



Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the
Maryland Entomological Society

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MES All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet J. KING'S Restaurant, Gambrills, Maryland

A Maryland Entomological Society All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet will be held on **Sunday, 16 September 2012**, at J. KING'S Restaurant, 329 Gambrills Road, Gambrills, Maryland. The event is scheduled to begin at 3:00 p.m.

Location: **J. KING'S Restaurant, 329 Gambrills Road, Gambrills (Anne Arundel County), Maryland**
Coordinator: **Gene Scarpulla, Maryland Entomological Society Publications Editor**

Come join fellow MES members for an All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet. There are approximately 100 members in the Society. This is an opportunity to come out of the lab or field and get to know your fellow members. Please feel free to invite your spouse to this event. J. KING'S is centrally located between Baltimore, Washington, Annapolis, and Columbia. And if you are football oriented, J. KING'S has an abundance of televisions on their walls to watch the Baltimore Ravens @ Philadelphia Eagles starting at 1:00 p.m. and the Washington Redskins @ St. Louis Rams at 4:05 p.m.

Date and Time: Sunday, 16 September 2012; 3:00 p.m. until whenever (*J. KING'S ends all-you-can-eat crabs at 9:00 p.m.*)

Menu: The All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast menu includes steamed hardshell Blue Crabs, *Callinectes sapidus* Rathbun (Decapoda: Portunidae); corn-on-the-cob, *Zea mays* Linnaeus (Poales: Poaceae); and Maryland crab soup, *Soupa deliciosa marylandica* Scarp.

J. KING'S purchases their hardshell crabs from close to 15 different purveyors. They are one of the largest purchasers of hardshell crabs in the region. They do everything within their power to ensure that each and every crab that they serve is fresh, heavy, and cooked to perfection.

Cost: The All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast menu is \$28 per person. If you are not interested in eating steamed crabs, you can order off of the regular menu at regular prices. If you plan to attend, please contact Gene at ejscarp@comcast.net by Friday, 7 September 2012 to make a reservation. (Gene needs to give the restaurant a head count on 7 September for crab ordering purposes and for space allocation.) Also, please indicate if you will not be eating steamed crabs and will be ordering off the regular menu instead.

Parking: There is ample free parking behind the restaurant.

Directions from Annapolis

- Take I-97 north to Exit 7 to MD-3 south Bowie.
- Turn right at 1st traffic light (MD-175 West).
- Go 1 mile, turn right onto Gambrills Road.
- They are 1/2 mile on the right.

Directions from Baltimore

- Take I-97 south to Exit 7 to MD-3 south.
- Turn right at 1st light (MD-175 west).
- Go 1 mile, turn right onto Gambrills Road.
- They are 1/2 mile on the right.

Directions from Columbia and MD-295

- Take MD-32 east to Burns Crossing Road exit.
- Turn left onto Burns Crossing Road.

- Turn left onto MD-175 east.
- Take a left onto Gambrills Road.
- They are 1/2 mile on the right.

Directions from Washington, DC

- Take I-95 north to MD-32 towards Fort Meade.
- Turn right onto MD-175 toward Odenton.
- Take a left (4 miles) onto Gambrills Road.
- They are 1/2 mile on the right.

Directions from US-50

- Take MD-3 North.
- Go 8 miles to MD-175 West (traffic light) and turn left.
- Go 1 mile, turn right onto Gambrills Road.
- They are 1/2 mile on the right.

MEMBER NEWS

Robert S. Bryant has become a recent resident of Frederick Villa Nursing Center, 711 Academy Road, Catonsville, Maryland 21228. Bob would greatly appreciate visits from his fellow MES members.

Frederick Paras has been promoted to full Professor in the Computer, Mathematics, Engineering, and Sciences Department at Baltimore City Community College in Baltimore, Maryland.

Marcia R. Watson has been promoted to Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at University of Maryland University College in Adelphi, Maryland. In her new position, Marcia will oversee academic policy, program quality, program development, institutional research, accreditation, and shared governance.

