



# Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the  
Maryland Entomological Society

Volume 33, Number 8

May 2013

---

EDITOR: **Eugene J. Scarpulla** – [ejscarp@comcast.net](mailto: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

---

## Meeting Announcement

The Maryland Entomological Society's 293<sup>rd</sup> regular meeting will be held **Friday, 17 May 2013, 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.

---

## Members Potpourri Night

**Speaker:** **Eugene J. Scarpulla, Publications Editor – Maryland Entomological Society, and Associate – Native Bee Inventory and Monitoring Laboratory, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Beltsville, MD**

**Title:** **“A Yearlong Survey of the Bees (Hymenoptera: Apoidea) of a Human-made Habitat Created from Dredged Material: Hart-Miller Island, Chesapeake Bay, Baltimore County, Maryland”**

In 2009, Gene Scarpulla conducted a yearlong “bee bowl” survey on Hart-Miller Island, in the Northern Chesapeake Bay, Baltimore County, Maryland. Six 20-bowl transects, each from a different habitat, were run on 18 sampling days from 4 April 2009 through 17 March 2010. A total of 4446 bees were collected, comprising 5 families, 27 genera, and at least 86 species. Gene will discuss a bit of bee biology and then elaborate on the yearlong survey, highlighting the wide diversity of bees observed on Hart-Miller Island.

**Speaker:** **Fred Paraskevoudakis, President – Maryland Entomological Society, and Professor – Computer, Mathematics, Engineering, and Sciences Department, Baltimore City Community College, Baltimore, MD**

**Title:** **“Bolivia: The Altiplano, Yungas, and Jungles. People, Places, and a Naturalist’s Perspective on Biodiversity”**

Bolivia is a large beautiful and diverse country that offers a tremendous amount of wonderful things to see and do for adventurous travelers. This lecture will cover a good portion of Northern Bolivia. There will be abundant images from the high mountains to the low jungles, capturing scenes from cultural festivals, ancient ruins, life in small towns, and the natural history found in these areas, particularly in the vast jungle lowlands. Join in for a “ride” down the infamous “World's Most Dangerous Road,” known for good reasons as “La Carretera de los Muertos.”

---

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

---

**19 APRIL 2013 MES MEETING MINUTES**

The 292<sup>nd</sup> general meeting of the Maryland Entomological Society was held on Friday, 19 April 2013 at UMBC and began at 8:35 p.m. with a welcome by MES President **Fred Paras**. The meeting program was devoted to presentations of entomological study and research by five students, three from Towson University (TU) and two from Baltimore City Community College (BCCC). Just before the talks, MES Faculty Sponsor **Frank Hanson** announced the BioBlitz to occur at the 6000-acre Chino Farms Grasslands Plantation near Chestertown, Maryland on Saturday, 27 April. The meeting then led immediately into the presentation of the talks, which are summarized below. Family members and faculty sponsors (MES member **John LaPolla** and Vonnie Shields from TU) of the students were present at the meeting as well as several students from BCCC. The talks were completed at about 10:30 p.m. and then attendees broke for a period of refreshments and discussion. Due to heavy early-evening thundershowers and even a tornado warning for eastern Maryland (until 10:00 p.m.), the meeting had low attendance by MES members, and only an abbreviated business meeting was held after the refreshments break. Prior to the meeting, MES Treasurer **Ed Cohen** forwarded to us that the MES Funds balance was now at \$3271.88. A slate of officer candidates for next year will be prepared by the MES Executive Committee before the May meeting for the May meeting election, and a discussion of the society field trip will also occur at the May meeting. A request was distributed from MES member **Gaye Williams** to help track and map out the occurrence of the 17-year Brood II Periodical Cicada *Magicicada* Davis in the mid-Atlantic area over the next 6 weeks. For displays, **Fred Paras** showed two drawers of Eastern Tiger Swallowtails, *Papilio glaucus* Linnaeus, and Appalachian Tiger Swallowtails, *P. appalachiensis* (Pavulaan & D. Wright), specimens as background for one of the talks. MES Vice President **Phil Kean** also provided a display box of Lepidoptera.

