



Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the
Maryland Entomological Society

Volume 34, Number 5

February 2014

EDITOR: **Eugene J. Scarpulla** – ejscarp@comcast.net
FACULTY SPONSORS: **Frank E. Hanson** and **Austin P. (Bob) Platt**
Department of Biological Sciences
University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
1000 Hilltop Circle
Baltimore, MD 21250
WEBSITE: <http://www.mdentsoc.org/>

Meeting Announcement

The Maryland Entomological Society's 296th regular meeting will be held **Friday, 21 February 2014, at 8:00 p.m., in Room 004** (one floor below the street level), **Biological Sciences Building**, University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). Bring a friend and specimens, observations, and books to share. Refreshments will be provided. Presentations are scheduled to begin at 8:15 p.m.

Speaker: Andrew W. Ulsamer – Biological Science Lab Technician, Bee Research Laboratory, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland

Title: “Colony Collapse Disorder and Pollinator Decline”

Andrew Ulsamer will discuss the emergence of colony collapse disorder (CCD) of the Honey Bee, *Apis mellifera* Linnaeus (Hymenoptera: Apidae), what the research tells us about CCD, and how it relates to the larger issue of the general decline of native pollinators.

Andrew graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science in Entomology. He joined the USDA Bee Research Laboratory in Beltsville in 1998. He is a lab technician in the disease diagnostic lab. The lab offers a free diagnostic service where any beekeeper, worldwide, can submit samples of bees or comb for diagnosis of most known Honey Bee diseases. Andrew currently manages and maintains the lab's Honey Bee colonies. He assists the researchers in setting up and performing their field research projects. In the past, he has administered the USDA's Africanized Honey Bee Identification Program. Andrew has also been involved in research aimed at preserving Honey Bee germplasm and has been trained in artificial insemination of Honey Bee queens.

Meet for Dinner before the Lectures

If you are interested in meeting for dinner before the lectures, you are invited to join the guest speaker and your fellow MES members at **Kibby's Restaurant and Lounge**, “Home of Baltimore's Best Shrimp Salad Sandwich.” Kibby's is located inside the Baltimore Beltway at 3450 Wilkins Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21229, just 15 minutes from UMBC. Meet at the restaurant **promptly at 6:00 p.m.**

For more information concerning upcoming lecture/meetings, please contact one of the following people:

Annapolis Area:	Harold Harlan	(410) 923-0173 (Home)	haroldharlan@comcast.net
Baltimore Area:	Fred Paras	(410) 374-0425 (Home)	bugandrockman@msn.com
	Phil Kean	(410) 944-4630 (Home)	– – –
	Frank Hanson	(410) 997-0890 (Home)	hanson@umbc.edu
Bowie Area:	Gene Scarpulla	(301) 464-3170 (Home)	ejscarp@comcast.net
Southern MD:	Bob Platt	(410) 586-8750 (Home)	platt@umbc.edu

15 NOVEMBER 2013 MES MEETING MINUTES

The 295th general meeting of the Maryland Entomological Society was held on Friday, 15 November 2013 at UMBC and began at 8:24 p.m. with a welcome by Co-President **Fred Paras** and then introduction of the speaker for the main program by Co-President **Tim Foard**. The lecture is summarized below. Attendees broke for a period of refreshments and discussion after the talks, and then a business meeting was convened. The minutes of the October 2013 meeting were read by the Secretary and approved, and the Treasurer's report (obtained from Treasurer **Ed Cohen** prior to the meeting) cited a General Funds total of \$2771.07. A surprise award was then delivered by MES Co-Faculty Sponsor and UMBC Professor Emeritus **Frank Hanson**. It was for a plaque, presented to Fred Paras, for faithful and dedicated service as our Society President with the unanimous support of MES members, for a continuous period of 20 years.



