



# Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the  
Maryland Entomological Society

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## February Meeting Pre-Announcement

The Maryland Entomological Society's 320<sup>th</sup> regular meeting will be held **Friday, 16 Feb. 2018**, at **8:00 pm**, in **Room 004** (one floor below the street level), **Biological Sciences Building**, University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC). Bring a friend, specimens, observations, or books to share. Refreshments will be provided. Presentations are scheduled to begin at **8:15 pm**.

**Speaker:** **Ronald Ochoa, Ph.D.** – Research Entomologist (Acarologist), USDA ARS, BA, PSI  
**Title:** “Mites, wonderful, unexplored, and as many as insects!”



**Abstract.** More than 57,000 mite species have been described, only a few of which have been studied. Recently, the number of species has been estimated at 3-5 to 5-11 million. Some mites are adapted to live deep in soil, others in fresh or sea water; some are on plants, algae, fungi or animals, and others survive in extreme cold or hot temperatures. Their feeding habits are also very diverse, and including parasitism, predation, mycophagy, saprophagy, and phytophagy. Mites can have very hard bodies, some have plates, and some have soft bodies. Many mites are associated with viruses and diseases of animals and plants. Plant-feeding mites are known to infest

nearly all economically important plant, including food crops, timber, and ornamental plants. Many animals (including insects) have mites that are phoretic, parasitic or associated with their nesting. All species of domesticated animals are hosts of parasitic mites. Mites are truly everywhere!

**Bio.** **Ronald Ochoa** is currently a Research Entomologist (Acarologist) in the Systematic Entomology Lab at the USDA Agricultural Research Service in Beltsville, Maryland. He received his M.S. in Integrated Pest Management at the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) in Costa Rica, and his Ph.D. in Zoology at Brigham Young University in Utah. He has published around 200 papers, on systematics and ecology of phytophagous prostigmatid mites (Tetranychoidae, Tarsonemoidea, Eriophyoidea) and astigmatid mites (Acaridae), biological control with predator mites (Phytoseiidae) and fungus, and general studies on integrated mite control.



### 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](mailto:bugandrockman@msn.com) 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.**

**\*\*\*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@comcast.net).

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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*.

**Frank G. Guarnieri**  
**Kelly A. Hamby**  
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**Scott R. McCluen**  
**Jeffrey W. Shultz**  
**Mark C. Taylor**  
**Robin G. Todd**  
**Robert B. Trumbule**  
**Rebecca C. Wilson**

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**CBP AGRICULTURAL SPECIALISTS IN JACKSONVILLE INTERCEPT ‘FIRST IN THE NATION’ PEST**

**JACKSONVILLE**, Fla. - U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Field Operations (OFO) agriculture specialists in Jacksonville discovered a potentially destructive pest while inspecting a shipment of used vehicles from Germany. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has confirmed that this marks the first interception of this pest in the United States.



*Phalonidia* sp. moths are serious pests of commercially important fruit pests.

[CBP agriculture specialists](#) made the finding sifting through littered plant debris hidden inside a wheel well. *Phalonidia* sp. (Tortricidae) are considered serious pests often

feeding on fruits of commercially important crops such as apples and peaches.

Read the complete story at:

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-agriculture-specialists-jacksonville-intercept-first-nation-pest>

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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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**ENTOMOLOGIST WANTED FOR MARYLAND MASTER NATURALIST INSECT CLASS**

The American Chestnut Land Trust (ACLT) in Prince Frederick, MD hosts a Maryland Master Naturalist training program every year. They are looking for somebody who would be willing to teach a 3-hour class on insects for ACLT’s 2018 class of Master Naturalists.

The class would be on Monday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 p.m. at the ACLT office at [676 Double Oak Road Prince Frederick, MD 20678](http://www.aclt.org). Ideally the class would cover basic morphology of insects, some basic ID, the role of insects in the ecosystem, threats to healthy insect populations, etc. While it should cover the topic of insects as a whole, the presenter can focus on whatever specific topics they’d like to cover. It also doesn’t have to run the full 3 hours if you can’t commit to that whole time (though they’d love to have you for the full 3 hours if you can make it!). They have a PowerPoint, laptop, and screen, and plenty of space for any outdoor activities if the presenter would like to do that.

