



Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the
Maryland Entomological Society

Volume 36 Number 5

February 2016

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Meeting Announcement

The Maryland Entomological Society's 308th regular meeting will be held **Friday, 19 February 2016, 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: Jon Gelhaus, Ph.D. – Professor, Department of Biodiversity, Earth & Environmental Science;
Curator, Department of Entomology, Academy of Natural Sciences, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Topic: Aquatic Insects of Mongolia**



Dr. Jon Gelhaus is a Professor in the Department of Biodiversity, Earth and Environmental Science and Curator of Entomology at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University. Jon developed his interest in insects early on as a boy growing up in Sacramento, California. After earning a Ph.D. in entomology at the University of Kansas, Jon was selected as a postdoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian Institution before coming to the Academy in 1990, where he has served for over 25 years. He became a Professor at Drexel University in September 2012. Jon served three years as Vice President of the Biodiversity Research Group at the Academy, and six years as President of the American Entomological Society.

Jon is also a Research Associate of the Smithsonian Institution, Department of Entomology, where he serves to maintain and provide access to the C. P. Alexander Collection of Crane Flies for the scientific community.

Jon's special interest is in the systematics, evolution and natural history of insects, specifically crane flies, a group important in aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Jon's research has taken him worldwide, particularly his work in Mongolia spanning nearly 20 years and encompassing two National Science Foundation funded projects. He received the Khubilai Khan Medal from the Mongolian Academy of Sciences in 2013 for his work describing and documenting the aquatic insect fauna and applying this knowledge for water quality monitoring. He has published 70 papers on crane flies and other insects including subjects in identification, systematics, ecology and general natural history.

Jon lives in Voorhees, NJ with his wife Evalyn and son Andrew.

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.**

20 NOVEMBER 2015 MES MEETING MINUTES

The 307th general meeting of the Maryland Entomological Society was held on Friday, 20 November 2015 at UMBC and began at 8:48 p.m. with a welcome by President Fred Paras. The start was later than intended due to an attempt to correct a projector image interference problem, which unfortunately was not successful. (Secretary Dick Smith plans to review and seek resolution of this problem with campus audiovisual staff before the next meeting.) The meeting moved immediately into the scheduled lecture which is summarized below. After this, attendees enjoyed a period of conversation and fine refreshments, and then the MES business meeting convened. The business meeting started with the reading by Secretary Dick Smith of the minutes from the 16 October 2015 MES meeting. A correction to these minutes was that Ed Cohen's swallowtail specimens brought to the October meeting were actually both Appalachian Tiger Swallowtails, *Papilio appalachiensis* (Pavulaan & D. Wright), from Spruce Knob, WV. None were Canadian Tiger Swallowtails, *P. canadensis* (Rothschild & Jordan) as previously stated. Later in the current meeting, Ed showed these specimens again plus specimens of *P. canadensis* from northern PA and northern NH for comparison to *P. appalachiensis* to aid us in focusing-in on wing features that allow separation of these two species. Additionally, the October 2015 MES funds balance amount was recorded incorrectly in the October minutes; the correct amount should have been \$3,122.78, not \$2,122.78. Next, Ed Cohen delivered his Treasurer's Report on the general funds total, which currently stand at \$4,219.78, a substantial increase from dues since October. The journal editor Gene Scarpulla reported that he had investigated the cost of reproducing five bound hardcopies each for nine issues of the Maryland Entomologist that the MES archives no longer has backup copies of. The publisher's estimate (\$20.00 per copy) was far too costly. Thus, the MES will seek backup hardcopies instead from members who wish to relinquish or donate some of their old issues back to the MES. Gene also stated that as he cedes his role as MES newsletter Phaeton editor in December, two graduate students in entomology at University of Maryland, College Park with some journalism experience have agreed to share the role of editorship of this newsletter, beginning with the January 2016 issue [Editor's Note: we have taken up editing since the January issue as planned]. Next, Dick Smith said that he would work with MES website coordinator Izzy Hill and volunteer to scan remaining back issues of Phaeton (and its various precursor newsletters) for eventual appearance and access on the MES website. The access to these back issues, which contain numerous announcements of insect records, will be very helpful to Dick's and other's projects for building insect record archives. Currently, issues appearing on the website only go back to the 2008 fiscal year whereas MES newsletters exist in paper form all the way back to 1974. Finally, Fred Paras gave a short rundown of some of the speakers planned for the 2016 spring meeting schedule.

