



Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the
Maryland Entomological Society

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New Bridge and East-Central Dorchester County, MD Survey/Field Trip Announcement

A Maryland Entomological Society summer survey/field trip is being planned for **Saturday, 11 August 2012**, to survey floral areas and wetlands along public roadsides in east-central Dorchester County, Maryland from Church Creek to Vienna. The survey/field trip is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m., meeting first at New Bridge, a prime habitat area, and lasting until around 5:00 p.m.

Location: Meet at the New Bridge boat launch parking lot (see driving directions below)

Coordinator: Dick Smith, Maryland Entomological Society Secretary

(If you plan to attend, please contact Dick at Richard.Smith@jhuapl.edu by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 6 August 2012 to register. Trip may be cancelled if the sign-up is less than six people.)

Because of low-lying fresh and brackish wetland conditions throughout much of Dorchester County, Maryland, the county supports an abundance of coastal plain insect fauna. Owing to the uniform distribution of these wetland conditions, weedy ditch and marsh and low river edge conditions are easily accessible within a few feet of public roadsides in much of the county. These areas support a great variety of mid-summer wildflowers and other plants, and these are prime attractors of the resident insects. Field trip participants will follow the field trip leader to several stops in the east-central part of the county where many freshwater and brackish habitats abound.

Species of interest that we might observe are the mistletoe-feeding Great Purple Hairstreak, *Atlides halesus* (Cramer) (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae); the beautiful Bronze Copper, *Lycaena hyllus* (Cramer) (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae); and the Dion Skipper, *Euphyes dion* (W. H. Edwards) (Lepidoptera: HesperIIDae). There are numerous insect species, including other unusual skippers, which can be found here as well. We may see the federally-endangered Delmarva Peninsula Fox Squirrel, *Sciurus niger cinereus* Linnaeus (Rodentia: Sciuridae). The area is also good for birding and botanizing.

Meeting Location and Time: New Bridge boat launch parking lot, 9:00 a.m.

Directions: Take MD-50 across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and south through the towns of Easton and Cambridge, Maryland. The distance from Annapolis to Cambridge is approximately 40 miles and is about a one hour drive. To avoid backups at the Bay Bridge toll area, Dick Smith recommends arriving at the bridge before 7:30 a.m. Approximately 10 miles east of Cambridge, turn right off of MD-50 onto Salem Road. Proceed 0.5 mile and turn right onto Ravenwood Road. Proceed about 1.5 miles and turn left onto New Bridge Road. The New Bridge boat landing parking lot will be on your right after traveling about 1.5 miles on New Bridge Road.

Rain Date: Sunday, 12 August 2012 (If rain appears likely for 11 August, contact Dick Smith [office: 443-778-4973; home: 410-997-7439; or e-mail: Richard.Smith@jhuapl.edu] on August 10 to check if the rain date will be utilized.)

Dorchester County is a relatively short drive from the Baltimore, Maryland and Washington, DC areas, so overnight stays will not be necessary.

Meet for Car Pooling before the Field Trip

If you are interested in carpooling from Baltimore to Dorchester County, please contact Fred Paras at bugandrockman@msn.com or at 410-374-0425 (home) or 410-458-6682 (cell).

MES PARTICIPATION at EDEN MILL BIOBLITZ

The [Natural History Society of Maryland](#) hosted a BioBlitz on Saturday, 23 June 2012, at the [Eden Mill Nature Center](#), 1617 Eden Mill Road, Pylesville, Harford County to search for and inventory all of the natural findings in one day. MES was well represented by members **Sam Droege** (*post facto*), **Dave Florin**, **Tim Foard**, **Richard Orr**, **Gene Scarpulla**, **Marcia Watson**, and **Jim Young**. The final insect list is being compiled and will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *Phaëton*.

MES PARTICIPATION at ROCK LODGE TRUST

The Maryland Entomological Society conducted a survey/fieldtrip on Saturday, 7 July 2012, at the Rock Lodge Trust, Rock Lodge Road, McHenry, Garrett County to inventory insects on the property. The participating MES members were **Ed Cohen**, **Joy Cohen**, **Sam Droege**, **Tim Foard**, **Phil Kean**, **Fred Paras**, **Fran Pope**, **Gene Scarpulla**, **Dick Smith**, **Marcia Watson**, and **Jim Young** (*post facto*). The final insect list is being compiled and will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *Phaëton*.