Fred Paras displays the Distinguished Service Award he received for serving as President of the Maryland Entomological Society for the past 20 years. (Photographed by Timothy Foard)

Even this year, Fred is continuing his service as a Co-President along with Tim Foard. The plaque was prepared by MES founder and Co-Faculty Sponsor and UMBC Professor Emeritus **Austin Platt**. A round of applause was also initiated by Frank Hanson for the exemplary job that **Gene Scarpulla** has displayed as our journal editor since 2008. Gene announced that he was aware of three manuscripts currently in preparation for the 2014 issue of the journal (deadline for submissions is April 1). Gene additionally informed us that the annual cost for the new Society website was quite nominal. Under announcements, Fred mentioned a series of programs, including one titled "Fossil Frenzy" that was held on 20 October 2013, at The Maryland Naturalist Center located at the Natural History

Society of Maryland headquarters in Overlea. Under displays, Phil Kean brought in his famous "Beast Box," which included mounted specimens of quite large terrestrial arthropods, including a tarantula (Theraphosidae), a Tarantula Hawk wasp (*Pepsis grossa* (Fabricius) [Pompilidae]), Wallace's Long-horned Beetle (*Batocera wallacei* Thomson [Cerambycidae]), a Bullet Ant (*Paraponera clavata* [Fabricius] [Formicidae]), a flower mantis (Hymenopodidae), and a rock scorpion (Hemiscorpiidae). High-resolution macrophotography equipment and its set-up were also displayed and demonstrated by the program speaker.

Respectfully submitted, Richard H. Smith, MES Secretary

15 NOVEMBER 2013 MES LECTURE

Speaker: Sam Droege – Wildlife Biologist and Director, Bee Inventory and Monitoring Laboratory, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, United States Geological Survey, Beltsville, Maryland

Title: "Taking High Resolution Photos of Insects with Your Macro (or Even Your Regular) Lens!"

Sam started by giving some history of how high resolution insect photography equipment evolved. The U.S. Army Public Health Command was the initial developer. They used the technique at foreign bases for the purpose of sending high quality photographs of small insect pests back to experts in the United States, rather than sending the actual specimens. The technique does not require a specialized digital camera. However, it does require a macro lens and a sled arrangement on which the camera can be mounted and then moved in small increments for each shot, toward or away from the subject. An automated, timed moving device is preferred because a completed high resolution image may require from 15 to 150 separate still photos or image slices. For each image, the camera may move no more than a fraction of a millimeter. Sam's setup, which he demonstrated, uses two flash heads with tissue paper for light diffusion. The specimen is mounted inside a white Styrofoam cooler that helps to concentrate light and equalize light distribution. The cooler is open in the back and a black cloth is mounted at some distance from the opening for a diffuse dark background. A 1:1 to 1:5 macro lens is used (1:5 is better). A moderate f-stop is used (f-5.0) since high f-stops will sacrifice resolution. Depth of field (usually obtained by photographers by using high f-stops) can be sacrificed because multiple perfectly-focused images at varying slightly separated distances are taken and combined. An ISO of 100 and shutter speed of 200 is adequate. With the stacked images, a 5 to 12 megapixel camera can take images with full picture resolution equivalent to 115 MP. Digital raw format is used. A key ingredient in the process is image processing computer software that compares the multiple images, determines the sharpest focused region within each image, darkens the remainder, and seamlessly blends all images together. Two such available packages go by the brand names "Zerene Stacker," which is pricey, and "Combine Z," which has a free on-line version, but it is less versatile.



Sam Droege demonstrates the setup for taking high-resolution photographs of insects. (Photographed by Timothy Foard)

Sam shared several of his detailed techniques for specimen mounting and suspension. If the specimen must remain on an insect pin, the pin image can be eliminated later by photoshopping. Otherwise, modeling clay can be used to support the specimen on a thin pedestal. Photoshopping can also be used to clean up unwanted images of lint, pollen, etc. The finer points of photoshopping techniques are discussed on the “Reddit” photographers’ website. Underexposing and then push-processing usually results in even more image sharpness. Sam has found that an excellent medium for supporting and expanding an insect for displaying its surface structures and appendages is to suspend the specimen in hand sanitizer liquid in a small glass cuvette tube. The only drawback is that surfaces with finely crevassed patterns, such as insect compound eyes, will show loss of detail. This is caused by the refractive index of the liquid being larger than that for air. Sam of course entertained us during his talk with a large selection of high resolution photos of bees (Hymenoptera: Apoidea), crane flies (Diptera), and other insects as well as details of various bird feathers and feet. Some of his most striking images are available at the website <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usgsbiml/>.