Respectfully submitted, Dick Smith (MES Secretary)

21 NOVEMBER 2015 MES LECTURE

Speaker: Jim Brighton (Co-founder of the Maryland Biodiversity Project, Naturalist, and Boat-builder, Oxford, Talbot County, MD)

Title: "The Maryland Biodiversity Project: Cataloging the Living Things of Maryland"

20 NOVEMBER 2015 MES LECTURE

The Maryland Biodiversity Project (MBP) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization focused on the establishment of an on-line information and photographic natural history resource with the general goal of cataloging at a single web location virtually all living organisms found in Maryland. Although a seemingly impossible task, Jim, Bill Hubick (MBP's other founder), a current task force of editors, and over 500 other contributors and photographers are coming amazingly close to reaching this goal. Although the project was only started in June 2012, their staff has already assembled a phylogenetic catalog with notes and range maps to county level of over 16,000 Maryland animal and plant species, portrayed at the homepage <<http://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/index.php>>, including over 7,000 species illustrated with photographs. Total separate biological records sum to over 238,000 with over 43,000 backed up with live photos. Jim said he receives anywhere from 20 to 50 emails a day regarding adding species record information to the MBP website. Besides the conveniently accessible educational resource that the MBP provides, they also create and coordinate a vibrant statewide nature study community. Their cadre of contributors, which continues to grow, is a testament to their success. In addition they have become engaged in a variety of public outreach activities. One such activity is the creation of a natural history program at the Jemicy School (established for the education of students with dyslexia and language-based learning challenges) in Owings Mills, MD. Field trips with students on this school's ground actually succeeded in turning up two new state records of ant species. MBP's program will soon become part of the science curriculum in Baltimore County public schools. They have also formed partnerships with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and University of Maryland Herbarium for the Maryland Plant Atlas (an atlas that defines plant occurrence detail down to the USGS quad level) and with natural site organizations around the state (such as Chino Farms, Queen Anne's County) to share data and organize bioblitzes. The species page for every organism on MBP starts with the organism's latest phylogenetic placement relating all the way back to kingdom. A click on any intermediate phylogenetic level (genus, family, order, etc.) brings up a list of all species known to occur in Maryland at that level. A county-by-county block and Maryland map then shows the county level distribution of each species. A few life-history and/or occurrence notes are given (e.g., if species is listed by Maryland Heritage, then the conservation status in Maryland is given; host plant(s) for Lepidoptera are listed). This is then accompanied by a small selection of extraordinary-quality photographs of wild specimens donated by contributing photographers and

usually taken in Maryland unless Maryland photos have not been made available. Location and photo date data are supplied at the bottom of each photo, but this is usually only given to the county level to protect sensitive species. A Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/MarylandBiodiversity/>) and links to the Flickr nature photo website (<https://www.flickr.com/groups/marylandbiodiversityproject/>) are provided to ensure maximum contact with natural history enthusiasts around the state and to facilitate submission of unique species photos to MBP from nature photography artisans as well as field survey specialists. Each species page lastly supplies a link to MBPs exhaustive bibliography. This bibliography represents the source for MBP's range and life history information. Every effort has been made to accurately convey information from these references to the MBP species pages. Thus, MBP provides a tremendous shortcut to students and newcomers who wish to know the Maryland occurrence status and range of any state-occurring organism, as opposed to researching reams of difficult-to-locate specialized biological literature or searching for reliable specialized animal and plant group websites. The regularly stunning photos, in addition to stimulating further interest, may often aid in identifications or at least supplement field guide illustrations. In Jim's talk, he presented a large number of insect photos from the MBP's sizable insect gallery. One such species, a Phlebotomine sand fly *Lutzomyia vexator* (Coquillett), known to regularly penetrate reptiles for their blood meal, was photographed on the head of a Copperhead, *Agkistrodon contortrix* (L.). Their insect database currently totals over 8,800 species. A number of biological experts for each organism group are available or have become affiliated with MBP and have offered their services for checking range maps and other data and for verifying species identifications. A list of key contributors is given in the website's "About" tab. With insects, MBP contributors are asked to obtain or verify identifications first with experts on the BugGuide website (<http://bugguide.net/>). However, with small insects identifications based on photos may only be successful down to genus or family level. Instructions for Bug Guide submissions are given on the MBP FAQ page. MBP will accept funding donations, and options for this are also given on the FAQ page.

Respectfully submitted, **Dick Smith** (MES Secretary)

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*.

Aditi Dubey
Kelly A. Hamby
Scott McCuen
Heloise Morgan

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

MES welcomes the following new members to the Society:

Scott McCuen
Heloise Morgan

Beltsville, MD
Chevy Chase, MD



Central Maryland Beekeepers Association

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

MEMBERS MEETING

Tue, 1 March; 7:00 p.m.

Allison Gillespie, author of 'Hives in the City', talks about her book and the amazing world of urban bees.

Tue, 5 April; 7:00 p.m.