MARYLAND BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

The Maryland Biodiversity project was started in June 2012 by MES member **Bill Hubick** and Jim Brighton to thoroughly catalog the flora and fauna of Maryland. In this early stage of the project, the web site framework is in place, but they are still compiling checklists and just starting to gather photos. The Maryland Biodiversity project will only reach its full potential with support from the many exceptional naturalists that explore Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic. Bill and Jim welcome the contribution of photos/audio, and are interested in ideas or new data sets you might have. The site currently lists dragonflies, damselflies, tiger beetles, butterflies, moths, robber flies, and bees. To learn more about the project visit the website at <http://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/index.php>.

REMOTE SENSING PILOT PROGRAM for DETECTING EMERALD ASH BORERS

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) are conducting a pilot program using remote sensing equipment to detect the presence of Emerald Ash Borers, *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire (Coleoptera: Buprestidae), in trees in Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties, Maryland. A specially equipped airplane has flown over the City of Bowie, the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center near Laurel, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center near Edgewater, and other surrounding areas. The plane is equipped with a Goddard LiDAR, Hyperspectral and Thermal (G-LiHT) airborne imager that contains three types of sensors (tree dimensions, chemical signature of leaves, and thermal). If the technology proves effective, it could be utilized nationwide. The full article entitled "Scientists take a bird's-eye view of Bowie's beetles" as seen on Page A-3 of the Thursday,

12 July 2012 issue of the *Gazette-Star* can be viewed at <http://www.gazette.net/article/20120711/NEWS/707119482/1040/scientists-take-a-bird-s-eye-view-of-bowie-s-beetle-problem&template=gazette>.

FUNGUS GNAT LARVAE MIGRATION PHOTO in CARROLL COUNTY TIMES

Page C5 of the Sunday, 1 July 2012 issue of the *Carroll County Times* features a photo of a "migration of the larvae of fungus gnats" (Diptera: Mycetophilidae [fungus gnats] or [most likely] Sciaridae [dark-winged fungus gnats]) moving across a rock near Patapsco, Carroll County, Maryland. Sciaridae larvae are well-known for their mass migrations that are quite serpentine in their appearance. The Patapsco photo can be viewed at http://www.carrollcountytimes.com/gallery/news/carroll_planner/migration/image_0360d5f4-f546-50af-b262-9f0573393ac4.html.

"STINKBUG" VIDEO By FRANKENTRACTOR AND FRIENDS

The Brown Marmorated Stinkbug, *Halyomorpha halys* (Stål) (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) has been immortalized in a music video by the group Frankenttractor (Jay Schlosberg, guitar and vocals; Paul Kelley, bass and vibroslap; Jerry Reed, drums; Jeff Danchenko, trombone; Dane Filipczak, saxophone; and Stone Filipczak, cowbell). Backup vocals are by The Stinkettes (Erin Guarino, LA Brickner, and Adrienne Kelley). Dance is performed by the Stinkbug flygirls (Adrienne Kelley, Pani Cattack, Ima Schtinkerbuggin and Becky Schiner). The video can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jfHhspUx9Y4>.

NATIONAL MOTH WEEK 23-29 JULY 2012

[National Moth Week](#) (NMW) is a celebration of moths and biodiversity. NMW brings together everyone interested in moths to celebrate these amazing insects. This summer, groups and individuals from all the across the country will spend some time during NMW looking for moths and sharing what they've found. Maryland events include:

29 July 2012: [Cromwell Valley Park](#) (Baltimore County). 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Individuals/Families ages 7+. You know their colorful daytime cousins, the butterflies, now get to know the equally enchanting evening moths. Naturalists will be celebrating NMW and set up the lights and baits to see these fascinating critters up-close. \$2 members/\$4 non-members. Willow Grove Hawk Watch Campfire Ring

Date TBD (depending on weather): [Little Bennett Regional Park](#) (Montgomery County). Plans to set up lights. Contact John Lill (Associate Professor of Biology, The George Washington University) at lillj@gwu.edu if you want to join this NMW event (possibly on multiple nights).

**INVENTORY AND MONITORING SYMPOSIUM
2012 MEETING OF THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY
23-29 JULY 2012**

Fellow Lepidopterists,

I send this out as Chair of the Inventory and Monitoring Symposium to take place at the [Denver Museum of Nature & Science](#) during the combined 2012 Annual Meeting of [The Lepidopterists' Society](#) and the [Societas Europaea Lepidopterologica](#) to be held 23-29 July this summer.