THE GREAT BEE COUNT
on VOICE OF AMERICA

On 11 August 2012, [The Great Sunflower Project](#) is hosting the nationwide Great Bee Count. In conjunction with the count, [Voice of America](#) interviewed MES member **Sam Droege**, Head of the Native Bee Inventory and Monitoring Laboratory at USGS's [Patuxent Wildlife Research Center](#), Beltsville, Maryland. In the interview, Sam discusses native bee populations and nationwide monitoring efforts. And if you don't blink, about two thirds of the way through the video you will see MES member **Gene Scarpulla**, an associate at the lab, sitting at the microscope identifying bees. To view the video and see impressive bee photos produced at the lab, visit <http://www.voanews.com/content/great-bee-count-tracks-dwindling-populations/1476356.html>.

26 THINGS THAT BUG ME

MES member **Mike Raupp** has written a children's book entitled *26 Things That Bug Me: a special ABC*. In the book, Mantie the Mantid uses the alphabet to present 26 of her insect friends. There are illustrations by Jeff Kollins, as well as many color photographs. The book is published by [Barclay Bryan Press](#) of Port Republic, Maryland, and is recommended for ages five through eight. For more information, visit <http://barclaybryanbookstore.com/products/26-things-that-bug-me-raupp>.

HUCKLEBERRY SPHINX SIGHTING

While driving through Allegany County, Maryland on 7 July 2012, MES member **Ed Cohen** stopped at the Swain Road gas station and observed a specimen of Huckleberry Sphinx, *Paonias astylus* (Drury) (Lepidoptera: Sphingidae), inside the station. This moth is a rather uncommon sphingid in Maryland.

BALTIMORE/DC CRICKET CRAWL EVENTS

Friday, 10 August 2012, 7:30 p.m. – **Songs of Insects Walk** with naturalist Lloyd Tydings at the Carrie Murray Nature

Center, 1901 Ridgetop Road, Baltimore, Maryland. (Rain date: Saturday, 11 August.) For further information, go to:

<http://www.meetup.com/marylandnature/events/64250672/>

Friday, 17 August 2012, 7:00 p.m. – **Songs of Insects Talk and Walk** with Wil Hershberger at Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. (Rain date: Saturday, 18 August.) For further information, go to:

<http://www.meetup.com/marylandnature/events/64251852/>

Friday, 24 August 2012, 8:15 p.m. till midnight – **Cricket Crawl 2012**. An evening sound census of eight late summer crickets and katydids, which will help scientists to document the distribution of these often overlooked insects. (Rain date: Saturday, 25 August.) For further information and to learn the calls of the eight species, go to:

<http://pick14.pick.uga.edu/cricket/DC/index.html>

The eight species to be surveyed during Cricket Crawl 2012 are:

Crickets (3)

Northern Fall Field Cricket – *Gryllus pennsylvanicus* Burmeister

Jumping Bush Cricket – *Orocharis saltator* Uhler

Japanese Burrowing Cricket – *Velarifictorus micado* (Saussure)

Katydid (5)

Greater Anglewing – *Microcentrum rhombifolium* (Saussure)

Lesser Anglewing – *Microcentrum retinerve* (Burmeister)

Oblong-winged Katydid – *Amblycorypha oblongifolia* (De Geer)

Fork-tailed Katydid – *Scudderia furcata* Brunner

Common True Katydid – *Pterophylla camellifolia* (Fabricius)

For additional information about any of the August Cricket Crawl events, please contact MES member **Linda Davis** at: lm.davis@verizon.net

DIPTERAN RECOLLECTIONS GROWING UP ON AN
UPPER HUDSON RIVER VALLEY FARM
(~1943 – ~1953)

Donald H. Miller, Lyndonville, Vermont
entdon@gmail.com

[Editor's Note: Don Miller and I met at an odonate conference and for the next few weeks we corresponded about syrphids (flower flies) and oestrids (bot flies). I found one of Don's anecdotal e-mails to be quite entertaining. It is presented here as an "anecnote" for your reading pleasure.]

I see various *Eristalis* spp. (Syrphidae) all the time when just rambling around here in Vermont and it is amazing to me how many are just one species: *E. tenax* (Linnaeus), **Drone Fly** or **Rat-tailed Maggot**. *Eristalis tenax* is the one often found in outhouse flows and places like that, extremely common (the larva that is).

