



THE ESO Newsletter

December 2011

Volume 16, Issue 2

ESO President's Message:

Welcome to Volume 16, Issue 2, the fall publication of the Entomological Society of Ontario Newsletter! As I compose what will be my second and last President's report, I am reminded of how quickly a year passes. Let me start by reassuring everyone that the Presidential cockroach and gavel survived the move to a new city and the jaws of my squeaky toy loving dog (the antenna was missing prior to my tenure and most likely the loss of this appendage pre-dates Gary Umphrey's tenure). I would like to take this time to reflect on the changes that are sometimes required to maintain the success and relevance of the societies such as the ESO.

Many of you will remember the move to an electronic option for the ESO Newsletter. I am trying to recall when this change occurred - I certainly participated in the debates of a paperless Newsletter as a Director for the ESO - but for me, it now seems the norm for delivery of our publications and for those of several other prominent entomological societies. What else is new for the ESO?

After several years of debate, Paypal can be used by members to initiate or renew their interest in the ESO, as well as to register for the Annual General Meeting. This change has proved remarkably successful for the ESO AGM 2011 (minus a few hiccups which will be rectified next time around), as the vast majority of you registered using Paypal. The online payments option has been less popular for membership renewals, but 2012 marks a New Year for all of us ... don't forget to renew in January!

There are many members of the ESO who contribute their time to moving the business of the society forward. This

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year, we welcome Jeff Skevington as our President Elect, Christie Bahlai and Joel Gibson as Directors (2012-2014), and Katie Marshall as our Student Representative. Many thanks to those who stepped forward to run for an elected position. The ESO functions because of the volunteerism provided by the membership. Much happens behind the scenes, but other activities create a public profile for the ESO. Editing our Newsletter, developing and maintaining our website, and public outreach are some key examples of this visible face. If you have any interests in contributing to the ESO, either as an elected position or in some other capacity, please let us know. We are always looking for good ideas.

The ESO AGM 2011 was held at Brock University, St. Catharines, ON (October 21st-23rd). Many thanks to those who came to discuss their research and to meet with friends and colleagues, and to those who provided their support in making the meeting an enjoyable one. The meeting was a financial success in part due to Rose Buitenhuis and to the many sponsors who clearly value the importance of the ESO and the scientific program we present at our annual meeting. The Organizing Committee tried something new by adding a special poster session/mixer on Friday evening, in an effort to provide more time for viewing posters. We hope that this was well-received. I was impressed by the diversity and quality of the talks and poster presentations made by both students and regular members. Don't forget that 2013 marks the 150th anniversary JAM, to be held in Guelph. Please contact Gary Umphrey if you are interested in helping with this meeting.

There were two major announcements at the ESO AGM this year. The first involves developing a secure system to allow online voting as an option for future ESO Elections. The ESO Constitution indicates that By-Laws (such as those that govern elections) may be amended by a majority vote at the Annual Meeting. The proposed changes were presented to the membership for a vote on Saturday October 22nd, 2011, with a majority accepting the changes. Stay tuned for more information. The second announcement involves JESO. In the spring Newsletter, I indicated that the ESO had entered into an agreement with EBSCO Publishing to provide a searchable research database service for JESO, in an effort to increase its visibility. A decision was made at the Board Meeting to waive the page charges for members in order to encourage more submissions.

As Past-President, I will continue to work with Bruce Gill, Jeff Skevington, and the ESO Board to move on other initiatives. My thanks are extended to you for having had the confidence in me to represent you as the President of the ESO. It has been my pleasure to serve.

Respectfully submitted by Hannah Fraser.



ESO 2012 Fall Meeting

September 29-30, 2012

Bonnenfant Y Outdoor
Education Centre
West Carleton, Ottawa, ON

Mark your calendars now!

Details will be provided in the
Spring Newsletter
and will be posted to the
ESO Website

Dr. Bruce D. Gill
Conference Committee Chair

2011 Election Results

The ESO is excited to welcome its newly-elected board members:

Jeff Skevington (President-Elect)
Christie Bahlai (Director 2012 - 2014)
Joel Gibson (Director 2012 - 2012)
Katie Marshall (Student Representative)



Departing Board Members

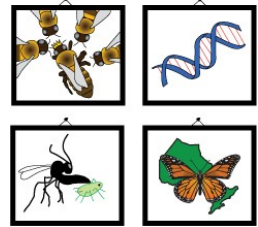
The ESO also would like to thank its outgoing board members for their dedication and invaluable service:

Gary Umphrey (Past-President)
Sigrun Kullik (Director 2009 - 2011)
Krista Ryall (Director 2009 - 2011)
Michelle Locke (Student Representative)



2011 ESO AGM Travel Award Winners

INSECTS IN SOCIETY



ESO 148th AGM - 2011

Simon Denomme-Brown

Winner Undergraduate Travel Award: Status of the Juniper Hairstreak at Point Pelee National Park (S. Denomme-Brown and G.W. Otis) (poster presentation)

I am currently completing my fourth year of an Ecology degree at the University of Guelph. The ESO annual meeting in St. Catharines provided me with my first chance to present the research that I conducted with Dr. Gard W. Otis. My poster "Status of the Juniper Hairstreak at Point Pelee National Park," was based on a portion of this research that I conducted over this past summer. For my work I attempted to quantify the habitat characteristics and the population size of the rare Juniper Hairstreak butterfly that is found in a geographically isolated population at Point Pelee National Park. The ESO Travel Award helped make my attendance at the ESO annual meeting possible.

