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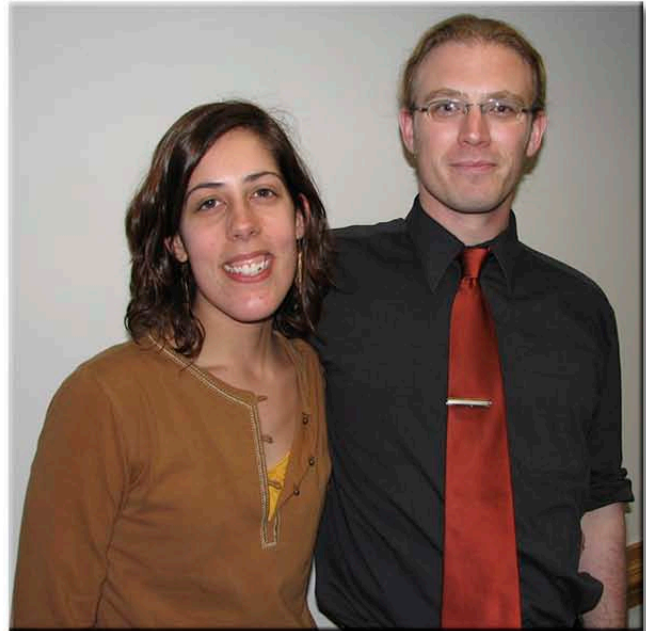
EntNews

The Newsletter of the Department of Entomology

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Jim Carpenter



Diana Marques & Owen Lonsdale



Don & Mignon Davis with
students visiting from Thailand



Molly Rightmyer

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MEETINGS & SEMINARS:

The 1117th Regular Meeting of the **Entomological Society of Washington** convened on March 06 in the Cathy Kerby Seminar Room, NMNH, to hear **James Carpenter** discuss the topic “Simultaneous Analysis and the Origin of Eusociality in the Vespidae (Hymenoptera).”

The 1118th Regular Meeting of the **Entomological Society of Washington** convened on April 03 in the Cathy Kerby Seminar Room, NMNH, to hear **Natasha Mehdiabadi** present the topic “Ant Symbioses: Colony-level Effects of Antagonistic and Mutualistic Interactions in Two Model Systems (Hymenoptera: Formicidae).”

The 1119th Regular Meeting of the **Entomological Society of Washington** convened on May 01 in the Cathy Kerby Seminar room, NMNH, to hear **Owen Lonsdale** present the topic “Recent advances in studies of the druid flies (Diptera: Clusiidae) using morphology, DNA and behaviour.” **Diana Marques**, a contract illustrator, also presented current information on a new font that she has been developing, which is devoted to the early naturalist, Fabre.

Molly Rightmyer was the featured speaker at the Department of Entomology Seminar held on April 24th. The title of her talk was “Making sense of the diverse cleptoparasitic bee genus *Nomada* (Apidae: Nomadinae): using DNA to complement morphology”. Molly is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow working with Ted Schultz.

OPPORTUNITIES:

A **two-year full time position** is available for a scientific research technician at the Department of Biology, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez (UPRM). The projected starting date is August to October, 2008. The position plays a key role in a NSF-funded project aimed at reorganizing and

digitizing the UPRM invertebrate collection (> 80% insects; see <http://academic.uprm.edu/franz/>). The chosen candidate will closely interact with Biology and Marine Science faculty, as well as with graduate and undergraduate students to coordinate and perform curatorial activities such as specimen preservation and identification, specimen barcoding, georeferencing, databasing (using the Specify software package), and digital imaging. Prior experience with any of these tasks is advantageous, as is the ability to use biodiversity databases and web design applications. An undergraduate or advanced degree in invertebrate zoology is preferred. Good social skills are critical to help promote the collection at all levels. Knowledge of English and Spanish or a willingness to learn is desirable. The position is ideal for a highly motivated person interested in tropical invertebrate diversity and modern collection stewardship. To apply, please send a CV, names and contact information of two references, and letter of interest to Nico Franz, franz@uprm.edu. Applications will be reviewed immediately until the position is filled.

