



# Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the  
Maryland Entomological Society

Volume 38, Number 4

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FACULTY SPONSORS: **Frank E. Hanson** and **Austin P. (Bob) Platt**  
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## February Meeting Pre-Announcement

The Maryland Entomological Society's 320<sup>th</sup> regular meeting will be held **Friday, 16 February 2018**, 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:** **Ronald Ochoa, Ph.D.** – Research Entomologist (Acarologist), USDA ARS, BA, PSI  
Beltsville, MD

**Topic:** Mites, wonderful, unexplored, and as many as insects! (The title and full topic description will appear in the February *Phaëton*.)

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## March Meeting Pre-Announcement

The Maryland Entomological Society's 321<sup>st</sup> regular meeting will be held **Friday, 16 March 2018**, 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:** **Cheryle O'Donnell, Ph.D.** – Entomologist, USDA APHIS National Identification Services  
Beltsville, MD

**Topic:** TBA (The title and full topic description will appear in the March *Phaëton*.)

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## April Meeting Pre-Announcement

The Maryland Entomological Society's 322<sup>nd</sup> regular meeting will be held **Friday, 20 April 2018**, 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:** TBA

**Topic:** TBA (A full abstract will appear in the April *Phaëton*.)

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### 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 the **Chef Paolino Café** located at **726 Frederick Rd, Catonsville, MD 21228**. If you plan to go to dinner, please email [Fred Paras at bugandrockman@msn.com](mailto:bugandrockman@msn.com) by noon on the day of the lecture. Fred will make a reservation for the group. Please meet at the restaurant promptly at **6:00 p.m.**

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**\*\*\*DON'T FORGET TO RENEW\*\*\*  
\*\*\*IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME\*\*\*  
OCT 2017 – SEP 2018 MEMBERSHIP YEAR**

Membership renewal forms were inserted in the front of the September 2017 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*. If the date on your address label reads 2017, it is time for you to renew for the "October 2017 – September 2018" membership year. Please check that your contact information is correct and return the form along with your check (made out to Maryland Entomological Society) to: **Edgar A. Cohen, Jr.** (MES Treasurer), [5454 Marsh Hawk Way, Columbia, MD 21045](mailto:5454.MarshHawkWay.Columbia.MD.21045).

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**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

MES welcomes the following new members to the Society:

**Janet C. Ciegler – West Columbia, SC**  
**Georges Pelletier – Quebec, Quebec, Canada**  
**Amber G. Powell – Clarksburg, Maryland**

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**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*.

**Joann L. Alexander**  
**Steven S. Israel**  
**Steven M. Roble**  
**Warren E. Steiner**  
**Jil M. Swearingen**

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**OBITUARY OF RONALD HODGES**

**Ronald W Hodges**, noted Entomologist and Lepidopterist and the first editor of *The Maryland Entomologist* and the second president of The Maryland Entomological Society passed on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at his home in Eugene, Oregon. His family prepared this obituary:

"Ronald William Hodges, 83, died at his home in Eugene, Oregon, on Sunday, December 10, 2017. He was preceded in death by his wife, Elaine Rita Snyder Hodges, after 39 years of marriage.

Ron was born on August 7, 1934, in Lansing, MI, an only child to parents Elma and Lester Hodges, and became interested in Lepidoptera at age six upon finding a freshly emerged Luna moth in the backyard of his Michigan home. He stated his intent to update Holland's "Moth Book" as a ninth grader. He received his BS degree in 1956 and his MS degree in 1957 from Michigan State University, where he was strongly influenced by Roland Fischer. He went to Cornell University to work with John Franclemont. During this period he did extensive field work in New York, North Carolina, Florida, Arizona, and Ecuador. He became deeply interested in the microlepidoptera, particularly the Gelechioidea, and was awarded a PhD degree in 1961. He received a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship and commenced to work on genera of Gelechiidae. This project was interrupted when he accepted a position with the Systematic Entomology Laboratory at the U.S. Department of Agriculture,

Agricultural Research Service located in the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. He had several roles in the Laboratory, including laboratory chief. He stepped down from this position to continue field and laboratory research on gelechioid moths. At the Smithsonian, he met Elaine, a scientific illustrator, and they married in 1967; Ron adopted her two sons, Steven and Larry.

