



# Phaëton

The Official Newsletter of the  
Maryland Entomological Society

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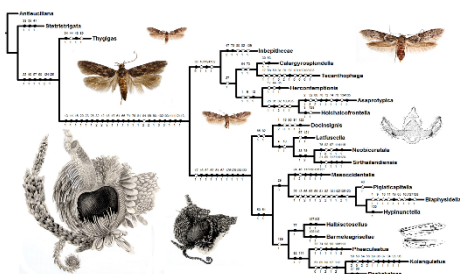
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## MARYLAND ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY April 2022 MEETING

### MES is back in person!

We are returning to our previous meeting space at UMBC and will also continue to stream meetings over Zoom. There may be some technical challenges as we transition to this hybrid format, so please be patient! If you have any issues, you can email our president Fred Paras at [bugandrockman@msn.com](mailto:bugandrockman@msn.com) or call him at 410-458-6682.



**Title: Morphological phylogenetics of world Blastobasidae (Lepidoptera: Gelechioidea): A comparative approach using exemplar and super-saturated sampling**

**Speaker: David Adamski, Research Associate, Department of Entomology, National Museum of Natural History**

**Co-author: Paul Frandsen, Professor, Genetics, Genomics of Biotechnology, Department of Plant and Wildlife Sciences, Brigham Young University**

**Abstract:** Characters and character states were interpreted from exemplar and super-saturated samples to construct matrices in order to generate tree simulations based on cladistic methodology for the world Blastobasidae (Lepidoptera: Gelechioidea). Simulations generated from both sampling types show high congruence in resolving family, subfamily, and generic clades, except when a disparity in sample size is causal for contradictory tree lineages. Consequently, simulations generated from exemplar sampling may result in fully resolved trees but cannot detect underlying paraphyletic situations because the taxa causing paraphyly were unintentionally not used. In this study, tree simulations generated from super-saturated sampling were able to resolve paraphyletic cases that could not be resolved from tree simulations generated from exemplar sampling. Moreover, tree simulations based on large sampling show significant advantages in detecting paraphyly, resulting in many nomenclatural changes at the species and generic levels, and leading to the transfer of many taxa into more "natural" categories.

**Speaker Bio:** David Adamski was employed with the Systematic Entomology Laboratory at USDA ARS for 27 years. While his research primarily focused on the Lepidoptera, he also worked on Hemiptera, Aphididae, and phytophagous Acari. Since retirement, he has been a Research Associate at the National Museum of Natural History, and continues to do research on the Lepidoptera, primarily on the Gelechioidea.



**When: April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 PM**

**Where:** Room 004 (one floor below street level), Biological Sciences Building, University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)

**Zoom link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86413099552?pwd=ZlpxYkhad2F1UnR5YlJSUW5maDkyQT09>

Meeting ID: 864 1309 9552 Passcode: 762066

Dial in: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

MINUTES OF THE 342nd MEETING OF THE MARYLAND ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

18 MARCH 2022

The 342nd meeting of the Maryland Entomological Society began at 7:00 PM, via 'ZOOM', with a welcome by President Fred Paras. The attendee count according to 'ZOOM' was 27, of which at least 12 were members. There was a varied geographical representation at this meeting as discussed below. The lecture and question/answer session ended at 8:45 PM. The meeting, both formal and informal, ended at 10:30 PM.

A brief business meeting followed the lecture during which Treasurer Ed Cohen reported a balance of \$6833.26 in the Society's account. The decreased balance since last month is due to expenses paid for the publication of the 2022 issue of the Society's journal, The Maryland Entomologist. Journal editor Gene Scarpulla is accepting articles for the 2023 issue. Members socialized following the business meeting and informally discussed potential sites for field trips, and MES hybrid meetings. Members Jil Swearingen and Marcia Watson, who are members of the Maryland Native Plant Society, relayed that organization's experience with hybrid meetings. Since the advent of 'ZOOM' meetings as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, MES and many other groups have attracted attendees from distant locales. As an example, tonight's meeting brought virtual attendees from India, Trinidad, Alaska, and western Canada, as well as our speaker, from Indiana.

Respectfully submitted, Janet A. Lydon, MES Secretary

MIKE RAUPP INTERVIEWED ON WAMU

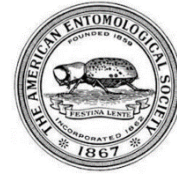
“Will giant poisonous spiders invade D.C.? We asked an entomologist”

American University Radio, 11 March 2022



(Alex Sanz / AP Photo)

You can hear Mike’s 5-minute interview regarding the Joro Spider, Trichonephila clavata (L. Koch) (Arachnida: Araneae: Araneidae) at: https://wamu.org/story/22/03/11/joro-spiders-relatively-harmless-in-dc/.