Respectfully submitted, **Richard H. Smith**, MES Secretary

Editor’s Note: You can access a National Geographic article titled “Intimate Portraits of Bees” featuring Sam and his photography at:

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/features/140114-bee-native-macro-photography-insects-science/#.Uuq9Qr5Oncs>. (You may need to copy and paste the web address into your browser for it to work.)

HONORING MEMBER DONORS

MES wishes to honor the following members who made charitable donations along with their recent membership renewals. These donations help with the printing and mailing of *The Maryland Entomologist*.

Thomas J. Henry
Richard L. Orr
Harold B. White

MES SURVEY/FIELD TRIP TO THE BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE CHAPTER OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA CONSERVATION FARM, POOLESVILLE, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

Coordinator: Dick Smith.

Hosts: Steven Swartz, along with Scott Harmon, Byron “Butch” Mezick, Tucker Mostrom, and Dan Perino.

30 June 2013; 0900-1530 hours; AM: cloudy, 78° F.; PM: mostly sunny 82° F.

Participants: Ed Cohen, Joy Cohen, Tim Foard, Phil Kean, Bill Lerner, Marcia Lerner, Evie Paras, Fred Paras, Gene Scarpulla, Dick Smith, Marcia Watson, Shmuel Yaakov, and Sam Droege (post facto identifications)

INSECTS

ORDER ODONATA: dragonflies, damselflies

Family Libellulidae: pennants

Erythemis simplicicollis (Say) – Eastern Pondhawk

Plathemis lydia (Drury) – Common Whitetail

Family Lestidae: spreadwings

Lestes Leach species – unidentified spreadwing damselfly

ORDER PLECOPTERA: stoneflies

Family Perlidae: common stoneflies

Acroneuria Pictet species – unidentified common stonefly

ORDER ORTHOPTERA: grasshoppers, crickets, katydids

Family Acrididae: grasshoppers

Dissosteira carolina (Linnaeus) – Carolina Grasshopper

ORDER COLEOPTERA: beetles

Family Carabidae: ground beetles

Cicindela sexguttata Fabricius – Six-spotted Tiger Beetle

Cicindela unipunctata Fabricius – One-spotted Tiger Beetle

Family Lucanidae: stag beetles

Dorcus parallelus (Say) – Antelope Beetle

Family Passalidae: bess beetles

Odontotanaeus disjunctus (Illiger) – Patent-leather Beetle or Horned Passalus

Family Scarabaeidae – scarab beetles

Cotinis nitida (Linnaeus) – Green June Beetle

Euphoria herbacea (Olivier) – Olive Flower Beetle

Family Cantharidae – soldier beetles

Chaulionathus marginatus (Fabricius) – Margined Leatherwing

Family Tenebrionidae: darkling beetles

Alobates pennsylvanica (De Geer) – False Mealworm Beetle

Family Cerambycidae: long-horned beetles

Tetraopes tetrophthalmus (Forster) – Red Milkweed Beetle

Typocerus velutinus (Olivier) – a flower long-horned beetle

Strangalia luteicornis (Fabricius) – a flower long-horned beetle

Family Chrysomelidae: leaf beetles

Chrysochus auratus (Fabricius) – Dogbane Beetle

ORDER DIPTERA: gnats, midges, mosquitoes, true flies

Family Asilidae: robber flies

Laphria Meigen species – unidentified robber fly

ORDER LEPIDOPTERA: true butterflies, skippers, moths

Family Papilionidae: swallowtails

Eurytides marcellus (Cramer) – Zebra Swallowtail

Papilio polyxenes Fabricius – Black Swallowtail

Papilio glaucus Linnaeus – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Papilio troilus Linnaeus – Spicebush Swallowtail

Family Pieridae: whites and yellows

Pieris rapae (Linnaeus) – Cabbage White
Colias eurytheme Boisduval – Orange Sulphur

Family Lycaenidae: gossamer wings

Satyrium calanus (Hübner) – Banded Hairstreak
Cupido comyntas (Godart) – Eastern Tailed-Blue
Celastrina neglecta (W. H. Edwards) – Summer Azure