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

**19 APRIL 2013 MES LECTURE**

The program for the March meeting consisted of five student presentations.

**“The Odd Ones Out: Social Parasites and Their Difference from Typical Insect Social Structures” – Steven Messer, Master of Science candidate, Department of Biological Sciences, Towson University.**

Steven’s talk focused on social parasitism among ant species (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). Ants display eusocial behavior wherein parents and offspring occupy a large colony, and there is cooperative care of immatures and castes with specialized duties within the colony. Social parasitism among ants occurs when one species occupies the colony of another and extracts a non-mutual benefit from the host colony. The parasitism may take one of several forms. In guest parasitism, the parasitic species establishes a colony of its own, including workers, within the host nest. Temporary parasites kill the host queen

and produce their own workers, eventually converting the colony to that of the invading species. Dulotic parasites enter another colony and steal larvae and pupae, return them to their own colony, and essentially enslave these individuals as workers in their own colony. Inquiline parasites invade a colony, allow the host queen to survive, and utilize the host colony workers for their own nourishment and brood care of their immatures. Inquiline queens only produce reproductive forms, not workers. Inquiline species are often closely-related to the host species, and in-breeding with the host can occur. In Asia, *Polyrhachis lama* Kohout is a well-documented inquiline parasite of *Diacamma rugosum* (Le Guillou). Steven plans to collect and study colonies of the widespread United States “Crazy Ant” species *Nylanderia parvula* (Mayr) and a recently recognized and unnamed associated inquiline species with wingless males occurring in southeastern Massachusetts. He plans to study nest architecture and density, census the population caste structure, and document the behavioral relationship between the host and inquilines species.

**“Alkaloids as Antifeedants Against Gypsy Moth Larvae, *Lymantria dispar* (L.)” – Nicole Arnold, Master of Science candidate, Department of Biological Sciences, Towson University.**

In her research, nine alkaloids (acridine, aristolochic acid, atropine, berberine, caffeine, nicotine, scopolamine, sparteine, and strychnine) were evaluated as feeding deterrents for the Gypsy Moth, *Lymantria dispar* (Linnaeus) (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae) larvae. Plant sap entering the larva’s apical gustatorial pore signals the larva to feed. The aim was to determine and compare the taste threshold concentrations, as well as the ED<sub>50</sub> values, of these alkaloids to determine their potency as feeding deterrents. (ED<sub>50</sub> values are the “effective dosages” required to produce a reaction (deterrence in this case) in 50% of the animal test population.) The alkaloids were applied to disks cut from northern red oak *Quercus rubra* L. (Fagaceae) leaves. Although Gypsy Moth larvae are polyphagous, the larvae highly favor the leaves of this tree species. Two-choice feeding bioassays were used to test a broad range of biologically relevant alkaloid concentrations spanning five logarithmic steps. Increasing feeding deterrent responses were observed for all of the alkaloids tested; deterrence threshold concentrations ranged from 0.1 mM to 10 mM. Nicole’s study led to the conclusion that this generalist insect species bears a relatively high sensitivity to these alkaloids, which confirms behavioral observations that it avoids foliage containing alkaloids. Berberine, aristolochic acid, strychnine, and caffeine were found to have the lowest ED<sub>50</sub> values and were therefore the most potent antifeedants. Thus, if spraying of one of these antifeedants on valuable forest areas is found to be practical and economical, these findings will have paved the way to alternatives to insecticides such as Bt, *Bacillus thuringiensis* Berliner (Bacillales: Bacillaceae). This research was published in two peer-reviewed journals and reflects work carried out by Nicole (and others) while an undergraduate Bridges student in Dr. Vonnie Shields’ university laboratory.

