



# *Phaëton*

The Official Newsletter of the  
Maryland Entomological Society

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EDITOR: **Aditi Dubey** – [aditid26@gmail.com](mailto:aditid26@gmail.com)  
**Hanna Kahl** – [hkahl@umd.edu](mailto:hkahl@umd.edu)  
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/>

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## **In Memory of Richard H. Smith, Jr. (1944-2016)**

It is with extreme sadness that we make the following announcement regarding our dear colleague and longtime Maryland Entomological Society (MES) Secretary Richard (Dick) H. Smith, Jr. of Columbia, Maryland. He died on August 8, 2016, at only 71 years of age from complications sustained after sudden cardiac arrest while vacationing in Driggs, Idaho. Apart from a few additional details, the following obituary was written by his son Warren and has been forwarded to us.

Dick was born on September 7, 1944 near Baltimore, MD, weighing in at a robust 10 lbs according to the farm's chicken scale. He received his Bachelor of Science in 1966 and his Ph.D. in 1971 from The Johns Hopkins University. He lived most of his life in Columbia, MD where he worked as an electrical engineer for the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory for over 40 years. He recently retired in 2015. Throughout his life, he balanced his interest in physics with a love of nature. Dick championed environmental stewardship and was incredibly active in the Maryland Entomological Society and the Lepidopterists' Society throughout the Delmarva area. He was the Secretary of MES since about 1990.

Dick was a known authority on butterflies of this region. He ran outdoor learning expeditions and openly shared his logs and observations with others who studied these beautiful, elegant creatures. He was coordinator of butterfly species records for Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) National Biological Information Infrastructure Program and the USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center's website, "Butterflies and Moths of North America." He compiled a comprehensive listing of the resident, annually migrating, and immigrant butterflies of the Washington, DC area, which he described as "an accurate and realistic representation of what most butterfly enthusiasts, with some luck and perseverance over a period of several years, could actually find in the DC area."

He was very actively involved with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in conducting surveys of specific habitats in search of rare and declining butterfly species which would have him in the field throughout the spring and summer months. It was his diligence and thoroughness which helped establish accurate record information for numerous scarce and threatened species. His work with the DNR extended into a significant conservation project "The Maryland Natural Heritage Program" list of rare, threatened, and endangered species in which he was a known contributing authority. If anyone had his "finger on the pulse" of butterfly populations, it was Dick.

As MES secretary, he consistently attended all meetings and summarized the lectures for the printing of the next month's "Phaëton" newsletter. Additionally, he would read the previous MES business minutes at the opening of each new MES meeting, a task he did willingly and tirelessly for over 25 years. Dick always shared announcements and information at these meetings and brought great insight to our organization. To say he will be sorely missed is a gross understatement; his absence leaves a "Black Hole" which will never quite be filled.

Another enthusiast summed up Dick's presence in this community, thanking him not only for his “many years of butterfly knowledge and experience,” but also “for offering brilliant guidance, thought-provoking discussions, and incredible patience in answering my incessant questions.”

Dick remained strong and active throughout his life. He loved spending time with his family, and enjoyed going for morning and evening runs, especially in natural spaces like those that surrounded his Idaho vacation home. In his last moments, he was truly doing something that he loved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fred Paras – President MES

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

A Maryland Entomological Society All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet will be held on **Sunday, 18 September 2016**, at J. KING'S Restaurant, 329 Gambrills Road, Gambrills, Maryland. The event is scheduled to begin at **1:00 p.m.**

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

Come join fellow MES members for an All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet. There are approximately 125 members in the Society. This is an opportunity to come out of the lab or field and get to know your fellow members. Please feel free to invite your spouse to this event. J. KING'S is centrally located between Baltimore, Washington, Annapolis, and Columbia. And if you are sports oriented, J. KING'S has an abundance of televisions on their walls. (Note: The Baltimore Ravens @ Cleveland Browns game is at 1:00 p.m. and the Dallas Cowboys @ Washington Redskins game is also at 1:00 p.m.).

**Date and Time:** Sunday, 18 September 2016; 1:00 p.m. (Once steamed crabs are on the table, the “all-you-can-eat” lasts for 2 hours.)

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

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

**Cost:** The All-You-Can-Eat Crab Feast menu is \$39.99 per person. If you are not interested in eating steamed crabs, you can order off of the regular menu at regular prices. **If you plan to attend, please contact Gene at [ejscarp@comcast.net](mailto:ejscarp@comcast.net) by Monday, 12 September 2016 to make a reservation.** (Gene needs to give the restaurant a head count for crab ordering purposes and for space allocation.) Also, please indicate if you will not be eating steamed crabs and will be ordering off the regular menu instead.