Family Nymphalidae: brush-footed butterflies

Speyeria cybele (Fabricius) – Great Spangled Fritillary
Phyciodes tharos (Drury) – Pearl Crescent
Megisto cymela (Cramer) – Little Wood-Satyr
Cercyonis pegala (Fabricius) – Common Wood-Nymph

Family Hesperidae: skippers

Epargyreus clarus (Cramer) – Silver-spotted Skipper
Euphyes vestris (Boisduval) – Dun Skipper

Family Crambidae: grass moths

Crambus albellus Clemens – Small White Grass-veneer

Family Geometridae: geometer moths

Scopula inductata (Guenée) – Soft-lined Wave

Family Sphingidae: sphinx moths

Hemaris diffinis (Boisduval) – Snowberry Clearwing
Amphion floridensis B.P. Clark – Nessus Sphinx

Family Erebidae: tiger moths

Haploa clymene (Brown) – Clymene Moth
Cynia tenera Hübner – Dogbane Tiger Moth or Delicate Cynia
Ctenucha virginica (Charpentier) – Virginia Ctenucha
Caenurgina crassiuscula (Haworth) – Clover Looper

Family Noctuidae: cutworms, dagger moths, owlet moths, underwings

Polia purpurissata (Grote) – Purple Arches
Mythimna unipuncta (Haworth) – Armyworm

ORDER HYMENOPTERA: sawflies, horntails, bees, wasps, ants**Family Andrenidae: mining bees, sand bees**

Andrena rudbeckiae Robertson – a mining bee
Calliopsis andreniformis Smith – a mining bee

Family Halictidae: sweat bees, green bees

Agapostemon virescens (Fabricius) – a green bee
Augochlorella aurata (Smith) – a green bee
Halictus ligatus Say or *H. poeyi* Lepeletier – a sweat bee
Halictus parallelus Say – a sweat bee
Lasioglossum bruneri (Crawford) – a sweat bee
Lasioglossum ephialtum Gibbs – a sweat bee
Lasioglossum hitchensi Gibbs – a sweat bee
Lasioglossum smilacinae (Roberson) – a sweat bee
Lasioglossum versatum (Robertson) – a sweat bee

Family Megachilidae: leafcutter, mason, resin bees

Hoplitis pilosifrons (Cresson) – a leafcutter bee

Family Apidae: bumble, carpenter, digger, honey cuckoo bees

Apis mellifera Linnaeus – Honey Bee
Bombus bimaculatus (Cresson) – Two-spotted Bumble Bee
Bombus griseocollis (DeGeer) – Brown-belted Bumble Bee
Bombus impatiens (Cresson) – Common Eastern Bumble Bee
Ceratina calcarata Robertson – a small carpenter bee
Ceratina dupla Say – a small carpenter bee
Ceratina strenua – a small carpenter bee
Melitoma taurea (Say) – a morning glory bee
Xylocopa virginica (Linnaeus) – Eastern Carpenter Bee

Family Formicidae: ants

Aphaenogaster rudis Enzmann – Rough Aphaenogaster
Aphaenogaster tennesseensis (Mayr) – Tennessee Aphaenogaster
Brachymyrmex depilis (Emery) – Little Hairless Ant
Camponotus castaneus (Latreille) – Chestnut Carpenter Ant
Camponotus chromoiodes Bolton – Red Carpenter Ant

Camponotus nearcticus Emery – Nearctic Carpenter Ant
Camponotus pennsylvanicus De Geer – Black Carpenter Ant
Camponotus subbarbatus Emery – Slightly Bearded Carpenter Ant
Crematogaster lineolata (Say) – Small-lined Crematogaster
Formica dolosa Buren – Sly Ant
Formica pallidefulva Latreille – Pale Ant
Formica subsericea Say – Somewhat Silky Ant
Lasius alienus (Foerster) – Cornfield Ant
Lasius umbratus (Nylander) – Shaded Fuzzy Ant
Monomorium minimum (Buckley) – Little Back Ant
Ponera pennsylvanica Buckley – Pennsylvania Poner
Prenolepis imparis (Say) – Winter Ant
Solenopsis molesta (Say) – Thief Ant
Temnothorax curvispinosus (Mayr) – Bent-spined Temnothorax
Tetramorium caespitum (Linnaeus) – Pavement Ant