If you are interested, please contact the ACLT’s Land Manager, Autumn Phillips-Lewis -  
E-mail: [landmanager@acltweb.org](mailto:landmanager@acltweb.org)  
Phone: 410-414-3400

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**SPEAKER WANTED FOR POLLINATOR TALK**

The Chesapeake Beach Green Team is looking for presenters to speak about how pollinators affect the garden, how they do what they do and what can be done to protect them. They are a new group, and are dedicated to community

education, in keeping with the Sustainable Maryland guidelines. A date has not yet been decided, but the talk would be in April, close to Earth Day. If you would like to participate, please contact Brandy Summerlin at [brandysummerlin@gmail.com](mailto:brandysummerlin@gmail.com).

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**ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
SYSTEMATICS, EVOLUTION, & BIODIVERSITY  
STUDENT RESEARCH TRAVEL AWARD**

**A Call for Proposals**

**Due: Friday, 9 March 2018**

The Systematics, Evolution, and Biodiversity (SysEB) section leadership invites SysEB undergraduate and graduate students to submit applications for the SysEB Student Research Travel Award Program (SRTA). Travel Awards provide funding for student fieldwork and/or research travel to other institutions to enhance research projects. Successful proposals from graduate students will be funded through support from the SysEB section; top-ranked proposals from graduate students will be recognized and funded separately by the SysEB Student Research Endowment (SRE). Proposals are competitively judged based on the following factors: a) benefit of the proposed travel to the student's research; b) scientific justification; and c) demonstration of funding need.

More details can be found at:

<https://www.entsoc.org/syseb/student-research-travel-award>



**Central Maryland Beekeepers Association**

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

**MEMBERS MEETINGS**

**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 them with the nucs we sell in spring. For more information see: [www.fisherbeefarm.com](http://www.fisherbeefarm.com).

**Tues, 3 April 2018; 7:00 p.m.**

TBA

Members meetings are held at the [Oregon Ridge Nature Center, 13555 Beaver Dam Road, Cockeysville, 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 March 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, 16 February 2018; 3:15 p.m.**

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

Department of Entomology

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

**Topic:** TBA

**Fri, 9 March 2018; 3:15 p.m.**

**Speaker:** Matina Donaldson-Matasci, Ph.D.

Department of Biology

Harvey Mudd College

**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>

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**AMERICAN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY PUBLIC  
MEETINGS**

**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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**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY COLLOQUIA**

**Fri, 23 February 2018, 12:00 p.m.**

**"Mixed signals: The roles of deception and learning in bumble bee preferences for floral scents"**

Ariela Haber, Ph.D. (vanEngelsdorp Lab, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland College Park)

**Fri, 2 March 2018, 12:00 p.m.**

**“Predicting shifts in insect feeding interactions following deforestation”**

Philip Staniczenko (National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNCC))

**Fri, 9 March 2018, 12:00 p.m.**

**“Neural codes for the sense of taste”**

Mark Stopfer (NIH/NICHD)

**Fri, 16 March 2018, 12:00 p.m.**

**“Beyond the Red Queen: are elevated parasite evolutionary rates driven by host shifts?”**

Crystal Frost (University of Liverpool, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland / USDA Bee Lab, Beltsville MD)

**Fri, 30 March 2018, 12:00 p.m.**

**“Cover Crops as Insectary Plants: Impacts on natural enemies and their potential for conservation biological control”**

Jermaine Hinds (Pennsylvania State University, SARE)

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

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

President	Frederick Paras
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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**

MARCH 2018 issue of the *Phaëton*:

Please send member news items by 2 March 2018.

Send e-newsletter drafts to Addie 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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**TO A BUTTERFLY**

By William Wordsworth

STAY near me---do not take thy flight!

A little longer stay in sight!

Much converse do I find I thee,

Historian of my infancy !

Float near me; do not yet depart!

Dead times revive in thee:

Thou bring'st, gay creature as thou art!

A solemn image to my heart,

My father's family!

Oh! pleasant, pleasant were the days,  
The time, when, in our childish plays,

My sister Emmeline and I  
Together chased the butterfly!

A very hunter did I rush

Upon the prey:---with leaps and spring

I followed on from brake to bush;

But she, God love her, feared to brush

The dust from off its wings.