**“Insect Olfactory Repellents: Is There a Gustatory Contribution?” – Jillian Sanford, Master of Science candidate, Department of Biological Sciences, Towson University.**

Insect repellents provide long-range protection from biting insects including ticks and mosquitoes by affecting the olfactory (smell) system. However, recent molecular and evolutionary studies performed on the origin of olfactory receptors demonstrate that these organs have evolved directly from gustatory (taste) receptors. The goal of Jillian’s study was to determine if olfactory repellent compounds are in fact able to interact additionally with an insect’s gustatory system. To accomplish this, she conducted electrophysiological studies on two insect species forms, adults of the Yellow Fever Mosquito, *Aedes aegypti* (Linnaeus) (Diptera: Culicidae), and larvae of the Gypsy Moth, *Lymantria dispar* (Linnaeus) (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae), to determine if insect repellents including DEET, IR3535, and Picaridin stimulate gustatory sensilla located on the mouthparts. The study on *A. aegypti* adults showed the presence of at least three gustatory receptor neurons (GRNs), one of which is activated by repellent compounds. Preliminary recordings performed on the medial styloconic sensillum of *L. dispar* larvae show that insect repellents activate the same GRNs on these larvae as do secondary plant compounds, such as caffeine. Jillian hypothesizes that there will be differences in the electrophysiological responses of *A. aegypti* and *L. dispar* to the various repellent compounds tested in this study. The information gathered from this study may lead to the design of alternative insect sprays that prevent feeding if the insect persists in alighting on the skin. This research was recently published in a peer-reviewed journal.

**“Evolution in the Making: Speciation through Hybrid Introgression” – Theresa White, sophomore, Baltimore City Community College.**

The talk was a detailed presentation of the evidence published in the biological literature that the Appalachian Tiger Swallowtail, *Papilio appalachiensis* (Pavulaan & D. Wright) (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae), is a hybrid species formed from interbreeding, since the last ice age, of the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, *Papilio glaucus* Linnaeus, and the Canadian Tiger Swallowtail, *Papilio canadensis* Rothschild and Jordan. It is believed that *P. appalachiensis* Z-linked genes associated with univoltinism and a cooler thermal habitat were inherited from *P. canadensis*, while its mitochondrial DNA W-linked genes associated with dimorphic females and mimicry of the Pipevine Swallowtail, *Battus philenor* (Linnaeus) (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae), were inherited from *P. glaucus*. Genome-wide Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism (AFLP) markers show that *P. appalachiensis* has almost equal amounts of its genome from both parental species indicating that it formed from a burst of hybridization between the parental species, with little subsequent backcrossing. Analyses of genetic differentiation, clustering, and polymorphism based on molecular data also showed that *P. appalachiensis* is genetically distinct from both

parental species. In addition, ecological barriers associated with a steep thermal cline in the range of *P. appalachiensis* from southern New England into the southern Appalachians appear to maintain a distinct, mosaic genome for this species despite its contact and occasional hybridization with both of its parental species. MES President Fred Paras later showed specimens that clearly demonstrated the wing marking differences between the introgressed hybrid and the parental species.

**“Effectiveness of Fermented Banana Stalk, Guava Peelings, and Sugarcane Vinegar as a Fruit Fly Trap” – Jaslyn Ann F. Lumongsod, sophomore, Baltimore City Community College**

Jaslyn conducted a study demonstrating the utility of a less expensive and organic fruit fly (Diptera: Tephritidae) trap for use in guava orchards. It was compared to a commercial fruit fly trap which is expensive and has some chemical components that may be harmful to the environment. The improvised fruit fly trap is composed of local components readily available in guava-producing areas. The components are 50 ml of fermented banana stalk, guava peelings, muscavado (an unrefined dark brown sugar and precursor to molasses), and 200 ml of sugarcane vinegar paste. The commercial trap uses a pheromone attractant. The commercial and improvised fruit fly traps were placed in the proximity of guava trees, and the fruit fly species attracted and killed by each trap were inventoried. Statistical analyses of test results indicated that both traps attracted and trapped equivalent numbers of fruit flies. However, the species inventory showed that the improvised trap attracted a large variety of fruit fly species whereas the commercial trap was only effective for one species, *Bactrocera correcta* (Bezzi), commonly known as the “guava fruit fly.” Larvae of all the species are known to injure guava fruit. Thus, the improvised trap can be effective in extracting the remaining species from guava orchards and is also inexpensive and environmentally safe.