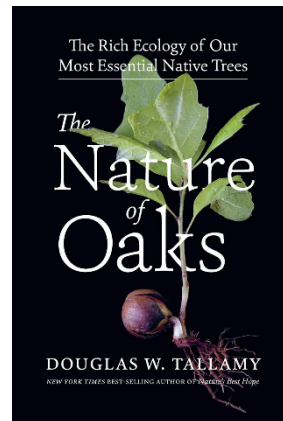


AMERICAN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY APRIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 27th, 4 PM

The Nature of Oaks

Dr. Doug Tallamy, Professor, Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, University of Delaware



Scary headlines about the decline of the natural world that serves as our life support have spurred homeowners across the country to take action by planting natives that will help reverse this trend. No plant will achieve this faster than one of our 91 species of oaks. Oaks support more species of animals, sequester more carbon, protect our watersheds, and nourish soil communities better than any other plant genus in North America. Tallamy will

discuss these roles by following the many fascinating things that are happening on the oaks in his yard each month of the year. His hope is to supply the knowledge about oaks that will generate interest in them, and, with any luck, compassion for these magnificent trees.

We will also Present the Calvert Awards for the best entomological science projects in the Philadelphia region – junior and high school students.

Zoom link:

https://drexel.zoom.us/j/86817579465?pwd=UCs1K2ZOZxcrb0Qxaml0VnU0MGlhQT09

Meeting ID: 868 1757 9465 Passcode: 587601



UPCOMING WEBINARS

Thursday, April 28th, 11 AM Presidential Pop-In with Jessica Ware

Wednesday, May 4th, 12 PM How to Get Involved in ESA Leadership Development Opportunities in 2022

Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM

On the Horizon: New findings in tick biology, ecology, and control

Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 1 PM

Everything you need to know about the Joint Annual Meeting

Find more information and register at:

<https://www.entsoc.org/events/webinars/upcoming>



CENTER FOR BEE ECOLOGY, EVOLUTION, AND CONSERVATION: BEE BIOGEOGRAPHY AND SYSTEMATICS TALKS

Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM

The biology and evolution of the subfamily Anthophorinae (Apidae)

Dr. Michael Orr, Assistant Professor, Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 11 AM

The Evolution and Adaptive Radiation of the Western Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera*)

Kathleen Dogantzis, PhD Researcher, York University

For recordings of previous talks, visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB0ZDMNcqIJam-zHU-bLZA>

Find more information and register at:

<https://www.yorku.ca/bees/packer/>



SPRING 2022 SEMINAR SERIES

Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 3 PM

Principles of forensic entomology

Joe Keiper, Virginia Museum of Natural History

All seminars are scheduled for Thursday 3:00 – 4:00 P.M. All seminars will have a virtual component for people who want to participate virtually. If you are interested in attending these seminars virtually you may register [here](#) to receive the Zoom links and calendar reminders automatically.

Find more information and recordings of previous seminars at:

<https://www.ento.vt.edu/seminar.html>



CITY NATURE CHALLENGE

Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 9-11 AM



Photo Credit: Bonnie Ott

Get nerdy with nature! City Nature Challenge is an opportunity to connect with other cities across the nation—and the globe—safely from your home, while documenting the wildlife found in your own backyard. Nature is all around us, even in urban areas, and if you look a little harder, you may be surprised by

what you find! Please remember that individual and public safety is of paramount importance; be sure to carefully follow local public health guidelines when making your observations.

To participate visit the Howard County Conservancy's Mt Pleasant location at 10520 Old Frederick Rd, Woodstock MD 21163 on 4/29/2022 or 4/30/2022 between 9am and 11am and check in at the marked tables. Advanced registration is not required. Scientific collection supplies available to rent for free, while supplies last.

Find more information at:

<https://www.howardnature.org/event/city-nature-challenge/>



MONARCH SISTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM

NHSM Lep Club April Meeting

**When:** Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM

**Where:** Natural History Society of Maryland, Baltimore and Online via Zoom

**Speaker:** Mary Anne Risheberger, Program Director USA, Monarch Sister Schools Program

The Monarch Sister Schools Program was created by the educational nonprofit Natural Partners to involve students in a real environmental problem: the ongoing destruction of Monarch butterflies' habitat in the U.S. and Canada (driven by herbicide use on farms) and of their over-wintering habitat in Mexico (due to illegal logging), resulting in a precipitous decline of the Monarchs population.



Through hands-on projects, students learn about the habitat, life cycle and the amazing migration of the Monarchs, while collaborating across borders on projects to restore habitat for future Monarch generations.

Find more information and register at:  
<https://www.marylandnature.org/get-involved/events/event/monarch-sister-schools/>



**THE BELTSVILLE VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE – 7000 ACRES IN ONE HOUR**

**When:** Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM via Zoom  
**Speaker:** Jay Green, Technical Information Specialist, USDA ARS

Sit back and enjoy virtually touring the world's largest, most comprehensive agricultural research center on ~ 7,000 acres in Beltsville, Maryland – also home to the world's largest National Agricultural Library. Jay Green will be your pilot and guide for this 1-hour informative, educational and engaging virtual experience via a virtual flying green bus.