I grew up on a small farm in the upper Hudson River Valley (Germantown Township, Columbia County, New York), about 5 km (3.1 mi) east of the village of Germantown. We had an outhouse (i.e., no indoor plumbing) and I must say that I did spend some time puzzling over how anything could live in that material under the outhouse. I was fully aware of the siphon but of course didn't have a clue what I was looking at except to simply call it a "maggot." I had no idea what the adult was. I

think *E. tenax* and kin exhibit one of most profound changes in food preferences in their life cycle than almost any other animal, going from feeding on offal to feeding on pollen and nectar. One would almost think, poetically, it should be the other way around, pollen and nectar first and then manure as aging goes on. You know, human kids go from drinking milk to some pretty nasty substances sometimes later in life.

It's amazing what farm kids observe just in the course of being a farm kid. That's where my incipient propensity to be a naturalist and then an ecologist was definitely fostered. My folks of course couldn't really answer any of my questions except those directly related to whatever crops we raised or animals we husbanded. For example, I became aware of bot flies (Oestridae) very early in my youth.

One of the first I became aware of was the **Horse Bot Fly**, *Gasterophilus intestinalis* (De Geer) (Oestridae) that laid eggs around the hooves of horses and then later got into their stomachs. Somehow my dad was aware of these too and was concerned about them. I don't know how he knew, probably from some veterinarian? He and I did nothing to avert any problems from those. The horses would bite or lick the eggs off the hairs on the distal leg appendages and that is how they entered the gut and later caused digestive problems with the horses (stomach bots). My dad seemed to be aware of all that and it was the first time I really had an inkling of how complicated things can be in the life history of some of these parasites.

Believe it or not, one of my fall chores (left via notes written by my father and delivered via my mother [My dad seldom charged me directly and verbally with my many after-school tasks.]) was to go down to the barn and push out (not pluck) the late instar oestrid larvae, **cattle grubs** (*Hypoderma* spp.), that were very close to leaving the skin of the milk cows.

The cattle that we raised were primarily Holstein. My dad seemed to feel that getting those larvae out was good for the health of the cows, especially in terms of their producing more milk! That was the bottom line. The primary and very stern and serious admonition was "Don't kill them inside or beneath the skin of the cow" that was tantamount to a very serious reprimand, I can tell you that. So, it wasn't a small thing to have that directive from my dad, needless to say I did it with a great deal of apprehension. I soon learned which larvae would "pop" as I called it and which for whatever reason I risked killing under the skin, if I squeezed too hard (these probably were penultimate instars). I assume the ultimate instars that were about to emerge from the skin of the cows were somehow looser inside the "tunnel" they lived in under the outer skin of the cow. They all had an "air hole," as we called it, to the outside. These last stage larvae were quite large; I'd say 15 mm (0.6 in) or so in length and 5 mm (0.2 in) or so in width. Apparently there was a cultural tradition handed down through the farming generations at that time (19th and early 20th century at least) that this was a good practice to follow in taking care of your milking herds (We never did this with any other ungulate

species that we raised: horses, pigs, etc., just the adult milking cows). Basically it was an autumn popping session! I even "practiced" somewhat clandestinely at times to get more adroit at doing this. I soon thought I was quite the expert!

I later actually published a paper on the effects of oestrid infestations on a population of deer mice. Whoever would have thought that my cow-popping oestrid experience as a kid would ultimately lead to a peer-reviewed paper on the subject (Miller, D. H., and L. L. Getz. 1969. Botfly infections in a population of *Peromyscus leucopus*. *Journal of Mammalogy* 50(2):277-283.).

Another phenomenon that I witnessed was what I thought was the apparent 100% elimination of "barn flies" (**Stable Fly**, *Stomoxys calcitrans* [Linnaeus] and **House Fly**, *Musca domestica* Linnaeus [both Muscidae]) from the inside of our milking stanchion areas, after it was sprayed with DDT. This must have been back in the late 1940s. Then, I noticed that more and more seemed to survive the regular spraying. I was witnessing selection for resistance from DDT right in front of my eyeballs but didn't realize it. Soon, the flies were as abundant as before in our milking area. I don't think I really became aware of the phenomenon of selection for resistance until I read Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*.