If you have experience in an inventory or monitoring project, would you share your work with us?

We would like the Symposium to have six, possibly more, 20-minute presentations focused on your surveys and their results with the remaining Symposium time for discussion. Each project represents a baseline for the future and we want to hear about it. At present, we have long term studies from Colorado and are looking for more from Britain, Europe, South America, Asia, U.S. and farther afield.

Please forward this invitation to anyone you think would be interested in talking about their work. See you in Denver.

Rich Bray
P.O. Box 1260
Estes Park, CO 80517
mtlep@earthlink.net

If you would like to present, please e-mail an abstract of your talk, and paper if published, to Rich Bray – Chair, Inventory and Monitoring Symposium.

Example below:

Long-term monitoring is of value to public lands. This citizen science inventory and monitoring project has over fifteen years of butterfly data for Rocky Mountain National Park. The species list grew from 94 to 140 confirmed species. Volunteers created a database with 78,765 butterfly sightings from 3,796 transect surveys. They also created a database with over 20 years of daily weather data from the National Weather Service Station, Estes Park 1SSE. Analysis is underway. If we had stopped after eight years, trends in the butterfly communities would have led to the hypothesis that chemical deposition, elk, drought, or all three have affected the communities' long term health. With fifteen years of data, the natural cycles of butterflies in the high elevation environment begin to be revealed. Even with relatively long-term monitoring, there is indeed danger of jumping to conclusions.

**7th ANNUAL HOWARD COUNTY DRAGONFLY COUNT
28 JULY 2012**

The 7th Annual Howard County Dragonfly Count is set for Saturday, 28 July 2012. To sign up, contact Beth Johnson at bajohnsonjohnson@verizon.net or (301) 949-6338.

As usual, the county is divided into five areas, with at least one group of people counting in each area. The 2012 areas and leaders are:

Area 1A (west) Leader: Sue Muller (county parks)
Area 1B (west) Leaders: Wes & Sue Earp (private properties)
Area 2 (north) Leader: pending
Area 3 (central) Leader: MES member **June Tveekrem**
Area 4 (south) Leader: MES member **Bob Solem**
Area 5 (east) Leader: MES member **Jo Solem**

The group leaders choose the time and place their group will meet on the count day, as well as which specific sites the group will visit. They are also responsible for getting the property owners' permission for count activities on private property.

There is a new venue for the tally rally this year: [Robinson Nature Center](#), 6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia. Door opens at 4:00 p.m.; tally starts at 4:30. We will arrange for some drinks, but please bring a snack to share.

**WASHINGTON, DC/BALTIMORE CRICKET CRAWL
24 AUGUST 2012**

Cricket Crawl 2012 will be an evening sound census of the late summer crickets and katydids singing throughout the Baltimore/DC metro areas. It'll be a wonderful way to get people outside and excited about insects—a way of opening eyes and ears to the natural world while creating a sense of community and scientific process.

We expect teams of all sorts: neighborhood community groups, scout troops, faith communities, schools, retirement communities, nature centers, summer camps, groups of friends, and any other place-based and mentor organizations.

The Crawl is a joint effort of the [Natural History Society of Maryland](#) (NHSM), the [Audubon Naturalist Society](#), [Discover Life](#), and MES member **Sam Droege** of the USGS's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (and life member of the NHSM).

Here's the website for the event that's scheduled for 24 August 2012: <http://pick14.pick.uga.edu/cricket/DC/index.html> Take a look at the details, and be sure to add the date to your calendar. (You can even brush up on your cricket and katydid calls on the site!) Then think about ways that you can help.

We'll need plenty of volunteers to spread the word, to help on the actual night of the event, and to offer insect workshops during the months before. In the early spring, we'll let all the nature groups and centers in the region know about the event, and we'll need your help to do that. During the summer months the NHSM will offer workshops to get people excited and would love to draw on the expertise of Maryland Entomological Society members for those. Then on the night of the event, volunteers will be in the field with teams or inside helping to process the data as it's phoned in.

For further information, please contact MES member **Linda Davis** at lm.davis@verizon.net

**“THE GREAT INSECT FAIR” – PENN STATE
29 SEPTEMBER 2012**

[The Great Insect Fair](#) is Penn State's annual extravaganza celebrating insects with lots of activities, games, crafts, tasty

treats and fun for everyone!