GENERAL NEWS:

On Thursday, April 24, **Mary Jo Molineaux** and **Michele Touchet** participated in “Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day.” They displayed several “Oh My” drawers of insects and spoke with a wide age range of children and adults. Many of the youngsters expressed a keen interest in the variety and color of the displayed specimens.

On the front page of Section B of the **Edmonton (Canada) Journal** of March 14, is an article titled “Mankind’s attitude bugs insect expert,” which features Terry Erwin. The article includes a color closeup of Terry holding a carabid beetle. After reviewing Terry’s career, there is discussion on biodiversity, and the importance of education, including the new Encyclopedia of Life initiative. Terry provides the fact that 15 million hectares of Amazon forest are destroyed each year through human activity, and offers the following quote: “It’s sad to say, but the only thing that might save us is a major environmental crisis, something that might

cause two billion of us to disappear and get the rest to wake up.” The article is by Keith Gerein, and was offered to readers relative to the invitational annual Strickland Lecture at the University of Alberta, delivered by Terry.

PUBLICATIONS:

****Baumann, R. W.** & Kondratieff, B. C. 2008. A review of the western North American genus *Triznaka* (Plecoptera: Chloroperlidae) with a new species from the Great Basin, U.S.A. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(2): 345-362.

--**abstract**—The Nearctic genus *Triznaka* is reviewed with *T. sheldoni*, n. sp. described from White Pine County, Nevada, U.S.A. The new species is compared to *T. pintada* and *T. signata*. The distinctive armature of the aedeagus and color of the pronotum distinguish the male, while the emarginated to notched subgenital plate and color pattern of the pronotum distinguish the female. The new species is primarily restricted to the Great Basin biogeographic region.

Brown, J. W. 2008. Confirmation of the Old World species *Phricanthes flexilineana* (Walker, 1863) in the New World tropics (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae: Phricanthini). Pan-Pac. Entomol. 3(4): 352-357.

--**abstract**--- The Old World species *Phricanthes flexilineana* (Walker) is reported from Costa Rica and Panama for the first time, confirming a nearly century-old report that the species occurs in the New World (i.e., Guyana). Paired trapping efforts at Estacion Biologica La Selva, Costa Rica, suggest that the species is more common in the canopy (20 m high) than at ground level. Two new larval host plants are reported for the species in Costa Rica: *Tetracera vollubilis* L. and *Davilla nitia* (Valh) Kubitzki (both Dilleniaceae). Circumstantial evidence suggests that the species arrived via plant material for propagation as ornamentals, and that upon arrival in the Neotropics, potential hosts of the same family were available for colonization. A similar phenomenon may be occurring in continental Africa.

****Flint, O.S. Jr.** 2008. Studies of Neotropical caddisflies, LXI: new species of *Leptonema* Guerin (Trichoptera: Hydropsychidae). Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(2): 456-469.

--**abstract**—Eight new species of the genus *Leptonema* are described from South America, bringing the total described New World species to 106. The males are described and their genitalia figured for all: *Leptonema anomalum* (Peru), *L. bifurcatodes* (Brazil), *L. cornonatum* (Venezuela), *L. cressae* (Venezuela), *L. lineaticorne* (Peru, Brazil), *L. macacu* (Brazil), *L. nubestre* (Colombia, and *L. sociale* (Ecuador, Peru).

Foster, G.A. & **Mathis, W.N.** 2008. Review of the genus *Tethina* Haliday (Diptera: Canacidae: Tethininae) from western North America. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(2): 300-330.

--**abstract**—Ten species of the genus *Tethina* Haliday from western North America are reviewed, with an emphasis on structures of the male terminalia, which are illustrated. One new species (type locality in parenthesis) is described: *Tethina sasakawai* (California. San Diego: Camp Pendleton; 33° 13.3'N, 117° 24.5'W, beach). *Tethina thula* Sasakawa, which was described from specimens collected in Japan, is reported from Alaska. Four new synonymies are proposed: *Rhinoessa denudata* Melander and *Rhinoessa lavendula* Melander = *Rhinoessa angustipennis* Melander; *Tethina woodi* Foster and *Tethina steyskali* Forster = *Rhinoessa milichioides* Melander. Lectotypes are designated for the following five species' names: *tethina angustifrons* Melander, *Rhinoessa angustipennis* Melander, *R. denudata* Melander, *R. lavendula* Melander, and *R. horripilans* Melander. All species for which males are known are illustrated and distribution maps are provided.

