

Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the Maryland Entomological Society

Volume 35, Number 8

May 2015

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Meeting Announcement

The Maryland Entomological Society's 305th regular meeting will be held **Friday**, 15 May 2015, 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: Richard H. (Dick) Smith, Secretary – Maryland Entomological Society

Title: "Survey Plans and Recent News Items for Some of Maryland's Heritage-listed Butterfly Species"

Dick Smith is a Coordinator of butterfly records for the national website Butterflies and Moths of North America (BAMONA) at http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/, and he also collaborates on state surveys of listed butterfly species for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife and Heritage Service (WHS). Dick will discuss some of the new plans for Maryland statewide butterfly surveys that he has discussed earlier with Jen Frye, Invertebrate Ecologist at the WHS. He will also present some recent news items on rare and endangered butterfly species in the MD-VA-WV area.

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

Title: "The Fauna and Flora Biodiversity of Mt. Rhodopi and Mt. Olympus, Greece"

The Mt. Rhodopi mountain range, which straddles northern Greece and Bulgaria, is home to countless species of plants and animals. The topography varies from deep canyons and spruce-covered slopes to lush alpine meadows that harbor a myriad of species including a large amount of plant biodiversity. The Greek side features a large tract of virgin forest, named *Fracto*, and is an untouched preserved part of this mountain range. By contrast, Mt. Olympus, located in central Greece, is the highest point in the Balkans and likewise is home to a vast collection of species, with some small differences from the fauna of Mt. Rhodopi. The slide show will feature flora, fauna, and the majestic scenery and remoteness which make this corner of the world a naturalist's paradise.

MES Survey/Field Trip Saturday, 6 June 2015

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) BugBlitz

See details inside the newsletter and in the attachment. You must preregister with SERC to participate.

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 Wilkens Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21229, just 15 minutes from UMBC. Meet at the restaurant **promptly at 6:00 p.m.**

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*** MAY MES MEETING CHANGED BACK*** ***TO THE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED DATE ***

The date for the May MES meeting has been changed back to its originally scheduled date of **Friday**, **15** May **2015**.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

MES welcomes the following new members to the Society:

| Peggy Israel | Baltimore, MD |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Jacquelyn Sin | Baltimore, MD |
| Stephanie Tommasello | Baltimore, MD |

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*.

Peggy Israel Jacquelyn Sin Stephanie Tommasello

ANNUAL ELECTION OF MES OFFICERS

The annual election of MES officers will be held at the 8 May 2015 meeting. Nominations for officers 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 nominee names to the *Phaëton* Editor at ejscarp@comcast.net. Members must be present at the May meeting to vote.

Current Slate to be voted on in May:

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

17 APRIL 2015 MES MEETING MINUTES

The 304th general meeting of the Maryland Entomological Society was held on Friday, 17 April 2015 at UMBC and began at 8:29 p.m. with a welcome by Co-President **Fred Paras**. The meeting launched immediately into MES business topics, which started with a synopsis of the minutes from the February and March 2015 meetings by Secretary **Dick Smith**. Treasurer **Ed Cohen**'s report was delivered next, which stated that the general funds total currently stands at \$3742.14. Nomination for officers for next year was a usual topic for the April meeting, but no new nominations have been forwarded at this time. Repetition of the terms of the current officers is the normal fallback course in this case, but the May meeting will include an election that will determine final office-holders. The Society field trip was the next order of business, and a motion was

advanced and approved to hold the field trip in conjunction with the upcoming BugBlitz at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) in Edgewater, MD on Saturday, 6 June 2015 (with a moth hunt the night before) (see more details on this BugBlitz later in this newsletter). In contrast to the lack of manuscript submissions for the 2015 MES journal as announced at the March meeting, Journal Editor Gene Scarpulla announced that several articles have just recently come in for review. Fred Paras commented on the very productive and lively meeting held on 21 March 2015 that was conducted by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and attended by several statewide field entomologists to discuss and provide some detailed guidelines for the invertebrate conservation component of the new Maryland State Wildlife Action Plan. The majority of the entomological specialists in attendance were members of MES. Tonight's meeting continued with the presentation of the speaker and main program summarized below, and then we broke for some fine refreshments and discussion.