When: 29 September 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Where: Bryce Jordan Center, Penn State ([Campus Maps](#))

Admission to the fair is FREE, but donations are accepted and greatly appreciated!

Activities include:

***Build-A-Bug Contest:** Bring your homemade insect for judging and prizes

*Moth & Butterfly Tent

*IPM/Pesticide Safety Putt Putt

*Cockroach Races!

*Honey Tasting

*Bee Observation Hives

*What Is in a Beehive?

*The Insect Deli

*Insect Zoo: Live exhibits of many insects!

*Bug Collectors and Collections

*The BugMobile Talking Car

*The Bug Doctor Is In! Ask your pest questions

*The Insect Construction Co.: Arts and crafts

*Face Painting and Games

*Vendors selling a variety of insect arts/crafts, books, & T-shirts

Do they have food, you may wonder? You bet! Hungry folks at the previous Insect Fairs had the option of stopping by the Insect Deli to sample wax moth larvae on baba ganoush

(eggplant/tahini dip), garlicky red bell pepper dip with pita bread, potato/rosemary frittata enhanced with mealworms, or the ever popular "Chocolate Chirpies" (chocolate-covered crickets).

Previous years have offered such tasty treats as fresh Vietnamese eggrolls with mealworms, barbecued vegetables and wax moth larvae, mealworm roll-ups (smoky black bean/cream cheese and Asian pear), or mealworm bruschetta.

For the less adventurous, a food stand will be available with hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks, and ice cream!

For more information, contact the Department of Entomology, entomology@psu.edu.

The [Department of Entomology](#)

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WEST VIRGINIA BUTTERFLY ATLAS PROJECT SPRING 2012 – 2016

The West Virginia butterfly atlas project is scheduled to run from spring 2012 through 2016. During the first two years, efforts will concentrate on the Monongahela National Forest because the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources received a grant from the United States Forest Service to survey for rare butterflies (following up on Linda Butler's gypsy moth control work from the 1990s). However, I'll be accepting vouchers from anywhere in the state. Definitive live photographic series displaying critical identification features, as

well as collected specimens, will be accepted. Although I hope not to have to use purely sight records, I'll be collecting those as well just in case. We'll be looking for all butterflies and for selected moths – Saturniidae (giant silkworm moths), Sphingidae (hawk moths), and state rare species (To request a list of West Virginia's rare, threatened, and endangered butterflies and moths, please e-mail MES member **Dick Smith** at richard.smith@jhuapl.edu). We were successful in using volunteers surveying for the [West Virginia Dragonfly and Damselfly Atlas](#) that was finished a couple of years ago, so we're planning on using them again. This atlas is modeled after the [Maine Butterfly Survey](#) with similar data forms and protocols. Like any atlas, the primary purpose is the documentation of species accompanied by a date and good location data. For anyone wishing to participate, please contact me first at the address, phone number, or e-mail listed below to receive details on data protocol and policies. (For example, GPS coordinates of each record, which can be obtained after the fact from Google Maps, are required.)

Contact Information: Susan Olcott, Wildlife Diversity and Technical Services Unit, WVDNR Wildlife Resources Section, PO Box 99, 1110 Railroad Street, Farmington, WV 26571, (304) 825-6787, fax (304)825-6270, susan.p.olcott@wv.gov

2012/2013 PROPOSED EVENT SCHEDULE

Regular MES lecture/meetings are held the 3rd Friday of each of the 6 months coinciding with UMBC's academic year.

Proposed events for the current MES membership year are:

Date	Speaker	Topic/Location
Jul 7	Survey/Field Trip	Rock Lodge Trust (Garrett Co.)
Aug 11	Survey/Field Trip	New Bridge & east/cent. Dorchester Co.
Sep 15	Picnic	TBA
Oct 19	Lecture	TBA
Nov 16	Lecture	TBA
Feb 15	Lecture	TBA
Mar 15	Lecture	TBA
Apr 19	Lecture	TBA
May 17	"Members' Potpourri"	Presentations & Elections

2013 SOCIETY YEAR MES OFFICERS

President	Frederick Paras
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Faculty Sponsors	Frank E. Hanson & Austin P. Platt
Publications Editor	Eugene J. Scarpulla

SUBMITTAL DEADLINES

AUG 2012 issue of the *Phaëton*:

Please send member news items by 3 August 2012.

SEP 2013 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*:

Please send first drafts of articles and notes by 1 April 2013.

Send drafts for both publications to ejscarp@comcast.net.