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

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT NOTICE\*\*\***

**PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES SOUGHT**

After 20 years of distinguished service as President of the Maryland Entomological Society (MES), **Fred Paras** will not be running for reelection for the “October 2013 – September 2014” membership year. Fred is to be commended for two decades of tireless service to the Society.

The Society is requesting that a member steps forward and volunteers to run for this office. The primary responsibilities of the President are to schedule the guest speakers for the meetings; host the guest speakers for their complimentary dinner at Kibby’s Restaurant prior to the meetings; and preside over the meetings (October, November, February, March, April, May). Officer terms last for one year, but are renewable. If you have thoughts on the future of MES, this is your opportunity to chart its course. Put your visions into action. If you are willing to volunteer to be a candidate for President, please e-mail your name ASAP to the *Phaëton* Editor at [ejscarp@comcast.net](mailto:ejscarp@comcast.net).

**ANNUAL ELECTION OF MES OFFICERS**

The annual election of MES officers will be held at the 17 May 2013 meeting. Nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are currently being solicited. Nominations can be made by any paid member. Officers serve for a one-year term (which is renewable). If nominees run unopposed, the election slate is voted on as whole. If there are two or more nominations for an office, that office will be voted on individually by secret ballot. Please forward the names of nominees to the *Phaëton* Editor at [ejscarp@comcast.net](mailto:ejscarp@comcast.net). Members must be present at the May meeting to vote.

Current Slate to be voted on in May:

<b>President:</b>	<b>Nominations Requested</b>
Vice-President:	Philip J. Kean
Secretary:	Richard H. Smith
Treasurer:	Edgar A. Cohen, Jr.
Historian:	Robert S. Bryant

**BROOD II PERIODICAL CICADA EMERGENCE COMING SOON**

Please get the word out to all MES members [and encourage them to spread it further afield], that this is indeed the year of *Magicicada* Brood II. However, there's a lot of misinformation flying around, as well. Some just plain wrong maps have been given major media attention and some folks have been adding to a general newspaper-selling hysteria about these harmless insects. To see accurate mapping results of careful research by John Zyla and colleagues, please visit <http://www.cicadas.info/>. Brood II is the one depicted in blue. Brood II is NOT expected in any numbers in the Brood X areas [depicted in magenta]. John is interested in any *Magicicada* data, positive or negative, as he continues to fine-tune all local brood ranges. Data can be directly entered at his website. Most sightings are expected between 15 May and 15 June 2013. As you can see, this data gathering window is rather small so the more cicada-spotters, the better!!

*Submitted by MES member Gaye Williams, Maryland Department of Agriculture.*

**\*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\***

**LANDSCAPES WITH BROOD II CICADAS WANTED**

I am searching for landscapes with Brood II cicadas. I have received several media requests and would like to find a media-friendly residential or park landscape where I can bring TV crews to see these little wonders of nature. If anyone has already unearthed cicadas or seen their exit holes under trees and would like to help me with this project, it would be greatly appreciated. The best bet for finding these guys is likely to be Anne Arundel and Calvert Counties. Thanks for your help. Cheers! Mike

*Submitted by MES member Mike Raupp, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland. You can contact Mike at: [mraupp@umd.edu](mailto:mraupp@umd.edu).*

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL MEETING OF THE DRAGONFLY SOCIETY OF THE AMERICAS (SEDSA) 26-28 APRIL 2013**

Four MES members attended the 2013 Southeast regional meeting of the Dragonfly Society of the Americas (SEDSA) in Richmond, Virginia, on 26-28 April 2013. Several exuviae, teneral, and adults of the meeting's target species *Ophiogomphus* (near) *susbehcha*, "Chesapeake Snaketail" (Odonata: Gomphidae), were found along the James River during the three-day event. At this point, it has not been determined whether this snaketail is a new species or a subspecies of *O. susbehcha*, the St. Croix Snaketail.