Respectfully submitted, Richard H. Smith, MES Secretary.

17 APRIL 2015 MES LECTURE

Speaker: Floyd W. Shockley, Ph.D. (Acting Collections Manager, Department of Entomology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC)

Title: "A Tale of Four Families: Systematics and Natural History of the Handsome Fungus Beetles (Coleoptera: Endomychidae [sensu lato])"

Dr. Shockley started his lecture by reviewing some elementary aspects of rainforest ecology and the not-well-realized critical role of fungus-feeding insects in maintaining rainforest equilibrium and nutrient recycling in tropical ecosystems. Fungus beetles, with the help of their natural gut microflora (Candida Berkhout yeasts), consume and break down fungal hyphae and spores, and then through their movement and excretion redistribute the nutrients trapped by the fungus. In fact, the beetles' own bodies become part of the usable soil nutrients upon death. Fungi, as opposed to bacteria, are by far the organisms most responsible for decomposition of dead trees and decaying organic material in rainforests. Fungus beetles serve a critical role of dispersing and returning nutrients to the soil surface for reuse by plants. The nutrient recycling period in rainforests is only about six months, compared to 3-5 years in temperate climates. The nutrient soil layer is less than 6 inches, and as a result most plants have very shallow and spreading root systems.

Fungi are a vital nutrition component among beetles – half of all beetle families feed on fungi or on material altered by or dependent on fungi interaction. Among only the beetles with "fungus" in their common name, there are a surprising number of families: shining fungus beetles (Staphylinidae), round fungus beetles (Leiodidae), tooth-necked fungus beetles (Derodontidae), dry-fungus beetles (Sphindidae), pleasing fungus beetles (Erotylidae), silken fungus beetles (Cryptophagidae), minute fungus beetles (Corylophidae), hairy

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fungus beetles (Mycetophagidae), minute tree-fungus beetles (Ciidae), horned fungus beetles (Tenebrionidae), cryptic fungus beetles (Archeocrypticidae), polypore fungus beetles (Tetratomidae), fungus weevils (Anthribidae), and handsome fungus beetles (Endomychidae), the last of which was the focus of the remainder of the talk. Dr. Shockley introduced the family and discussed their natural history and ecological associations with other organisms. Among the endomychids, there are only 46 species in North America, but endomychids occur in all worldwide land masses except Iceland, Greenland, and Antarctica. Some species are inquilines and will inhabit nests and dwellings of other fauna such as ants, termites, bees, and birds. For many of these beetles, it is unknown what they are feeding upon in these nests, but most experts believe they are feeding on molds found in these confined quarters. The pupae of ant-associated species have structures that discourage ants from nibbling on them. In addition to having species that consume practically all forms of fungi, some fungus beetles are predatory while others utilize plants, slime molds, stored food products, and carrion for nutrition.

Some endomychids are also subject to predation. Larvae and adults of *Eurycoleus macularis* Chevrolat (Coleoptera: Carabidae) mimic species of Erotylidae that might be found in the same habitat and feed directly on larvae, pupae, and teneral adults of the genus *Corynomalus* Chevrolat. Certain obligate ectoparasitic fungi in the order Laboulbeniales (*Rickia* Cavara sp.) will attack beetles. Those fungus beetles that taste bad to predators often have bright colors (i.e., employ aposematic defense) to remind predators that they are an undesirable meal. This invariably leads to mimicry of the same colors and patterns by other species as a collective defense strategy. A further defense, known as "reflex bleeding," exists in which an alkaloid toxin is exuded through the joints of the exoskeleton, triggered by mechanical stimulation (such as by predator attack) in both larval and adult beetles, and deters predation.

