



INGVAR WÄREBORN - WELL-KNOWN SCIENTIST IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

On September 9, 2005 in Linköping, Sweden, a nature scientist, teacher and teachers' educator Dr. Ingvar Wäreborn looked back to his 75-year long lifetime. He is one of the numerous scientists whose names are almost unknown to society. However, it would be difficult to realize the progress of science and intellectual life of society without his careful daily work.

Ingvar Wäreborn was born in Småland, in one of the southern areas of Sweden. He obtained a degree in biology and chemistry at Lund University, and taught these subjects at several secondary schools. During all his active and creative lifetime he has taken a great interest in the pedagogic problems as well as natural science. As the result of this interest, in 1982 at Lund university he took Doctor's Degree (Ph.D.) on the theme *Environment and molluscs in a non-calcerous forest area in Southern Sweden*. It is nothing special for a secondary school teacher to have Doctor's Degree but it is noticeable that his degree is in malacology which has nothing in common with pedagogics at first sight. However, this research was done during the period when Sweden was among the first few countries which introduced environmental education at schools. Because of Ingvar Wäreborn's investigations a lot of his students have acquired new knowledge about environment nowadays.

Since 1984 Dr. Ingvar Wäreborn worked at the Teachers' Training Department at Linköping University. Later he was Head of section of Mathematics and Natural Science for several years. At the same time he was studying thoroughly didactic problems of science. He continued his research about the influence of acidification on the forest molluscs for several years until he retired in 1995. This fundamental research was described in Report No. 4650 by Swedish National Environmental Protection Agency.

Since early 90ies Ingvar Wäreborn has taken part in various collaboration projects between Sweden and the Baltic States, mainly Latvia, including students' and teachers' exchange. He visited Latvia repeatedly, took part in natural science conferences and seminars as well as participated in organization and accomplishment of international comparative research together with Latvian scientists. Thus, he together with several other Nordic science didactic specialists has promoted the adaptation of the Baltic scientists in the European educational area. Dr. Ingvar Wäreborn has been an active member of Host Families Organisation in Linköping welcoming guest students and researchers, also, from Latvia, almost every year. Those activities do not hinder him still now to take part in seniors' folk-dance ensemble, Lionga Gille, as well as is involved in various activities of other social events.

Ingvar Wäreborn's activity is also associated with his cooperation with Latvian malacologists who received his help in identification of some, unknown until then, species of molluscs as well as an impulse for further development of malacology in Latvia. He has helped to clarify interesting facts about history of malacological research in Latvia in the 20ties and 30ties of the 20th century. Since 2001 Dr. Ingvar Wäreborn has been Honorary Member of Latvian Malacology Society.

Dr. Ingvar Wäreborn was greatly pleased to get to know the news about the foundation of Journal of Baltic Science Education. He is its senior reviewer and adviser.

Let us wish the hero of the day to stay active and creative also in the future. We hope to get his useful advice in the field of natural science for many years!

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