*Ophiogomphus* (near) *susbehcha*, "Chesapeake Snaketail" (Odonata: Gomphidae) recently emerged teneral and exuviae. James River shoreline downstream of boat ramp, Cartersville, Virginia. 26 April 2013. (Image courtesy of MES member Gene Scarpulla)

A complete listing of the meeting's odonate species will be published in a future issue of the *Phaëton*.

**BALTIMORE CBP INTERCEPTS FIRST IN NATION WHITEFLY**

An 11 April 2013 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) news release reports that on 10 April 2013, a U.S. Department of Agriculture entomologist confirmed that CBP agriculture specialists at Baltimore Washington Thurgood Marshall International Airport discovered a First in Nation whitefly when they intercepted *Tetraleurodes andropogoni* (Dozier) (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae). The agriculture specialists discovered the pest on 10 March 2013 while inspecting fresh leaves found inside a traveler's luggage being carried by a passenger originating from Nigeria and arriving from the United Kingdom.

The pest is commonly known as the "bluestem whitefly." Very little is known about this pest (Young, in litt.).

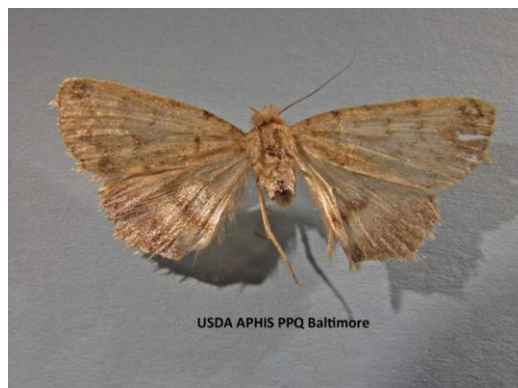




***Tetraleurodes andropogoni* (Dozier) (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae).** (Image courtesy of MES Member **Jim Young**, USDA-APHIS-PPQ Baltimore.)

The full news release can be accessed at:

[http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news\\_releases/local/04112013\\_7.xml](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/local/04112013_7.xml).



***Autophila ligaminosa* (Eversmann) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae).** (Image courtesy of MES member **Jim Young**, USDA-APHIS-PPQ Baltimore.)

The full news release can be accessed at:

[http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news\\_releases/local/04292013\\_4.xml](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/local/04292013_4.xml).

#### PHILADELPHIA CBP INTERCEPTS FIRST IN NATION SLUG MOTH

A 23 April 2013 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) news release reports that on 19 April 2013, a U.S. Department of Agriculture entomologist confirmed that CBP agriculture specialists in Philadelphia discovered a First in Nation slug moth when they intercepted *Semyra finita* Walker [a synonym for *Semyra coarctata* Walker] (Lepidoptera: Limacodidae). The agriculture specialists discovered the pest in February 2013 while inspecting a shipment of Costa Rican pineapples.

The full news release can be accessed at:

[http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news\\_releases/local/04232013\\_10.xml](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/news_releases/local/04232013_10.xml).

#### NORFOLK CBP INTERCEPTS FIRST IN NATION TRIFINE OWLET MOTH

An 29 April 2013 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) news release reports that a U.S. Department of Agriculture entomologist confirmed that CBP agriculture specialists at the Port of Norfolk discovered a First in Nation trifine owlet moth when they intercepted *Autophila ligaminosa* (Eversmann) (Lepidoptera: Erebididae). The agriculture specialists discovered the pest on 17 March 2013 while inspecting a cargo container on a U.S. military cargo flight that arrived from Afghanistan at Naval Station Norfolk.

The larval host is unknown but the species occurs in the Sub-Alpine zones of Israel west to Afghanistan. There is one generation per year but adults are able to overwinter in sheltered areas (Young, in litt.).

#### ADDITIONAL PEST INTERCEPTIONS

***Macroglossum stellatarum* (Linnaeus) (Lepidoptera: Sphingidae)** – This First in Port pest was found in the cargo holds of a military plane at the Port of Norfolk. Commonly known as the Hummingbird Hawk-moth, this species is found throughout most of Europe, Asia and Northern Africa. The species is unable to survive cold winters however the adults are strong fliers that seasonally migrate from the Mediterranean region north to Sweden and Iceland. The Hummingbird moths (including our native species) are day flying and can be found feeding at flowers.



