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Axolotl artwork by Peter Van Eeten, Melbourne, Australia

Axolotl Colony News

Grant Renewal! The National Science Foundation grant that, along with user fees, supports the Axolotl Colony was renewed this year for three years. We want to thank all our users and others who have put in a good word for us and supported our efforts over the years.

New Staff Member. We have added an assistant curator to the colony staff. Her name is Meg Newberry, and she will be working closely with Sandi and Susan to improve animal stocks and deliver better service to you, the user. Meg has her B.S. degree in biology from IU, and she has experience as an animal caretaker and laboratory assistant. Her help is especially appreciated because, since May, Susan has been working in the colony only halftime.

International Shipments. As some of you know, we now use a freight forwarder, Phil

Thomas & Son International Co., to assist us with international shipments. This company acts as our agent in Chicago (the port of export) and makes sure that all of our packages get inspected and go out with the proper paperwork and on time. Although the additional fee (usually about \$60) makes the material more expensive for the user, we have been saved a world of trouble with lost packages, unstamped paperwork, and delayed delivery that made international shipments so frustrating before for everyone concerned.

Services. In addition to supplying live axolotl material, remember that we are able to provide other research services as well, including early embryo injection (dyes, mRNA) and fixing and freezing of staged embryos. Charges for these services are by the hour, plus the usual charge for the embryos. For more information, contact the Axolotl Colony.