****Gagne, R.J.** & Menjivar, R. 2008. A new species of *Schizomyia* (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae), a pest of *Fernaldia pandurata* (Apocynaceae) in Central America. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(2): 284-291.

---**abstract**--- A new species of gall midge, *Schizomyia loroco* Gagne (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae), is

described from loroco, *Fernaldia pandurata* (A. DC.) Woodson (Apocynaceae), from El Salvador. Females lay eggs in flower buds that then produce characteristic galls. The new species is described, illustrated, and compared to its congeners.

****Gagne, R.J.,** Pena, J.E., & Acevedo, F.E. 2008. A new lestopiplosine (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) preying on the avocado lace bug, *Pseudacysta perseae* (Heteroptera: Tingidae) in southern Florida. Fla. Entomol. 91(2): 43-48.

--abstract-- A species new to science, *Tingidoletes praelonga* Gagne (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae), was recently discovered preying on the avocado lace bug, *Pseudacysta perseae* (Heidemann) (Heteroptera: Tingidae), in Florida, USA. A new genus is described to receive the new species.

Henry, T.J. & Wheeler, A.G., & Steiner, W.E., Jr. 2008. First North American records of *Amphiareus obscuriceps* (Poppius) (Hemiptera: Heteroptera: Anthocoridae), with a discussion of dead-leaf microhabitats. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(2): 402-416.

--abstract—The anthocorid *Amphiareus obscuriceps* (Poppius) is reported for the first time from North America based on records from one Canadian province (Ontario), 14 U.S. states (Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia), and the District of Columbia. A diagnosis, description, adult photographs, and scanning electron photomicrographs are furnished to facilitate recognition, and the dead-leaf microhabitat, associated plants, and psocids and other potential prey of this species are discussed.

Hoffman, R.L., Roble, S. M. & **Henry, T.J.** 2007. First records of the rarely collected bug *Nannocoris arenarius* from Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia (Heteroptera: Schizopteridae). Banisteria No. 30, 38-39.

Passoa, S., Balogh, G., & **Solis, M. A.** 2008. *Sitochroa palealis*: A Palearctic pyraustine moth (Lepidoptera: Pyraloidea: Crambidae) newly

introduced to North America. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(2): 504-515.

--abstract—*Sitochroa palealis* (Denis and Schiffermuller) is recorded from North America for the first time. Adults were collected in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. The capture of larvae and adults in four states over a six-year period is strong evidence that *S. palealis* is established in North America. Characters separating *S. palealis* from other *Sitochroa* in North America are given. The potential impact of *S. palealis* to prairies, agriculture and biocontrol of noxious weeds is discussed.

Rueda, L. M. & Gao, Q. 2008. New records of *Anopheles helenrae* Rueda (Diptera: Culicidae) in North Korea. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(2): 523-524.

Smith, D. R. 2008. Sawflies and woodwasps (Hymenoptera: Symphyta) of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 10(2): 379-390.

--abstract—As a contribution to the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, a list of the 234 species of sawflies in 10 families collected in the park are presented. Localities in the park, numbers of specimens, inclusive dates of collection, inclusive altitudes, and host plants for each species are given.

Smith, D. R. & Deans, A. R. 2008. *Evaniella californica* (Ashmead) (Hymenoptera: Evaniidae): A range extension and the first record of an evaniid in Oregon. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash. 110(2): 521-522.

Vandenberg, N. J. & Gonzalez, G. 2008. A new Chilean species of *Cycloneda* Crotch (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae: Coccinellinae: Coccinellini). Zootaxa 1772: 63-68.

--abstract—*Cycloneda pretiosa*, new species is described from Lago Pihueico in southern Chile. The species is diagnosed and compared with both related and superficially similar species. Habitus and genitalic characters are illustrated. Geographical and temporal data are given. The new species is assigned

to the *Cycloneda germainii* species complex and integrated into the key to species of this group (Gonzalez and Vandenberg, 2006).