***Macroglossum stellatarum* (Linnaeus) (Lepidoptera: Sphingidae).**

***Stictopleurus crassicornis* (Linnaeus) (Hemiptera: Rhopalidae)** – This scentless plant bug was a First in Port at the Port of Baltimore, found in a shipment of tile from Italy.



***Stictopleurus crassicornis* (Linnaeus) (Hemiptera: Rhopalidae).**

***Sciocoris sideritidis* Wollaston (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) –**

This shield bug was a First in Nation found at the Port of Baltimore in tile from the Mediterranean. The species distribution is apparently limited to France and Italy



***Sciocoris sideritidis* Wollaston (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)**

***Coreus marginatus* (Linnaeus) (Hemiptera: Coreidae) –** This pest was a First in Port at the Port of Norfolk. It was found in a shipment of tile from the Mediterranean. This species is found throughout most of Europe where it feeds on docks in the genus *Rumex* L. (Polygonaceae).



***Coreus marginatus* (Linnaeus) (Hemiptera: Coreidae)**

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

**BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION SERVING OUR NATION (BISON)**

“Researchers collect species occurrence data, records of an organism at a particular time in a particular place, as a primary or ancillary function of many biological field investigations. Presently, these data reside in numerous distributed systems and formats (including publications) and are consequently not being used to their full potential. As a step toward addressing this challenge, the Core Science Analytics and Synthesis (CSAS) program of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) is developing Biodiversity Information Serving Our Nation (BISON), an integrated and permanent resource for biological occurrence data from the United States.

BISON will leverage the accumulated human and infrastructural resources of the long-term USGS investment in research and information management and delivery.

CSAS is also the United States Node of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), an international, government-initiated and funded effort focused on making biodiversity data freely available for scientific research, conservation and sustainable development. CSAS, with its partners at Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), hosts a full mirror of the hundreds of millions of global records to which GBIF provides access. BISON has been initiated with the 110 million records GBIF makes available from the United States and is integrating millions more records from other sources each year.”

You can access BISON at: <http://bison.usgs.ornl.gov/>.

Submitted by MES member **Sam Droege**, Native Bee Inventory and Monitoring Laboratory, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, USGS

**ANT EXPLORATION COMIC**

**Illustrators and Scientists Working Together to Create an Engaging and Educational Comic for Students**

A team of illustrators and scientists are coming together to create an engaging learning resource for students that will help them be more successful in the classroom. The anthology will be around 30 pages and will include a series of unique stories by six illustrators. From leafcutter ants in the tropical rainforest to ancient ants in the Jurassic Period, each comic piece will explore a different theme in the amazing world of ants. Once printed, this comic will be used to reach over 240 students at three New York City public schools. The team is passionate about education and they hope that you will join them in creating this comic so that they may inspire the next generation of artists and researchers.

This comic anthology will be used to teach students scientific inquiry skills and build their understanding of how species interact with their environments. By using ants as a ‘model organism,’ the team can introduce other topics relating to ecology, climate and conservation. They are working with two 6<sup>th</sup> and two 7<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to use the comic, along with other learning resources, in their classrooms. Students will use the

comic in lessons and as a part of their sampling experiment of ants around their school. This is in collaboration with the [School of Ants](#) project – a citizen scientist driven study of ants that live in urban areas, particularly around homes and schools. All resources, including the digital copy of the comic, will be available free for teachers and educators on the [Your Wild Life](#) lab website.

For more information and to see how you can assist with this project, go to: <http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/ant-exploration-comic?c=home>.

Submitted by MES member *Gaye Williams, Maryland Department of Agriculture.*

**2012/2013 PROPOSED MES EVENT SCHEDULE**

Regular MES lecture/meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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
Oct 19	Leo Kenefic	Malaria Control: vectors, drugs, vaccines
Nov 16	Stephen Allgeier	Status of Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
Feb 15	David Adamski	Aspects of a Changing Classification
Mar 15	Timothy Foard	Ants of Maryland: A Statewide Survey
Apr 19	College Students	PowerPoint & Poster Presentations
May 17	Members Potpourri	Presentations & Elections
TBA	Survey/Field Trip	TBA
Sep 8	Crab Feast/Meet&Greet	J. KING’S Restaurant (Anne Arundel Co.)