**Parking:** There is ample free parking behind the restaurant.

### Directions from Annapolis

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

### Directions from Baltimore

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

### Directions from Columbia and MD-295

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

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

### Directions from Washington, DC

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

### Directions from US-50

- Take MD-3 North.
  - Go 8 miles to MD-175 West (traffic light) and turn left.
  - Go 1 mile, turn right onto Gambrills Road.
  - They are 1/2 mile on the right.
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# **FIRST-IN-NATION SHIELD BUG AND FIRST-IN-PORT MOTH PEST FOUND IN PHILADELPHIA SEAPORT**

On June 6<sup>th</sup> in Philadelphia, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Agriculture Specialists discovered a shield bug that has never before been documented in the U.S. in a shipment of pineapples from Costa Rica. A USDA entomologist identified the shield bug as *Brachyplatys subaeneus* Westwood, originating from Asia.

A new moth pest was also discovered by CBP in Philadelphia on June 6<sup>th</sup>. It was found in a shipment of kiwi fruit from New Zealand. The USDA entomologist identified the moth as *Thysanoplusia orichalcea* (Fabricius).



For more information follow this link:

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/2016-07-29-000000/cbp-intercepts-new-pests-philadelphia-seaport>

## **YOUTH INCENTIVE AWARD**

This program by the Coleopterist Society encourages middle and high school aged children to pursue a research project involving Coleoptera and pair with a professional scientist mentor. Those selected get a small budget and money for equipment from Bioquip. This program is currently soliciting mentors to identify and nurture larval coleopterists in their local communities. More information about the program and the application form can be found on the attachment of this month's issue and at:

[http://www.coleopsoc.org/default.asp?Action=Show\\_SocietyInfo&ID=Youth](http://www.coleopsoc.org/default.asp?Action=Show_SocietyInfo&ID=Youth).

The deadline for application is September 1.



**Central Maryland Beekeepers Association**

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

## **MEMBERS MEETINGS**

**Tue, 6 September 2016; 7:00 p.m.**

“Seven Years, Two Packages!” **Luke Goembel** keeps bees in

Towson. He speaks to us about what he has learned in his time as a beekeeper about succeeding in suburbia that time frame – including some interesting methods and equipment.

**Tue, 4 October 2016; 7:00 p.m.**

Speaker: TBD

**Tue, 1 November, 2016; 7:00 p.m.**

World traveler, diving guide, and cultural beekeeping expert **Susan Langley** brings us her knowledge about traditions of keeping honey bees in Asia. Endlessly informative and knowledgeable, you won't want to miss this!

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/membership-meeting-schedule/>.

## **DC/BALTIMORE CRICKET CRAWL**

**August 26, 2016**

Cricket fans in the DC, NOVA, and Baltimore area can participate in this event to appreciate crickets. The goal is to document six target species of crickets along with their distribution. Along with listening to and documenting crickets, you will have the opportunity to participate in cricket dances, poetry, music and a cricket party. We would love to post the best cricket costume pictures!

For more information you can go to the website or Facebook page:

<http://www.discoverlife.org/cricket/DC/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CricketCrawlDCBaltimore>

## **MICROSCULPTURE – AMAZING INSECT IMAGES**

British photographer Levon Biss has created a unique collection of detailed images of insects on a macroscopic scale, highlighting every detail of the insects' bodies. Using specimens from the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, he developed a groundbreaking technique by which he combined approximately 8000 individual images to create each three-meter print. The collection includes image of rare and beautiful insects, such as the tricolored jewel beetle (*Belionota sumptuosa*), photographed from a specimen collected 160 years ago by Alfred Russell Wallace.

While the collection is currently being exhibited in the UK, the images can be viewed online at:

<http://microsculpture.net/microsculpture.html>

Watch a video about the process used to create these images at: <https://vimeo.com/157712307>

## **ESA ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR THE 2016 YOUTUBE YOUR ENTOMOLOGY CONTEST**

Since 2009, the Entomological Society of America has held a contest called “YouTube Your Entomology”, which invites entomologists to showcase their talents and creativity through video. The popular contest has been featured in the New York

Times and other media outlets, and the videos often focus on research, teaching, outreach and other areas.