The mission of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center is to provide the American public with an exceptionally talented, highly interdisciplinary scientific community in the USDA's largest scientific installation, and leverage these resources to envision, create, and improve knowledge and technologies that enhance the capacity of the nation – and the world – to provide its people with healthy crops and animals; clean and renewable natural resources; sustainable agricultural systems; and agricultural commodities and products that are abundant, high-quality, and safe.

Find more information and register at:  
<https://www.marylandnature.org/get-involved/events/event/the-beltsville-virtual-experience/>



**BANNEKER SPRING BIOBLITZ**

**When:** Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 9 AM – 1 PM  
**Where:** Banneker Historical Park & Museum, 300 Oella Ave, Catonsville M

The NHSM had such a great time exploring Banneker Park last year finding fungi, snakes, insects, leps and frogs, we are going back this spring to look for more. All are welcome.

A BioBlitz is an intense period of biological surveying in an attempt to record all the living species within a designated area. While generating useful data for science and conservation they are also an excuse for naturalists, scientists, and curious members of the public to meet in person in the great outdoors and are a lot of fun!

SPACES ARE LIMITED

This important data will create a baseline from which future surveys can be measured and compared. There are 98 herps, 90 mammals, 450 bird and over 1,000 insects in Maryland. What animals live at Banneker? Are populations increasing, decreasing, changing? What other plants and animals live here? These are just some of the questions our data will help to answer. We will be utilizing the free app inaturalist to capture and synthesize the data we collect. There is a Banneker BioBlitz project set up. Please join the the project through your inaturalist account. inaturalist is a free community science app. You can also just take photos and share with NHSM to upload to the data collection system.

Here are the observations from previous years:  
<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/banneker-bioblitz-herps-and-more>

Here is an orientation video: <https://youtu.be/QhBX2A75ZoM>

This is a full outdoor experience. Dress for the weather. Bring shoes for mucking around and dry shoes to change into. Bring a camera or phone to capture the data in the form of photographs. Gloves to move rocks and trees are recommended. Sunscreen and extra water are essential. Families are welcome to bring kids. Children must be supervised at all times.

Check-in and a brief park history lesson will be given from 9:00-9:30 AM. The BioBlitz will start promptly at 9:30 AM.

Find more information and register at:  
<https://www.marylandnature.org/get-involved/events/event/banneker-spring-bioblitz/>

**2021/2022 PROPOSED MES EVENT SCHEDULE**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, regular MES lecture/meetings are currently being held virtually on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. 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	Speaker	Topic
Oct 15	Ted C. MacRae	Highlights from Nearly 20 Years of Chasing Tiger Beetles in Missouri
Nov 19	Ian Emanuel	Insect interactions with Jack-in-the-pulpit plants
Feb 18	Mike Raupp	Spotted Lanternfly
Mar 18	Bill Murphy	Tigers of the marsh: an overview of snail-killing flies (Diptera: Sciomyzidae)
Apr 22	David Adamski	Morphological Phylogenetics of World Blastobasidae
May 22	Members Presentations	

Pitying, I dropped a tear:  
 But I saw a glow-worm near,  
 Who replied, ‘What wailing wight  
 Calls the watchman of the night?’

‘I am set to light the ground,  
 While the beetle goes his round:  
 Follow now the beetle’s hum;  
 Little wanderer, hie thee home!’

**OCT 2021-SEP 2022 MES MEMBERSHIP YEAR OFFICERS**

President	Frederick Paras
Vice President	(vacant)
Secretary	Janet A. Lydon
Treasurer	Edgar A. Cohen, Jr.
Historian	(vacant)
Faculty Sponsor	Frank E. Hanson
Journal Editor	Eugene J. Scarpulla
E-newsletter Editor	Aditi Dubey

**SUBMITTAL DEADLINES**

April 2022 issue of the *Phaëton*:

Please send items by Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to Addie at [aditid26@gmail.com](mailto:aditid26@gmail.com).

September 2022 issue of *The Maryland Entomologist*:

Please send first drafts of articles and notes ASAP.  
 Send drafts to Gene Scarpulla at [ejscarp@comcast.net](mailto:ejscarp@comcast.net).

**A DREAM  
 by William Blake**

Once a dream did weave a shade  
 O’er my angel-guarded bed,  
 That an emmet lost its way  
 Where on grass methought I lay.

Troubled, wildered, and forlorn,  
 Dark, benighted, travel-worn,  
 Over many a tangle spray,  
 All heart-broke, I heard her say:

‘Oh my children! do they cry,  
 Do they hear their father sigh?  
 Now they look abroad to see,  
 Now return and weep for me.’