Some endomychids exhibit unusual aggregation behavior. *Stenotarsus subtilis* Arrow aggregations may consist of 70,000 individuals in diapause, which may last up to 10 months. On Barro Colorado Island, Panama, where many of these studies were conducted, known aggregations of *S. subtilis* form at the base of just two trees, a pinnate-leaved palm, *Oenocarpus panamanus* L. H.Bailey (Arecaceae), and a torchwood, *Tetragastris panamensis* (Engl.) Kuntze (Burseraceae). Interestingly, the beetles often aggregate on the exact tree used in the previous year, despite aggregations consisting exclusively of newly eclosed naïve univoltine adults.

Dr. Shockley then spent the remainder of his talk discussing the evolutionary history and current state of systematics of the family Endomychidae, based in large part on work from his dissertation. Historically, endomychids had been considered to be related to coccinellids (lady bird beetles) as they have the shared feature of having pseudotrimerous tarsi (appearing as 3 tarsal

segments, when actually having 4 segments). In fact, for part of their history, they were grouped together under the name

"Trimera". Even so, throughout the 19th and 20th century, many taxa from other groups were moved into Endomychidae and others that were previously classified as endomychids were moved to other taxa within the Cerylonid Series, a putatively monophyletic group of families related to one another within the superfamily Cucujoidea. Over the last 15 years, there have been lots of phylogenetic studies that included taxa from Cucujoidea, including representatives of the Cerylonid Series. Unfortunately, few focused on taxon samples appropriate for testing the monophyly of the superfamily, and family-specific studies like the one done by Dr. Shockley on Endomychidae did not have sufficient outgroup sampling to really answer higher level questions. Morphology and molecular data sets reveal conflicting patterns of relationship for the superfamily Cucujoidea, the Cerylonid Series, and the family Endomychidae. Through combined efforts, Shockley and others have created the largest molecular dataset for testing the monophyly of the Cervlonid Series and its constituent families. Their analysis contained hundreds of exemplars from across the Cucujiformia with specifically targeted sampling across Cucujoidea and were based on a set of 8 genes. They have concluded that while the Cerylonid Series is a single unified group, it is not part of the superfamily Cucujoidea, leading them to erect a new superfamily for these families which is basal to the remaining Cucujiformia superfamilies (which includes clerids (checkered beetles), cerambycids (longhorn beetles), chrysomelids (leaf beetles), and weevils). Likewise, they were able to show conclusively that the family Endomychidae is not a single family, but needs to be broken up into four separate families. Dr. Shockley concluded his talk by reviewing morphological evidence that corroborates the findings of the molecular analysis.

Respectfully submitted, Richard H. Smith, MES Secretary.

MES FIELD TRIP SERC BUGBLITZ – 6 JUNE 2015

This year's MES field trip will be held in conjunction with the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center BugBlitz that will be held on Saturday, 6 June 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. A moth Blitz is scheduled for Friday, 5 June, beginning at 7:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to survey a property that is normally not open to the public. Please see the note below and the attachment to the e-mail that delivered this e-newsletter for details on how to register for the BugBlitz. <u>You must</u> preregister with SERC to participate in this event.

SERC BUGBLITZ INVITATION 6 JUNE 2015

I wish to invite you all to the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) BugBlitz on Saturday, 6 June 2015 (with a moth hunt the night before). I talked with some of you earlier, but this is the official announcement, now with a flyer! (See attachment.) While we have a fairly good handle on the vascular plants, vertebrates and estuarine species at SERC, little work has focused on the terrestrial and freshwater invertebrates. So please help us document biodiversity at SERC. Although the

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impetus of this BioBlitz is insects, spiders, mollusks, etc., feel free to focus on anything you like. Also please pass along this invitation to anyone you think would be interested.

Please see the attached flyer for details. If you have any questions or suggestions, I can be reached at aguilarr@si.edu or (443) 482-2436. If you plan to attend the main BugBlitz or nighttime moth hunt, please let me know. Thanks!

Rob Aguilar, Biologist, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, P.O. Box 28, Edgewater, MD 21037

WHERE'S PETER NOW?