Read more about the contest and view all the entries, including the five finalists, at:

<https://entomologytoday.org/2016/07/19/esa-announces-finalists-for-the-2016-youtube-your-entomology-contest/>

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### HOWARD COUNTY BUTTERFLIES THROUGH BINOCULARS MEMORIAL WALK

**Saturday, 3 September, 2016**

**9:030AM (2-3 hours)**

**Location: Elkhorn Garden Plots, Columbia MD**

The Howard County Bird Club will be hosting a Butterfly Walk in memory of Dick Smith, who lead their butterfly walks for many years.

The group will meet at:  
Elkhorn Garden Plots parking lot, Oakland Mills Road, opposite Dasher Court in east Columbia.

For more information, see:

<http://www.howardbirds.org/howard/hcevents.htm>

Register with:

Linda Hunt ([raven10322@hotmail.com](mailto:raven10322@hotmail.com))

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### GLOBAL BIOCONTROL AND BIOSTIMULANTS CONGRESS 2016

**12-13 September, 2016**

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

The event will be co-located with the 4<sup>th</sup> [Plant Genomics Congress USA](#).

Increasing prioritization of sustainability in agriculture has led to rapid growth in the agricultural biologicals industry. The benefits of biological products in agriculture are significant, and developments in technology and research make agricultural biologicals an exciting, dynamic industry in which to work and study.

Attracting experts working in all areas of plant science, the conference will examine the latest developments in the technologies and techniques being used for progressing biopesticides and biostimulants research, as well as the future of the industry.

Should you be an expert in developing biological products, or a scientist researching plant and microbe processes, the conference will be an excellent opportunity to learn, share, discuss and engage with the most current plant science research and technology. During the two-day conference, there will be networking breaks to promote interaction with your peers, expert led case study presentations, and a dynamic exhibition room filled with technology providers showcasing their

technologies and solutions.

Members will be offered a 15% discount on the attendance fee of academic rate; \$499 or industry rate; \$999. This can be accessed by using the code **BC/AM/15** for online registration or contacting event manager Aya Masuo at: [aya@globalengage.co.uk](mailto:aya@globalengage.co.uk).

Conference programmes and further details can be viewed at:

Global Biocontrol & Biostimulants Congress

2016: <http://www.globalengage.co.uk/biocontrol.html>

4<sup>th</sup> Plant Genomics Congress USA:

<http://www.globalengage.co.uk/plantgenomicsusa.html>

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### 2016/2017 PROPOSED MES EVENT SCHEDULE

Regular MES lecture/meetings are held at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each of 6 months coinciding with UMBC's academic year. Proposed events for the upcoming MES membership year are:

Date	Speaker	Topic
Sep 18	Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet at J. KING'S Restaurant	
Oct 21	Seán Brady	Hymenoptera (Bees & Aculeate Wasps)
Nov 18	TBD	Lecture
Feb 17	TBD	Lecture
Mar 17	Daniel Perez-Gelabert	Orthoptera
Apr 21	Loyola Univ. Students	TBD
May 19	Members' & Students' Presentations & Elections	
TBD	Survey/Field Trip	

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### OCT 2016-SEP 2017 MES MEMBERSHIP YEAR OFFICERS

President	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
Journal Editor	Eugene J. Scarpulla
E-newsletter Editors	Aditi Dubey & Hanna Kahl

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### SUBMITTAL DEADLINES

SEP 2016 issue of the *Phaëton*:

Please send member news items by 2 September 2016.

Send e-newsletter drafts to Aditi at [aditid26@gmail.com](mailto:aditid26@gmail.com) and/or Hanna at [hkahl@umd.edu](mailto:hkahl@umd.edu).

SEP 2017 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*:

Please send first drafts of articles and notes by 1 April 2017.

Send journal drafts to Gene at [ejscarp@comcast.net](mailto:ejscarp@comcast.net).

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**TO A BUTTERFLY**

**William Wordsworth**

I'VE watched you now a full half-hour,  
Self-poised upon that yellow flower;  
And, little Butterfly! indeed  
I know not if you sleep or feed.  
How motionless!---not frozen seas  
More motionless! and then  
What joy awaits you, when the breeze  
Hath found you out among the trees,  
And calls you forth again !

This plot of orchard-ground is ours;  
My trees they are, my Sister's flowers;  
Here rest your wing when they are weary;  
Here lodge as in a sanctuary!  
Come often to us, fear no wrong;  
Sit near us on the bough!  
We'll talk of sunshine and of song,  
And summer days, when we were young;  
Sweet childish days, that were as long  
As twenty days are now.