Anyhow, everything to do with growing up on a farm! Quite different from most kids these days who don't even know where their milk comes from or who have never had to climb over a 1 m (3.3 ft) or so snow drift to go to an outdoor toilet (in the daytime of course; at night we were generally spared this, especially in winter) and with no commercial toilet paper (I kid you not!).

It is interesting how growing up on the farm, as they say, influences the thinking of a putative naturalist and ecologist. I just saw what I saw and pondered.

"CATCH THE LIGHT: A PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKDAY"

On Saturday, 8 September 2012, **Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary** is hosting a sunrise to sunset photographic workday. On that date, the Sanctuary will open one hour before sunrise and close one hour after sunset to give photographers the opportunity to capture nature in a special light. Each photographer will receive a map of the Sanctuary showing a few of the many photographic vistas and vantage points. Photographer can explore the Sanctuary in the morning, then meet for an informal photo workshop in the Wetlands Center conference area from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. It's an opportunity for photographers to not only take photos at those great times of day, but also to get together in the middle of the day for discussions and critiques. Colin Barnett is the event organizer. The \$15 fee gives you access to the Sanctuary outside of the normal hours (on that day) and admission to the workshop. For further information and to register, go to <http://www.jugbay.org/photoworkshop>

Maryland Entomological Society Survey/Field Trip**Rock Lodge Trust, Rock Lodge Road, near McHenry, Garrett County, Maryland**

Coordinator: Dick Smith. The event was hosted by Ms. Bonnie Friend who has been the caretaker at Rock Lodge Trust for the past 28 years.

7 July 2012; 0930-1700 hours; Sunny 80° F.

Participants: 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* identifications).

INSECTS**ORDER ODONATA: Dragonflies, Damselflies****Family Libellulidae: Pennants**

Plathemis lydia – Common Whitetail

ORDER HEMIPTERA: True Bugs**Family Cercopidae: Froghoppers, Spittlebugs**

Lepyronia coleoptrata – a spittlebug

Family Miridae: Jumping Tree Bugs, Leaf Bugs, Plant Bugs

Lygus lineolaris – Tarnished Plant Bug

Family Lygaeidae: Chinch Bugs, Seed Bugs

Nysius unidentified species

ORDER MEGALOPTERA: Alderflies, Dobsonflies, Fishflies**Family Corydalidae: Dobsonflies, Fishflies**

Chauliodes pectinicornis – Summer Fishfly

ORDER COLEOPTERA: Beetles**Family Carabidae: Ground Beetles**

Cicindela sexguttata – Six-spotted Tiger Beetle

Family Scarabaeidae – Scarab Beetles

Trichiotinus affinis – Flower Scarab Beetle

Family Lycidae: Net-winged Beetles

Calopteron reticulatum – Reticulated Net-winged Beetle

Family Cantharidae: Soldier Beetles

Polemium laticornis

Family Coccinellidae: Lady Beetles

Cycloneda munda – Red Lady Beetle (Polished Lady Beetle)

Family Ripiphoridae: Wedge-shaped Beetles

Rhipiphorus fasciatus-complex

Family Cerambycidae: Long-horned Beetles

Tetraopes tetrophthalmus – Red Milkweed Beetle

Family Chrysomelidae: Leaf Beetles

Chrysochus auratus – Dogbane Beetle

Diabrotica undecimpunctata howardi – Spotted Cucumber Beetle

ORDER DIPTERA: Gnats, Midges, Mosquitoes, True Flies**Family Rhagionidae: Snipe Flies**

Chrysopilus thoracicus – Golden-backed Snipe Fly

Family Syrphidae – Flower Flies (Hover Flies)

Eristalis tenax – Drone Fly

Toxomerus marginatus

ORDER LEPIDOPTERA: True Butterflies, Skippers, Moths**Family Papilionidae: Swallowtails**