Bill Sprenkle, of Log Cabin Bee Farm, brings to us his rich knowledge on hive genetics, queen rearing, and re-queening.

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/>.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON PUBLIC MEETING

Thu, 3 March 2016; 7:00 p.m.

Topic: TBA

Speaker: TBA

National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

<http://entsocwash.org/>.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA 2016 SOUTHEASTERN BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING

Sun-Wed, 13-16 March 2016

Sheraton Raleigh Hotel, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Early bird rates are in effect through **February 22, 2016**.

For more information and full program see:

<http://www.entsoc.org/southeastern/2016-southeastern-branch-annual-meeting>



Central Maryland Beekeepers Association

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

CMBA BEEKEEPERS INTRODUCTORY SHORT COURSE SPRING 2016

Thu, 18 February 2016; 7pm

Honey Bee night – free introductory meeting as introduction to honey bee *Apis mellifera*

10 March-14 April 2016

Weekly course that will provide you with the basic concepts and management practices for starting and maintaining a colony of bees.

Fee: \$50 single; \$60 family
Oregon Ridge Nature Center
13555 Beaver Dam Road
Cockeysville, MD 21030

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY COLLOQUIA**

Fri, 26 February 2016; 12:00 p.m.
“TBD”

Humberto F. Boncristiani, Ph.D. (Post-doctoral Researcher, vanEngelsdorp Laboratory, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland)

Fri, 4 March 2016; 12:00 p.m.
“The Interplay between Morphology, Function and Biogeography in Palpimanoid Spiders”

Hannah Wood, Ph.D. (Assistant Curator, Entomology, NMNH, Smithsonian Institution)

Fri, 11 March 2016; 12:00 p.m.
“Molecular and Biochemical Basis of Plant Insect and Multitrophic Interactions”

Simon A. Zebelo, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor, Department of Natural Sciences, University of Maryland Eastern Shore)

Fri, 25 March 2016; 12:00 p.m.
“Millipede Biodiversity and the Evolution of Bioluminescence”

Paul Marek, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor, Department of Entomology, Department of Entomology, Virginia Tech University)

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

**2016 XXV INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY
Entomology Without Borders**

Sun-Fri, 25-30 September 2016
Orlando, Florida, USA.

Early-bird registration deadline: March 25, 2016
ESA members advance registration rate deadline: May 31, 2016
More information is available at:
<http://ice2016orlando.org>.

**ICE 2016 TRAVEL AWARDS FOR GRADUATE
STUDENTS AND EARLY PROFESSIONALS**

New travel awards are available for graduate students and early career professionals who reside in the continental United States to participate in the International Congress of Entomology (ICE 2016) Sept 25-30 in Orlando, FL.

The National Science Foundation has awarded a grant to broaden awareness of insect contributions to ecosystem services and to help graduate students and early career professionals (postdocs and assistant professors) from under-represented groups to participate in the ICE 2016 symposium on “Insect effects on ecosystem services” scheduled for Sept 27, 2016 in Orlando, FL. Note that applicants are not expected to present in this symposium but are expected to attend and participate.

Applications are hereby solicited for travel awards up to \$1500 each. Awards may be used for meeting registration, airfare and housing. Applications must include 1) a cover letter (2 page maximum) stating anticipated benefits for career development from participation in this symposium and in the ICE, 2) anticipated travel expenses and 3) a complete CV.

Applications may be emailed or faxed. Applications must be received by March 1, 2016 midnight Eastern time.

Awards will be announced by March 18 to allow recipients to register by the early deadline of March 25.

For more information and to apply, please contact:

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225-578-2257 (fax)
tschowalter@agcenter.lsu.edu

Members of underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply.

2015/2016 PROPOSED MES EVENT SCHEDULE

Regular MES lecture/meetings are held at the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) on the 3rd Friday of each of six 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>
16 Oct 2015	David Rivers	Forensic Entomology
20 Nov 2015	James Brighton	Maryland Biodiversity Project
19 Feb 2016	Jon Gelhaus	Aquatic Insects of Mongolia
18 Mar 2016	Kirsten Traynor	Lecture
15 Apr 2016	Humberto Boncristiani	Lecture
20 May 2016	Members’ & Students’ Presentations & Elections	
TBD	Survey/Field Trip	
18 Sep 2016	Crab Feast/Meet-&-Greet at J. KING’S restaurant	

**OCT 2015 – SEP 2016 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

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

SUBMITTAL DEADLINES

March 2016 issue of the *Phaëton*:

Please send member news items by 4 March 2016 to
aditid26@gmail.com.

Sep 2016 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*:

Please send first drafts of articles and notes by 1 April
2016 to ejscarp@comcast.net.