** emeritis and/or former staff member

VISITORS:

Irina Brake from The Natural History Museum in London visited Wayne Mathis and the Diptera Collection April 22-26.

Roger Bristow from Coplestone, United Kingdom visited Robert Robbins and the Butterfly Collection on March 18.

Yves Bousquet from Agriculture and Agri-Food, Ottawa, Canada was a visitor with Warren Steiner and the Carabidae Collection April 27 through May 04.

Michelle DaCosta from Wake Forest University visited Don Harvey and the Arctiidae Collection April 14-18.

Neal Evenhuis from the Bishop Museum visited Chris Thompson and the Diptera Collection April 21-26.

Joel Floyd from Aphis, USDA, visited John Brown and the Tortricidae Collection on March 20 for general research of the light brown apple moth.

Jennifer Frye from the University of Maryland visited John Brown three times in March for the purpose of databasing moths of Maryland.

Steve Gaimari from the California Department of Food & Agriculture, Sacramento visited Wayne Mathis and the Lauxaniidae Collection March 18-20.

Henri Goulet from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, visited David Smith and the Siricidae Collection on January 16.

Nick Grishin from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas visited Don Harvey and the Riodinidae Collection April 17-18.

Niklas Jonsson from the Swedish Museum of Natural History (Stockholm), visited David Furth

for collections management training, April 28-30.

John Klymko from the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada visited Wayne Mathis and the Curonotidae Collection April 14 through May 01.

Michel Laguerre from the Museum of Natural History, Leognan, France visited Don Harvey and the Arctiidae Collection April 28-May 02.

Gerardo Lamas from Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Peru visited Robert Robbins and the Butterfly Collection March 18-23.

Kim Mitter from the University of Maryland visited Robert Robbins and the Butterfly Collection on March 21.

Thomas Pape from the Natural History Museum of Denmark visited Chris Thompson and the Diptera Collection April 21-26.

Adrian Pont from the University Museum, Oxford, United Kingdom visited Chris Thompson and the Diptera Collection April 21-26.

Shauna Price from the University of California visited Ted Schultz and the Formicidae Collection March 26 to April 01.

Ron Priest from Michigan State University visited the Microlepidoptera Collection April 15-18.

Nathan Schiff from U. S. Forest Service, Stoneville, Mississippi visited David Smith and the Siricidae Collection on January 16

David Serrano from Florida Department of Agriculture visited David Furth and the Dermaptera and Neuroptera Collections on April 17.

Larry Stevens from the Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff visited Oliver Flint and the Collections of Trichoptera and Odonata April 03-04.

Benoit Vencent from Saint Denis, France visited Don Harvey and the Arctiidae Collection April 28 through May 02.

Susan Weller from the University of Minnesota visited Don Davis and the Lepidoptera Collection April .

Livy Williams from APHIS, USDA visited John Brown and the Tortricidae Collection for research on the light brown apple moth on March 20.

Isaac Winkler from North Carolina State University visited Wayne Mathis and the Diptera Collection March 24-28.

Monte Wood from the Canadian National Collection, Ottawa, was a visitor with Chris Thompson and the Diptera Collection May 02-06.

Vadim Zolotuhin from State Pedagogical University of Uljanovsk, Russia visited Scott Miller April 28 through May 02.

TRAVEL:

Gary Hevel will participate in the second National BioBlitz sponsored by the National Park Service and the National Geographic Society, to be held at Santa Monica National Recreation Area on May 30 and 31. There he will display eighteen drawers of insects from his backyard insect survey, which was well received by the visiting public at the First BioBlitz, held at Rock Creek Park. There are 200 scientists registered for the SMNRA event, with an expected 2300 amateurs participating in the flora and fauna survey.

The **EntNews** is produced by the Department of Entomology , National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution , Washington, DC, 20560 - Chair: Terry Erwin - Editor : Gary Hevel - Coordinator: Juanita Hall. [Articles for Ent News can be submitted by e-mail or on a 3 ½ " diskette and should be submitted to Juanita Hall (hallj@si.edu) or Gary Hevel (hevelg@si.edu), no later than the last week of the month.]