Papilio polyxenes – Black Swallowtail

Papilio troilus – Spicebush Swallowtail

Family Pieridae: Whites and Yellows

Pieris rapae – Cabbage White

Colias philodice – Clouded Sulphur

Colias eurytheme – Orange Sulphur

Abaeis nicippe – Sleepy Orange

Family Lycaenidae: Gossamer Wings

Satyrium titus – Coral Hairstreak

Satyrium calanus – Banded Hairstreak

Parrhasius m-album – White M Hairstreak

Cupido comyntas – Eastern Tailed-Blue

Celastrina neglecta – Summer Azure

Family Nymphalidae: Brush-footed Butterflies

Speyeria cybele – Great Spangled Fritillary

Speyeria aphrodite – Aphrodite Fritillary

Speyeria atlantis – Atlantis Fritillary

Boloria selene – Silver-bordered Fritillary

Boloria bellona – Meadow Fritillary

Phyciodes tharos – Pearl Crescent

Polygonia comma – Eastern Comma

Polygonia progne – Gray Comma

Vanessa atalanta – Red Admiral

Junonia coenia – Common Buckeye

Limenitis arthemis astyanax – Red-spotted Purple

Lethe (Enodia) anhedon – Northern Pearly-Eye

Lethe (Satyrodes) appalachia – Appalachian Brown

Cercyonis pegala – Common Wood-Nymph

Family Hesperidae: Skippers

Epargyreus clarus – Silver-spotted Skipper

Polites peckius – Peck's Skipper

Polites origenes – Crossline Skipper

Pompeius verna – Little Glassywing

Anatrytone logan – Delaware Skipper

Euphyes conspicua – Black Dash

Euphyes vestris – Dun Skipper

Family Geometridae: Inchworm or Geometer Moths

Scopula limboundata – Large Lace-border

ORDER HYMENOPTERA: Velvet Ants, Ants, Wasps, Bees**Family Formicidae: Ants**

Aphaenogaster picea

Camponotus nearcticus

Camponotus novaeboracensis

Camponotus pennsylvanicus – Black Carpenter Ant

Camponotus subbarbatus

Crematogaster cerasi

Dolichoderus plagiatus

Dolichoderus taschenbergi

Formica dolosa

Formica fusca – Silky Ant

Formica incerta

Formica neogagates

Formica pallidefulva

Formica pergandei

Formica subsericia

Lasius alienus – Cornfield Ant

Lasius nearcticus

Lasius subglaber

Myrmecina americana

Myrmica lobifrons

Myrmica punctiventris

Myrmica spatulata

Ponera pennsylvanica

Stenamma diecki

Stenamma schmittii

Tapinoma sessile – Odorous House Ant

Temnothorax longispinosus

Temnothorax unidentified species

Tetramorium caespitum – Pavement Ant

Family Colletidae: Plasterer Bees

Hylaeus affinis
Hylaeus annulatus
Hylaeus mesillae
Hylaeus modestus
Hylaeus near *verticalis* ♀ species
Hylaeus unidentified ♀ species

Family Andrenidae: Mining Bees

Andrena virginiana
Andrena wilkella
Andrena (*Trachandrena*) unidentified species
Calliopsis andreniformis

Family Halictidae: Sweat Bees

Augochlora pura
Augochlorella aurata
Halictus confusus
Halictus ligatus/poeyi ♀
Halictus rubicundus
Lasioglossum coeruleum
Lasioglossum cressonii
Lasioglossum foxii
Lasioglossum laevissimum
Lasioglossum leucozonium
Lasioglossum lineatulum
Lasioglossum nymphaerum
Lasioglossum oblongum
Lasioglossum pectorale
Lasioglossum pilosum
Lasioglossum truncatum
Lasioglossum versatum
Lasioglossum weemsi
Lasioglossum unidentified ♀ species
Lasioglossum unidentified ♂ species
Sphecodes unidentified ♀ species
Sphecodes unidentified ♂ species

Family Megachilidae: Leafcutter, Mason, Resin Bees

Anthidium oblongatum
Coelioxys modesta
Coelioxys sayi
Hoplitis pilosifrons
Osmia atriventris
Osmia collinsiae
Megachile campanulae
Megachile inermis
Megachile latimanus
Megachile mendica