ARACHNIDS (3)**ORDER IXODIDA****Family Ixodidae: ticks**

Amblyomma americanum (Linnaeus) – Lone Star Tick
Dermacentor variabilis (Say) – American Dog Tick

ORDER TROMBIDIFORMES**Family Trombiculidae: chigger mites**

[most likely] *Eutrombicula alfreddugesi* (Oudemans) – a chigger mite

AMPHIBIANS (3)

Lithobates clamitans melanota (Rafinesque) – Northern Green Frog
Hyla versicolor LeConte – Gray Treefrog
Anaxyrus Tschudi species – unidentified North American toad

REPTILES (4)

Terrapene carolina (Linnaeus) – Eastern Box Turtle
Thamnophis sirtalis (Linnaeus) – Common Garter Snake
Thamnophis sauritus (Linnaeus) – Eastern Ribbon Snake
Carphophis amoenus (Say) – Eastern Worm Snake

BIRDS (35)

Branta canadensis (Linnaeus) – Canada Goose
Phalacrocorax auritus (Lesson) – Double-crested Cormorant
Coragyps atratus (Bechstein) – Black Vulture
Cathartes aura (Linnaeus) – Turkey Vulture
Buteo lineatus (Gmelin) – Red-shouldered Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis (Gmelin) – Red-tailed Hawk
Zenaidura macroura (Linnaeus) – Mourning Dove
Strix varia Barton – Barred Owl
Melanerpes carolinus (Linnaeus) – Red-bellied Woodpecker
Picooides pubescens (Linnaeus) – Downy Woodpecker
Dryocopus pileatus (Linnaeus) – Pileated Woodpecker
Contopus virens (Linnaeus) – Eastern Wood-Pewee
Empidonax virescens (Vieillot) – Acadian Flycatcher
Myiarchus crinitus (Linnaeus) – Great Crested Flycatcher
Vireo griseus (Boddaert) – White-eyed Vireo
Vireo olivaceus (Linnaeus) – Red-eyed Vireo
Cyanocitta cristata (Linnaeus) – Blue Jay
Hirundo rustica Linnaeus – Barn Swallow
Poecile carolinensis (Audubon) – Carolina Chickadee
Thryothorus ludovicianus (Latham) – Carolina Wren
Sialia sialis (Linnaeus) – Eastern Bluebird
Mimus polyglottos (Linnaeus) – Northern Mockingbird
Seiurus aurocapilla (Linnaeus) – Ovenbird
Geothlypis trichas (Linnaeus) – Common Yellowthroat
Dendroica petechia (Linnaeus) – Yellow Warbler
Dendroica discolor (Vieillot) – Prairie Warbler
Spizella passerina (Bechstein) – Chipping Sparrow
Spizella pusilla (A. Wilson) – Field Sparrow

Piranga olivacea (Gmelin) – Scarlet Tanager
Cardinalis cardinalis (Linnaeus) – Northern Cardinal
Passerina cyanea (Linnaeus) – Indigo Bunting
Agelaius phoeniceus (Linnaeus) – Red-winged Blackbird
Molothrus ater (Boddaert) – Brown-headed Cowbird
Carduelis tristis (Linnaeus) – American Goldfinch
Passer domesticus (Linnaeus) – House Sparrow

MAMMALS (2)

Sylvilagus floridanus (J. A. Allen) – Eastern Cottontail
Odocoileus virginianus (Zimmermann) – White-tailed Deer

PHILADELPHIA CBP INTERCEPTS FIRST IN PORT TICK

A 16 January 2014 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) news release reports that a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) - Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) identifier confirmed on 31 December 2013 that CBP agriculture specialists at the Philadelphia International Airport discovered a first in port tick. The specialists intercepted many dead and alive Anatolian Brown Ticks, *Rhipicephalus bursa* Canestrini & Fanzago (Ixodidae), that were discovered on untanned goat skins from Macedonia and Greece. The hides were in the possession of a passenger arriving from Rome on 23 December 2013.



Anatolian Brown Ticks, *Rhipicephalus bursa* Canestrini & Fanzago (Ixodidae). (Image courtesy of Steve Sapp, CBP Public Affairs Officer)

The full news release can be accessed at:

http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/local/01162014_4.xml.