MES member and graduate student **Peter Houlihan** sent us the following update on his current activities:

Coiba BioBlitz: I've been involved with a BioBlitz on the island of Coiba in Panama. It is the largest island in Central America, which was a penal colony from 1919-2005 and is now designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and National Park. I have been overseeing the entomological surveys on the island, with a first trip in February. I will return in May to continue surveys and help National Geographic photographer, Christian Ziegler, document the island's biodiversity. This work will be featured in two articles in GEO Magazine and as an exhibit in the new Biomuseo in Panama City. Below is a photo from the project.



Monarchs: Earlier this year, I helped lead a trip for the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity to the Monarch overwintering sites in Michoacán, Mexico. Below is a photo from the amazing experience!



Madagascar: In June and July, I will be on assignment for National Geographic, studying Darwin's predicted hawkmoth. I will be posting updates from the field on a blog on National Geographic's website.

Film: David Attenborough's "Conquest of the Skies 3D," which featured my research on bat vs. moth interactions in Borneo, aired this spring in Europe and has received several nominations for the British Academy of Film and Television Awards (BAFTA). It should be coming out in IMAX sometime this year: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3521074/?ref_=ttfc_fc_tt

Peter R. Houlihan

Graduate School Fellow, Department of Biology, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida Email: phoulihan@ufl.edu | Tel: (+001) 773-849-8010 Website: http://www.peter-houlihan.com Twitter: @peter_houlihan

Director & Expedition Leader - BRINCC: Barito River Initiative for Nature Conservation and Communities Email: peter@brinccborneo.org Website: http://www.brinccborneo.org

Twitter: @BRINCC

National Geographic Explorer

HELP BRING BACK THE BALTIMORE CHECKERSPOT BUTTERFLY

University of Maryland (UMD) kicks off the "Bring the Baltimore Checkerspot Butterfly Back to Campus!"

Our group is a collaboration between the vanEngelsdorp lab (http://www.vanengelsdorpbeelab.com/index.html), lead by Dennis vanEngelsdorp and PollinaTerps, lead by Carin Celebuski at the UMD Arboretum. The vanEngelsdorp lab is nationally recognized for efforts in reducing honey bee colony loss, and has several students currently studying native pollinators. PollinaTerps is a collective group of UMD students, staff, faculty, local scientists, and local members working to build a pollinator friendly community through research, education, and habitat creation and preservation.

The purpose of our project is to raise funds to establish several colonies of Baltimore Checkerspot butterflies on the UMD campus. Not only is the Checkerspot the state insect of Maryland, but it now only exists in small, isolated areas in Maryland and is, in fact, extirpated in Prince George's County. It is one of the most vividly colored butterflies, displaying a bright orange, white, and black pattern. The Baltimore Checkerspot's host plant is the white turtlehead (Chelone glabra L.), a native plant that grows best in wet woods, marshes and streambanks but is preferred by deer who have decimated the growth of this critical plant, thus eliminating any Baltimore Checkerspot populations. Our goal is to build at least 3 deerproof enclosures on campus, grow the host plant (white turtlehead) and hand-rear the butterflies. The campaign page includes a video that explains our project in greater detail: https://www.launch.umd.edu/project/54fd9f57092065401a8df971

We need your help in spreading the word. Our group was

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selected by the University of Maryland's crowdfunding program https://irma.nps.gov/rprs/

LAUNCH. Our goal is to raise \$5,000 by May 9, 2015 to fund and build at least 3 deer-proof enclosures that will protect the native white turtlehead once planted.

Funds will be further to purchase white turtlehead plants and seeds for the enclosures and to pay for UMD greenhouse space in raising the white turtleheads. Additionally, we are working with the Smithsonian institution and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to rear and release Baltimore Checkerspot caterpillars into our enclosures in the next few years.

Any \$250 or \$500 donation receives a tour on campus of either our honey bee lab or the greenhouses with an opportunity to help with the enclosure building or turtlehead planting.

Thank you and we appreciate your support!

Sincerely.