Family Apidae: Bumble, Carpenter, Digger, Honey Bees

Apis mellifera – Honey Bee
Ceratina calcarata
Ceratina dupla
Bombus bimaculatus – Two-spotted Bumble Bee
Bombus fervidus – Yellow Bumble Bee
Bombus impatiens – Common Eastern Bumble Bee
Bombus sandersoni – Sanderson Bumble Bee
Bombus terricola – Yellow-banded Bumble Bee
Nomada unidentified bidentate ♂ species
Xylocopa virginica – Eastern Carpenter Bee

Family Ichneumonidae: Ichneumon Wasps

Subtribe Protichneumonina species (possibly *Coelichneumon* species)

Family Perilampidae: Perilampid Wasps

Perilampus unidentified species

Family Crabronidae: Cicad killers, Sand Wasps, Mud Daubers

Cerceris clypeata – Weevil Wasp

Family Vespidae: Hornets, Paper Wasps, Potter Wasps, Yellowjackets

Polistes annularis – a paper wasp

Vespula consobrina – Blackjacket

AMPHIBIANS (1)

Plethodon cinereus – Eastern Red-backed Salamander

REPTILES (1)

Storeria dekayi dekayi – Northern Brown Snake

BIRDS (54)

Meleagris gallopavo – Wild Turkey
Cathartes aura – Turkey Vulture
Buteo platypterus – Broad-winged Hawk
Coccyzus americanus – Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Archilochus colubris – Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Megaceryle alcyon – Belted Kingfisher
Melanerpes carolinus – Red-bellied Woodpecker
Picoides pubescens – Downy Woodpecker
Picoides villosus – Hairy Woodpecker
Colaptes auratus – Northern Flicker
Empidonax virescens – Acadian Flycatcher
Myiarchus crinitus – Great Crested Flycatcher
Vireo flavifrons – Yellow-throated Vireo
Vireo solitarius – Blue-headed Vireo
Vireo olivaceus – Red-eyed Vireo
Cyanocitta cristata – Blue Jay
Corvus brachyrhynchos – American Crow
Corvus corax – Common Raven
Hirundo rustica – Barn Swallow
Poecile atricapillus – Black-capped Chickadee
Baeolophus bicolor – Tufted Titmouse
Sitta canadensis – Red-breasted Nuthatch
Sitta carolinensis – White-breasted Nuthatch
Troglodytes aedon – House Wren
Poliophtila caerulea – Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Sialia sialis – Eastern Bluebird
Catharus fuscescens – Veery
Catharus guttatus – Hermit Thrush
Hylocichla mustelina – Wood Thrush
Turdus migratorius – American Robin
Dumetella carolinensis – Gray Catbird
Bombcilla cedrorum – Cedar Waxwing
Seiurus aurocapilla – Ovenbird
Helmitheros vermivorum – Worm-eating Warbler
Geothlypis trichas – Common Yellowthroat
Setophaga ruticilla – American Redstart
Setophaga americana – Northern Parula
Setophaga magnolia – Magnolia Warbler
Setophaga pensylvanica – Chestnut-sided Warbler
Setophaga caerulescens – Black-throated Blue Warbler
Setophaga coronata – Yellow-rumped Warbler
Setophaga virens – Black-throated Green Warbler
Pipilo erythrophthalmus – Eastern Towhee
Spizella passerina – Chipping Sparrow
Spizella pusilla – Field Sparrow
Ammodramus savannarum – Grasshopper Sparrow
Ammodramus henslowii – Henslow's Sparrow
Melospiza melodia – Song Sparrow
Melospiza georgiana – Swamp Sparrow
Piranga olivacea – Scarlet Tanager
Pheucticus ludovicianus – Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Passerina cyanea – Indigo Bunting
Agelaius phoeniceus – Red-winged Blackbird
Spinus tristis – American Goldfinch

MAMMALS (3)

Tamias striatus – Eastern Chipmunk
Ursus americanus – Black Bear
Odocoileus virginianus – White-tailed Deer