**NEARBY ENTOMOLOGICAL EVENTS**

**11 May 2013; 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

**Washington Area Butterfly Club Meeting/Presentation “Intro to Butterfly Gardening” – Frank Boyle & Kathleen Lathrop**

Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S. Carlin Springs Road, Arlington, Virginia

<http://leplog.wordpress.com/2013/04/08/wabc-meeting-may-11-arlington-va/>.

**18 May 2013; 7:30 p.m.**

**The Natural History Society of Maryland “Mounting Moths and Butterflies” Workshop – MES member Jim Young**

Maryland Naturalist Center, 6908 Belair Rd., Baltimore, Maryland

<http://www.meetup.com/marylandnature/events/108781882/>.

**19 May 2013; 3:30 p.m.**

**The Natural History Society of Maryland “Insects” Nature Gathering – Amy Young and MES member Jim Young**

Maryland Naturalist Center, 6908 Belair Rd., Baltimore, Maryland

<http://www.meetup.com/marylandnature/events/115502972/>.

**5 June 2013; 5:30 p.m.**

**Entomological Society of Washington Annual Banquet “Insects: A Sedimental Journey” – Dr. David Grimaldi, (Curator, Division of Invertebrate Zoology, and Professor,**

**Richard Gilder Graduate School, American Museum of Natural History)**

Woodend Sanctuary, Audubon Naturalist Society Headquarters, 8940 Jones Mill Road Chevy Chase, Maryland.

<http://entsocwash.org/>.

**18 July 2013; 7:00 p.m.**

**The Natural History Society of Maryland “Dragonflies and Damselflies” Lecture – MES member Richard Orr**

Maryland Naturalist Center, 6908 Belair Rd., Baltimore, Maryland

<http://www.meetup.com/marylandnature/events/98956062/>.

**21 July 2013; 9:00 a.m.**

**The Natural History Society of Maryland “Dragonflies and Damselflies Field Trip to Patuxent Research Refuge” – MES member Richard Orr**

North Tract of the Patuxent Research Refuge, MD Route 198, Laurel, Maryland

<http://www.meetup.com/marylandnature/events/98959722/>.

**14-17 August 2013**

**The Center for Pollinator Research, Penn State, University Park, Pennsylvania 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Pollinator Biology, Health and Policy**

The Nittany Lion Inn, 200 Park Avenue, State College, Pennsylvania

<http://www.cvent.com/events/international-conference-on-pollinator-biology-health-and-policy/event-summary-7cf0d2799c954107b8c6bf3641778902.aspx>.

**31 August 2013; 9:30 a.m.**

**Howard County Bird Club Field Trip “Butterflies Through Binoculars: Lake Elkhorn Powerline Vegetation Management Study Tract” – MES member Dick Smith**

Meet at Elkhorn Garden Plots, Oakland Mills Road opposite Dasher Court. For additional info, contact Dick Smith at (410) 997- 7439 or [richard.smith@jhuapl.edu](mailto:richard.smith@jhuapl.edu).

**OCT 2012 – SEP 2013 SOCIETY YEAR OFFICERS**

President	Frederick Paras
Vice-President	Philip J. Kean
Secretary	Richard H. Smith
Treasurer	Edgar A. Cohen, Jr.
Historian	Robert S. Bryant
Faculty Sponsors	Frank E. Hanson & Austin P. Platt
Publications Editor	Eugene J. Scarpulla

**SUBMITTAL DEADLINES**

JUNE 2013 issue of the *Phaëton*:

Please send member news items by 7 June 2013.

SEP 2013 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*:

First drafts of articles and notes were due by 1 April 2013.

Send drafts for both publications to [ejscarp@comcast.net](mailto:ejscarp@comcast.net).