The vanEngelsdorp Lab, the University Arboretum, and the **PollinaTerps**

Submitted by MES member Karen Rennich (Bee Informed Partnership Executive Director, University of Maryland, Entomology Department).

2015 EPA GREATER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FELLOWSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATE **ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its Greater Research Opportunities (GRO) Fellowships program, is offering undergraduate fellowships for bachelor level students in environmental fields of study. Subject to availability of funding and other applicable considerations, the Agency plans to award approximately 34 new fellowships. Eligible students will receive support for their junior and senior years of undergraduate study and for an internship at an EPA facility during the summer of their junior year. The fellowship provides up to \$20,700 per academic year of support and \$8,600 of support for a three-month summer internship. The deadline for receipt of applications is 19 May 2015. For more information, see

http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2015/2015_gro_undergrad.html.

Submitted by Deana Crumbling, US EPA

KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS INVERTEBRATE **BIODIVERSITY INVENTORY - MAY 2015 - APRIL 2016**

The National Park Service is looking for assistance with an invertebrate biodiversity project at the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens this coming year. There is an opportunity for an internship associated with this activity.

Here is the link for students and recent graduates to apply for the Student Conservation Asociation internship to help us coordinate:

http://thesca.org/serve/position/arthropod-biodiversity-internlocal-candidates-only/po-00578924

Taxonomists are encouraged to contact Mikaila Milton at the information below and apply for a collecting permit for all or part of the inventory period.

Mikaila Milton

Biologist, Resource Management Division National Capital Parks-East National Park Service 1900 Anacostia Drive, S.E. Washington, DC 20020 Office: 202-690-5167 Fax: 202-690-0862 Email: mikaila milton@nps.gov

Submitted by Shelah Morita, Ph.D., Membership and Communications Secretary, Entomological Society of Washington.

BALTIMORE CBP INTERCEPTS FIRST IN PORT WEEVIL

A 30 April 2015 United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) news release reports that a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) - Plant Protection and Ouarantine (PPO) identifier confirmed on 9 April 2015, that on 1 April 2015, CBP agriculture specialists at the Port of Baltimore, discovered a weevil. Gymnetron rostellum (Herbst) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae), in a container of ceramic tiles from Italy and destined for Maryland. The larva of this weevil is reported to feed on Veronica chamaedrys L. (Scrophulariaceae), germander speedwell.



A weevil, Gymnetron rostellum (Herbst) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae). (Image courtesy of MES member and USDA-APHIS-PPO Entomologist Identifier Jim Young)

The full news release can be accessed at:

http://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/2015-04-30-000000/baltimore-cbp-intercepts-first-port-weevil.

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RECENT EAST COAST INTERCEPTION April 2015: a snail, Zebrina detrita (Müller) (Enidae)



The snail Zebrina detrita (Müller) (Enidae) was intercepted for the first time on the East Coast in April (intercepted in 2012 and 2013 in California). This snail is endangered in Austria and Germany and is listed as vulnerable in Switzerland. The species decline is strongly linked to agricultural practices.

Text and photo provided by MES member and USDA-APHIS-PPQ Entomologist Identifier Jim Young.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY COLLOOUIA

Fri, 1 May 2015, 12:00 p.m.

"Mitigation of N2O Emissions Using Conservation Tillage in Vegetable Fields Transitioning to Organic Productions" Guihua Chen (Department of Entomology, University of Maryland)

Fri, 8 May 2015, 12:00 p.m. "TBA"

Jeffrey Sosa-Calvo (Ph.D. Student, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland)

Entomology colloquia take place in 1130 Plant Sciences Building, College Park, MD. For additional information, go to: http://entomology.umd.edu/calendar.html.



Central Maryland Beekeepers Association

Supporting and promoting beekeepers and the viability of honeybees in central Maryland

MEMBERS MEETINGS

Tue, 5 May 2015; 7:00 p.m. "Research on Bee-Plant Attraction and Heavy Metal Poisoning" Jody Johnson, Ph.D. (CMBA grant recipient)

Tue, 2 June 2015; 7:00 p.m.