He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Association for Zoological Nomenclature (president 1993-95), American Entomological Society, Entomological Society of America, Entomological Society of Canada, Entomological Society of Ontario, Entomological Society of Washington (honorary member, 1999), Michigan Entomological Society, the Lepidoptera Research Foundation, the Lepidopterists' Society (president 1975-76), Maryland Entomological Society (president 1973-74), Ohio Lepidopterists, Northwest Lepidoptera Society, Sigma Xi, and Societas Europaea Lepidopterologica. He received the Thomas Say Award from the Entomological Society of America for his editorial oversight of *Moths of North America* in 1990, the Karl Jordan Medal from the Lepidopterists' Society for research on gelechioid moths in 1997, and he was elected an honorary member of the Entomological Society of Washington in 1999.

Ron was active until retirement in the Washington Biologists' Field Club since being elected in 1963. He was president from 1976 to 1979 and participated on various committees and work and field days. He was for many years the lead cook in the kitchen. In 1997, Ron and Elaine retired to Eugene, Oregon, where he continued to work on moths (an illustrated, annotated key to genera of North American Gelechiidae) and, until 2011, to edit and publish *The Moths of America North of Mexico*. Gardening with a highly diverse array of plants and developing and maintaining a collection of mainly pleurothallidine orchids also have interested him in retirement. In his spare time, Ron gardened a highly diverse array of plants, enjoyed classical music and paired gourmet meals and wonderful wines.

Survivors include Steven and Susan Hodges of Santa Barbara, California, and Lawrence Hodges of Germantown, Maryland; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; his cousin Ann Haseltine of Ishpeming, MI; and Elaine's siblings and their families. Ron will be remembered for his big heart and generosity. He loved to share his garden, food, wine, music passions with his many friends and family. Sensitive to every dangling participle, "can I?" and "may I?" were distinguished, as were the salad and dinner forks. He is missed."

*Contributed by The Maryland Entomologist Editor and MES member, Eugene Scarpulla, and distributed by Eric H. Metzler, President and Managing Director, The Wedge Entomological Research Foundation*

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## INTERSTATE PEST MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

**Wed-Thu, 31 January – 1 February 2018**

**Maritime Institute of Technology - Training and Conference Center, 692 Maritime Boulevard, Linthicum, MD**

The Maryland State Pest Control Association presents the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Interstate Pest Management Conference. The Conference attracts hundreds of professionals in urban and structural pest management each year for comprehensive training by leading experts from industry, government, and academia.

Further information can be found at:

<http://ipmc.umd.edu/>

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## ESA 2018 EASTERN BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING

**Sat-Mon, 17-19 March 2018**

**Westin Annapolis Hotel, Annapolis, MD**

The 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America (ESA-EB) will be held in Maryland. Early-bird registration deadline is **January 19, 2018**.

The Maryland Entomological Society (MES) will host an exhibit for the “**It’s a Bug’s World**” public outreach event being held on **Sunday, March 18, 2018**, as part of the ESA-EB meeting. The “It’s a Bug’s World” event will take place from 11:00 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. (setup anytime 8:00-11:00 a.m.). In addition to the MES general display which will include pinned Maryland specimens, ESA-EB has asked if MES might have a variety of live insects to display.

If you have any live insects that you would be willing to display between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., please contact Eugene Scarpulla at [ejscarp@comcast.net](mailto:ejscarp@comcast.net).

Additional Information can be found at:

<http://www.entsoc.org/eastern/2018-branch-meeting>

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## JOINT CONFERENCE OF MID-ATLANTIC MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION AND NORTH CAROLINA MOSQUITO AND VECTOR-CONTROL ASSOCIATION

**Mon.-Wed., 12-14 February 2018**

**Courtyard by Marriott, Carolina Beach, North Carolina**

This is a joint annual conference. The full conference registration fee is \$120.00 and includes all breaks, “Biting Time Social”, lunch banquet and annual memberships for both associations. One-day and student registrations are available. Payment may be made by cash, check, money order or credit card. Registrations received after January 12, 2018 must contain a \$10.00 late fee. To avoid a late fee, verify that Andy Kyle has received your information or knows you plan to attend before the January 12th deadline.