OTHER RECENT CBP / USDA-APHIS-PPQ INTERCEPTIONS

***Lindingaspis piceus* (Malenotti) (Hemiptera: Diaspididae) – a scale** (no photo)

Lindingaspis piceus (Malenotti) (Hemiptera: Diaspididae) was intercepted at Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport in baggage. According to [ScaleNet](#), its hosts are *Cassine schweinfurthiana* Loes, *Hydnocarpus* Gaertn. spp., *Liriodendron tulipifera* L. (tuliptree), *Citrus ×paradisi* Macfad. (grapefruit), and *Camellia sinensis* (L.) Kuntze (tea). The species is a pest found on leaves.

***Neoselenaspis silvaticus* (Lindinger) (Hemiptera: Diaspididae) – a scale**



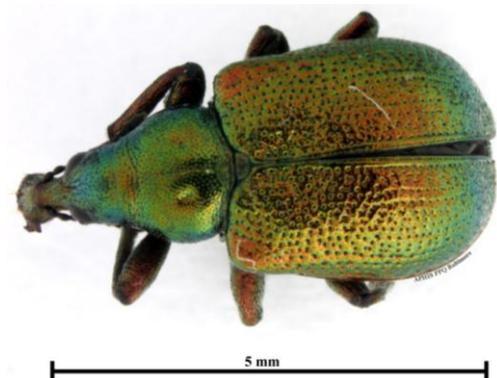
Neoselenaspis silvaticus (Lindinger) (Hemiptera: Diaspididae) was intercepted in baggage at Dulles International Airport on spurge (Euphorbiaceae). According to [ScaleNet](#), this afrotropical species has been recorded as a pest of tea plants, *Camellia sinensis* (L.) Kuntze, and citrus, *Citrus* L. spp.

***Neophilaenus Haupt* sp. (Hemiptera: Aphrophoridae) – a hopper**



Neophilaenus Haupt sp. (Hemiptera: Aphrophoridae [previously Cercopidae]) was intercepted for the first time at the Norfolk International Terminals (Port of Virginia) and only the second time nationwide.

***Byctiscus betulae* Linnaeus (Coleoptera: Attelabidae) – Hazel Leafroller**



Two male and two female *Byctiscus betulae* Linnaeus

(Coleoptera: Attelebidae) were found in a shipment of tile from Italy at the Norfolk International Terminals (Port of Virginia). This is the first time this species has been found entering the United States. This pest is a leaf roller that is reported to feed on *Betula* L. spp. (birches), *Populus tremula* L. (European aspen), and occasionally *Salix* L. spp. (willows).

***Elaphria* Hübner sp. (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) – a triffine owl moth caterpillar**



A caterpillar was found in a shipment of tuliptree (*Liriodendron tulipifera* L.) from Chile at the Norfolk International Terminals (Port of Virginia). The caterpillar was identified as *Elaphria* sp. (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae). There are more than 100 species of *Elaphria* described, however very few of the caterpillars are known. According to the “Lista de géneros y especies de lepidópteros noctuidos representados en las Colecciones Científicas de la Universidad de Concepción,” *Elaphria bucephalina* (Mabille) is the only species known from Chile.

Submitted by MES member **Jim Young**, Entomologist Identifier, USDA-APHIS-PPQ- Baltimore

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND USGS
BEE INTERNSHIP – POTOMAC RIVER AREA**

As part of a large project to survey bees in woodlands throughout Maryland and Delaware, Andrew Landsman (National Park Service) will be coordinating interns to tend, collect, and process (if so desired) bees and other insect caught in simple glycol traps located along the C and O Canal National Park properties from Washington, D.C. to Cumberland, Maryland.

Commitment can be as little as tending one set of traps per week (about 30 minutes of work) and extending to multiple traps, helping a graduate student from the University of Delaware do vegetation surveys, and processing and learning to identify the bees in Sam Droege’s USGS lab in Beltsville, Maryland.

There’s no salary, of course, but lots of good experience.

See the link below for more information and how to apply and contact Andrew.

<http://wfsjobs.tamu.edu/jobs/multiple-field-biologist-interns-insects-maryland/>.