"The Ecological Value of Plants for Pollinators"

Deborah A. Delaney, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor of Entomology, Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, University of

Delaware)

Members meetings are held at the Oregon Ridge Nature Center, 13555 Beaver Dam Road, Cockeysville, Maryland. Additional information can be found at:

http://www.centralmarylandbees.org/meetings-3/membershipmeeting-schedule/.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON PUBLIC MEETING

Thu, 7 May 2015; 7:00 p.m.

"Grave Digging or Asphyxiation: Somebody Dies When It's Bee Versus Fly"

T'ai Roulston, Ph.D. (Research Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Science, University of Virginia, Blandy Experimental Farm)

National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. (If you do not have afterhours access to the NMNH, please plan to meet at the Constitution Avenue lobby at 6:30 p.m., and we will arrange escort to Room WG-33.) http://entsocwash.org/.

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK 2015

15-21 June 2015

Pollinator Week was initiated and is managed by the Pollinator Partnership.

Eight years ago the United States Senate's unanimous approval and designation of a week in June as "National Pollinator Week" marked a necessary step toward addressing the urgent issue of declining pollinator populations. Pollinator Week has now grown to be an international celebration of the valuable ecosystem services provided by bees, birds, butterflies, bats, and beetles. The growing concern for pollinators is a sign of progress, but it is vital that we continue to maximize our collective effort. The United States Secretary of Agriculture signs the proclamation every year. Additional information can be found at:

http://www.pollinator.org/pollinator_week_2015.htm.

2015 DRAGONFLY SOCIETY OF THE AMERICAS ANNUAL MEETING

25-28 June 2015 State College, Pennsylvania

The 2015 Annual Meeting of the Dragonfly Society of the Americas (DSA) will be held in State College, Pennsylvania on 25-28 June 2015 hosted by the North East Chapter of DSA. The indoor conference sessions will be held at the Ramada Inn on Saturday, 27 June 2015, with local field trips on Friday and Sunday and additional two-day pre- and post-conference field trips. The 2015 DSA meeting will be a great opportunity to showcase and explore several rich Odonata habitats in Central Pennsylvania where there are bogs, streams, lakes, and a variety of habitats. More information can be found at:

https://sites.google.com/a/udel.edu/nedsa/home/2015.

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NATIONAL MOTH WEEK 2015 Invites Citizen Scientists to Celebrate Moths

18-26 JULY 2015

Registration is in full swing for the fourth annual National Moth Week 2015 18-26 July, a global citizen-science project that celebrates the beauty, diversity and ecological importance of moths. This year, National Moth Week will spotlight the Sphingidae family of moths found throughout the world, commonly called hawk moths, sphinx moths, and hornworms. Anyone can participate in National Moth Week. "Moth-ers" of all ages and abilities are encouraged. More information can be found at: http://nationalmothweek.org/.

2014/2015 PROPOSED MES EVENT SCHEDULE

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

| Date | <u>Speaker</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|--------|----------------|--|
| Oct 17 | Jeffrey Shultz | Diversity & Sex Lives of Daddy Longlegs |
| Nov 21 | William Cooper | The Butterflies of Iguazú Falls, Argentina |
| Feb 20 | Kelly Hamby | Exploiting Insect-Microbe Interactions |
| Mar 20 | Gary Hevel | A Yard of Insects: Local Ent Biodiversity |

Apr 17Floyd ShockleyFour Families: Handsome Fungus BeetlesMay 15Members' & Students' Presentations & ElectionsJun 6SERC BugBlitzMES Survey/Field Trip at SERCSep 20Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet at J. KING'S Restaurant

OCT 2014 – SEP 2015 MES MEMBERSHIP 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 |
| E-newsletter Editor | Eugene J. Scarpulla |
| Journal Editor | Eugene J. Scarpulla |

SUBMITTAL DEADLINES

JUN 2015 issue of the Phaëton:

Please send member news items by 5 June 2015.

<u>SEP 2015 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*:</u> First drafts of articles and notes are due ASAP.

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