Conference room rates for single or double occupancy are \$67.30 (plus 13% state taxes, and fees). You may make your reservations online at NCMVCA/MAMCA Online Group

Reservations. Rooms can also be reserved by calling (910) 458-2030. Be sure to ask for the MAMR group block. Space is limited, so reservations must be made by Wednesday, January 9, 2018, after which time the room rate is not guaranteed. Complimentary self-parking is available.



**Central Maryland Beekeepers Association**

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

## MEMBERS MEETINGS

**Tues, 6 February 2018; 7:00 p.m.**

TBA

**Tues, 6 March 2018; 7:00 p.m.**

Aaron Fisher of the Fisher Bee Farm in Lewistown, PA, speaks to us about “A Year in the Life of a Commercial Beekeeper”. Aaron’s company supplies us with the nucs we sell in spring. For more information see:

[www.fisherbeefarm.com](http://www.fisherbeefarm.com).

Members meetings are held at the **Oregon Ridge Nature Center, 13555 Beaver Dam Road, Cockeyville, MD**.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.centralmarylandbees.org/meetings-3/membership-meeting-schedule/>

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## ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON PUBLIC MEETING

**Thu, 1 February 2018; 7:00 p.m.**

Topic: TBA

Speaker: TBA

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

<http://entsocwash.org/>.

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## GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY BIOLOGY SEMINARS

**Fri, 2 February 2018; 3:15 p.m.**

**Speaker:** Gustavo Hormiga, Ph.D.

Department of Biological Sciences  
George Washington University

**Topic:** TBA

**Fri, 16 February 2018; 3:15 p.m.**

**Speaker:** Hannah M. Wood, Ph.D.

Department of Entomology  
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

**Topic:** TBA

Seminars are held at:

SEH B1220, George Washington University  
800 22<sup>nd</sup> St. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20052

Additional information can be found at:

<https://biology.columbian.gwu.edu/seminars>

**AMERICAN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLIC MEETING**

**Wed, 22 February 2018; 7:00 p.m.**

**Speaker:** Bruce W. Grant, Ph.D.

Department of Biology

Widener University

Chester, PA

**Topic:** *Lepidopteran Megadiversity at the Uyuca Biosphere Reserve, Zamorano University, Honduras*

**Wed, 22 March 2018; 7:00 p.m.**

**Speaker:** David H. Funk, Ph.D.

Stroud Water Research Center

Avondale, PA

**Topic:** *What We Thought We Knew About the Effect of Temperature on Cricket Songs: The Puzzling Situation of Hawaiian Laupala (Trigonidiinae)*

Members meetings are held at the Ewell Sale Stewart Library, on the second floor of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University at:

1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA.

Additional information can be found at:

<http://darwin.ansp.org/hosted/aes/mtgSched.htm>

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**OCT 2017-SEP 2018 MES MEMBERSHIP YEAR OFFICERS**

President	Frederick Paras
Vice President	Philip J. Kean
Secretary	Janet A. Lydon
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

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**SUBMITTAL DEADLINES**

JAN 2018 issue of the *Phaëton*:

Please send member news items by 2 February 2018.

Send e-newsletter drafts to Aditi at [aditid26@gmail.com](mailto:aditid26@gmail.com).

SEP 2018 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*:

Please send first drafts of articles and notes by 1 April 2018.

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

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**PRAYING MANTIS**

By Vivian Smith

O yogi, mantis, preying leaf  
And subtle balance of this green,  
Within your eye the rolling world  
Is centred where the nervous fly  
Drinks the dew's one point of light –  
O double meaning of your prayer.

And you, equation of the green,  
As tense as thought, can link a world  
Where you are leaf and leaf is you  
Until you've trapped the careless fly  
Within the logic of your spell –  
And then and only then can leaves  
Distinguish what this green can't tell.