Submitted by MES member **Sam Droege**, sdroege@usgs.gov
USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

**GRAB YOUR CAMERA...
BUMBLE BEE WATCH IS HERE!**

PORTLAND, Oregon --- A new web site launched today allows people to be directly involved in protecting bumble bees throughout North America. [Bumble Bee Watch](#) enables people to connect with experts and other enthusiasts, and help build a comprehensive picture of where bumble bees are thriving and where they need help.

Furry, hardworking bumble bees are essential to wildlands, gardens, and farms, helping to deliver food security for both people and wildlife alike. Alarmingly, many recent reports suggest that we may be losing their familiar buzz from our summer landscapes due to habitat loss, insecticide use, disease, and climate change. More information is needed to determine their conservation status, and that process demands a continent-wide collaborative effort.

“We have an amazing community of citizen scientists who have helped us follow a handful of bee species,” said Rich Hatfield, the Xerces Society conservation biologist who coordinated creation of Bumble Bee Watch. “Hopefully this new web site will generate greater awareness and allow us to draw more people into this community.”

A Smartphone or simple digital camera (and a computer) is all that’s needed to start exploring [BumbleBeeWatch.org](#). In addition to uploading photos of bumble bees, individuals can identify the bumble bees, learn about their ecology, and connect with bumble bee experts and other citizen scientists engaged in pollinator conservation.

The information gathered will help locate rare or endangered populations, as well as track species whose status is less well known. “Bumble Bee Watch will greatly benefit our at-risk pollinator conservation program,” said Sheila Colla, project leader for Wildlife Preservation Canada’s At-Risk Pollinator Project, a partner in Bumble Bee Watch. “By locating rare bumble bee populations and collecting information on their ecological requirements, citizen scientists can help conserve these important insects.”

Bumble Bee Watch is a partnership between the [Xerces Society](#), [Wildlife Preservation Canada](#), the [University of Ottawa](#), the [Montreal Insectarium](#), the [Natural History Museum](#) in London, and [BeeSpotter](#).

“Bumble Bee Watch unites scientists and conservation organizations in Canada and the United States in the study and protection of North America’s bumble bees,” said Scott Black, executive director of the Xerces Society. “We are grateful for the hard work and commitment that our partners have made. This web site will transform the way bumble bees are viewed and protected.”

[Learn more about BumbleBeeWatch.org:](#)

- Watch this video to learn how to contribute your photos, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p7Kp3Awf2MQ>
- Learn how to take helpful photos of bumble bees, www.bumblebeewatch.org/contents/photo-tips/

- Meet the Bumble Bee Watch partners, <http://bumblebeewatch.org/contents/about/>
- Watch the Bumble Bee Watch trailer video on YouTube, <http://youtu.be/vTLKMAAtXGnA>
- Read more about bumble bees at risk on Xerces' Project Bumble Bee web page, <http://www.xerces.org/bumblebees/>

Contacts:

- **Rich Hatfield**, Conservation Biologist, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation; (503) 468-8405, rich@xerces.org
- **Scott Hoffman Black**, Executive Director, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation; (503) 449-3792, sblack@xerces.org.

HYM COURSE 2014

To Prospective Participants:

We are pleased to announce the fifth offering of HYM Course (<http://hymcourse.org/>), scheduled for 17-23 August 2014 at the Eagle Hill Institute, Steuben, Maine (<http://www.eaglehill.us/>).

The main objective of HYM Course is to provide participants with knowledge and experience in identifying parasitic and predatory wasps, sawflies, woodwasps, bees, and ants. Please note that while sawflies, woodwasps, bees, and ants are covered in this course to provide a complete view of Hymenoptera, parasitic and predatory wasps are the focus of the course.

Information on natural history is also presented, and that information is reinforced with fieldwork. Techniques used to collect, rear, preserve, and curate specimens are presented in a hands-on manner to allow participants to learn directly by doing.

The course is limited to 25 participants. Please visit the HYM Course website (<http://hymcourse.org/>) for details, including information on how to apply, costs for taking the course, and logistics of travel. Applications are due 21 March 2014.

We look forward to seeing you in Maine!

The Instructors, HYM Course 2014

Submitted by MES member Mike Gates, USDA-ARS Systematic Entomology Laboratory, National Museum of Natural History

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY EVENTS**

Fri, 14 February 2014, 12:00 p.m.

