 1000 titles. There is hardly a family of Coleoptera that Reitter did not touch in his writings. He wrote works like his famous *Fauna Germanica* (five volumes, 1908–1916), that remained for decades THE BOOK on beetles and educated and trained generations of coleopterists in Europe (it has remained so popular even in our modern times that it was reprinted); his series Bestimmungstabellen der europäischen Coleopteren, with contributions by Reitter himself and many other specialists that permitted the determination of many groups of beetles (including some Staphylinidae, see below); and his collaboration with Heyden and Weise on the *Catalogus Coleopterorum Europae, Caucasi et Armeniae rossicae* (1891), to name just a few. The Staphylinidae were not Reitter’s preferred group, but he contributed substantially to the knowledge of the group through his treatment of the family in *Fauna Germanica*, his treatment of “Othiini” and “Xantholinini” in the series Bestimmungstabellen der europäischen Coleopteren, as well as in numerous shorter papers containing descriptions of new species. The total number of taxa Reitter described as new is staggering: 1,062 genera, 6,411 species, and 1,193 varieties and aberrations (the corresponding figures for Staphylinidae are: 147 species, 26 genera).

Reitter also traveled and collected extensively in many European countries (mostly in those that were, at that time, within
the Austro-Hungarian Empire. He was among the first to use the “modern” sifter for collecting ground-dwelling small Coleoptera during his trip to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The technique for using sifters to collect had already been described by Kiesenwetter, but Reitter (together with Kraatz and Weise) improved the techniques and reintroduced its use. Reitter described his recommendations and experiences with the sifter in a separate paper in *Wiener Entomologische Zeitung* 5 (1886): 7–10, 45–56.

Reitter’s original collection (estimated to contain 30,000 Palearctic species in 250,000 specimens, with up to 4,500 primary types and some 10,000 “cotypes”) was sold in 1916 to the Museum in Budapest (today the Hungarian Natural History Museum) where it is still housed. However, many types of species Reitter described went to other museums and it is sometimes difficult to find them. [A.S.]


**Renkonen, Yrjö Olavi.** Renkonen was born on January 13, 1907. He died on December 12, 1959, in Helsinki, Finland.

Renkonen, a high school teacher by profession (at the *Normallyzeum* in Helsinki), studied biology at the university in Turku. His doctoral thesis dealt with the statistics and ecology of the Coleoptera of the “Bruchmoore” in Finland. This paper, and a subsequent similar study on Carabidae and Staphylinidae of a lake border in southwestern Finland, made him a name in beetle ecology. The Staphylinidae were his preferred group and he published numerous papers about their taxonomy and ecology. He described species in *Stenus*, *Lathrobium*, and *Philonthus*, and published an important monograph of the genus *Acrotrichis* (Ptiliidae) of Finland. He named eight species of the Staphylinidae. [A.S.]