“Causes and Arthropod Community Consequences for Clinical Adaptation in a Foundational Plant Species”
Entomology Colloquium by Dr. Kailen Mooney, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, UC Irvine

Fri, 21 February 2014, 12:00 p.m.

“Insecticide Resistance in the House Fly, *Musca domestica*”
Entomology Colloquium by Dr. William Reid, Entomology, UM

Fri, 28 February 2014, 12:00 p.m.

“TBA”
Entomology Colloquium by Dr. Paul Leisnham, Environmental

Science & Technology, UM

Fri, 7 March 2014, 12:00 p.m.

“The Role of ABC Transporters in Pollinator Risk Assessment and the Evolution of Pesticide Resistance”
Entomology Colloquium by Dr. Dave Hawthorne, Entomology, UM

Fri, 14 March 2014, 12:00 p.m.

“Community Ecology, From the Small to the Large”
Entomology Colloquium by Dr. Dan Gruner, Entomology, UM
Entomology colloquia take place in 1130 Plant Sciences Building, College Park, MD. For additional information, go to: <http://entomology.umd.edu/news/events>.

**AMERICAN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
PUBLIC MEETING**

Wed, 26 February 2014; 7:00 p.m.

“Landscape-scale temporal variation of pollination service in the Mongolia Steppe”

Speaker: Daniel S. Song (Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Biology, University of Pennsylvania)
The Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, Ewell Sale Stewart Library, Second Floor, 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
<http://darwin.ansp.org/hosted/aes/mtgSched.htm>

**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
ENTOMOLOGY SEMINAR**

Fri, 28 February 2014, 3:00 p.m.

“Panning for Gold and Searching for Needles in Haystacks: Braconid wasp systematics and biodiversity in temperate and boreal ecosystems”

Seminar by Dr. Robert R. Kula (Research Entomologist, United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Systematic Entomology Laboratory, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC)
The George Washington University, Corcoran Hall 106, 2023 G St. NW, Washington DC
<http://departments.columbian.gwu.edu/biology/about/seminars>.

**ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON
PUBLIC MEETING**

Thu, 6 March 2014; 7:00 p.m.

Topic: TBA
Speaker: TBA
National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC
<http://entsocwash.org/>

**ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
EASTERN BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING**

Sat-Tue, 15-18 March 2014

Program Overview:

- Sat, 3/15: Welcome reception and movie night
- Sun, 3/16: Opening session, scientific presentations, student paper competitions, games, evening welcome social

- Mon, 3/17: Scientific presentations, awards banquet
 - Tue, 3/18: Remaining presentations completed by mid-morning, departure
- Fort Magruder Hotel & Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185
<http://www.entsoc.org/eastern/2014-eastern-branch-annual-meeting>
-

2013/2014 PROPOSED MES EVENT SCHEDULE

Regular MES lecture/meetings are held at UMBC on the 3rd Friday of each of the 6 months coinciding with UMBC's academic year. Proposed events for the upcoming MES membership year are:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Sep 8	Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet at J. KING'S Restaurant	
Oct 18	Harold Harlan	New & Novel Mosquito Control Options
Nov 15	Sam Droege	High Resolution Insect Photography
Feb 21	Andrew Ulsamer	Colony Collapse Disorder
Mar 21	Stuart McKamey	Aliens of the Amazon: Treehoppers
Apr 18	Paul Goldstein	Southern New England Coastal Sandplains

May 16 Members' Potpourri Presentations & Elections
TBA Survey/Field Trip TBA

OCT 2013 – SEP 2014 SOCIETY YEAR OFFICERS

Co-Presidents	Timothy Foard & Frederick Paras
Vice President	Philip J. Kean
Secretary	Richard H. Smith
Treasurer	Edgar A. Cohen, Jr.
Historian	(vacant)
Faculty Sponsors	Frank E. Hanson & Austin P. Platt
Publications Editor	Eugene J. Scarpulla

SUBMITTAL DEADLINES

MAR 2014 issue of the *Phaëton*:

Please send member news items by 7 March 2014.

SEP 2014 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*:

Please send first drafts of articles and notes by 1 April 2014.

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