My interest in entomology is rather recent. Growing up in London, Ontario I developed an avid interest in birds from helping my father with his field work on properties of bird song. My work this summer consisted of separate projects involving butterflies and birds. While initially I was eager for the bird studies, I found myself more and more fascinated with the butterflies. I now hope to continue work in the field of entomology in a graduate program.



Simon Denomme-Brown receiving his award from ESO President Hannah Fraser. Photo: Morgan Jackson.

Henry Murillo

Winner Graduate Travel Award: Factors affecting the presence of parasitoids of Lepidoptera, Noctuidae, Plusiinae species under vegetable field and greenhouse conditions (M. Murillo, D. Hunt, S. VanLaerhoven) (poster presentation)

I am studying the interaction of two Lepidoptera: Noctuidae species (one native species and one invasive one) and their parasitoid species in greenhouse and field vegetables. Besides defining the trophic interactions, I will determine the status of the two insects, the parasitism levels and if the parasitoid species have preference for any of the plant species. Parasitism mechanisms: 1) Hosts suitability: for this study I will evaluate the suitability of two insect host species for the most common natural parasitoids of the native host and, 2) The parasitism behavior: for this study I will use two strains of a native parasitoid (one strain kept in each host) and first I will determine the host density relationship (dependant or not, positive or negative) of the two parasitoid strains with the two host insect species exposed at different densities, alone or combined. Based on the different host densities, I will evaluate (a) 'Host preference' of the native parasitoid strains on the two host insect species, (b) 'Functional response' of the two parasitoid strains on the two host insects, (c) 'Parasitoid egg location' (d) Superparasitism, and (e) Offspring sex ratio. For the variable "Egg location" I will also evaluate if it is related to parasitoid survival.

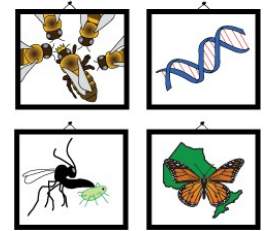


Henry Murillo receiving his award from ESO President Hannah Fraser. Photo: Morgan Jackson.



2011 ESO AGM President's Prize Winners

INSECTS IN SOCIETY



ESO 148th AGM - 2011

Andrew Young

Winner Oral Presentation: The uses of molecules and morphology in taxonomy: a review of the Nearctic species of *Platycheirus* (Diptera: Syrphidae) (A.D. Young, S.A. Marshall, J.H. Skevington)

Andrew Young is a MSc student at the University of Guelph, where he also completed his undergraduate degree in zoology. His research focuses on the taxonomy and systematics of Nearctic *Platycheirus*, a large genus of Flower Fly (Syrphidae). *Platycheirus* contains approximately 70 named species in the Nearctic Region, the majority of which are native to Boreal and Arctic Canada and Alaska. The males of most species of *Platycheirus* have elaborate, species-specific leg ornamentation, providing many characters useful for identification purposes. However, females within the genus are relatively uniform in appearance, and have been described as "impossible to distinguish from related species". Andrew is currently using a combination of morphological taxonomy and molecular techniques to distinguish between the females of different species of *Platycheirus*, and is in the process of producing a photographic key to Nearctic *Platycheirus* that will allow specimens of either sex to be identified relatively easily.



Andrew Young receiving his award from ESO President Hannah Fraser. Photo: Morgan Jackson.

Lauren Des Marteaux

Winner Poster Presentation: Methods for induction and quantification of diapause in swede midge, *Contarinia nasturtii* (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) under laboratory conditions (L.E. Des Marteaux, J.M. Schmidt, M.B. Habash, R.H.H Hallett)

Lauren Des Marteaux completed a B.Sc. in zoology at the University of Guelph with an undergraduate thesis on litter decomposition by terrestrial isopods through their effects on microbial communities. She is currently in her final year of the School of Environmental Sciences M.Sc. program at the University of Guelph where she has spent the past two years studying insect diapause (hibernation). The swede midge, *Contarinia nasturtii* (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) is an invasive pest of cruciferous crops in eastern North America and is the model organism of Lauren's research. Lauren is investigating diapause induction as it relates to photoperiod, temperature, gene expression, and heritability in an attempt to better understand the interplay between the environment and the physiological processes dictating diapause. She is also conducting a field study to determine how conditions of diapause entry and overwintering influence the emergence patterns of swede midge. Lauren's 2011 ESO poster summarizes the development of methods for inducing diapause in laboratory populations of swede midge. It is Lauren's hope that a greater understanding of diapause regulation and emergence patterns in insects like swede midge will aid in the development of appropriate pest management programs.



Lauren Des Marteaux receiving her award from ESO President Hannah Fraser. Photo: Morgan Jackson.

ESO Bug Eye Photo Contest 2011 Winners

The ESO would like to thank all of the participants in the 2011 Bug Eye Photo Contest. This year we had approximately 150 pictures submitted by about 30 participants. We had many wonderful entries of the insects in our own backyard here in Ontario, and some great shots taken abroad as well. All of the entries were displayed at our Annual General Meeting in St. Catharines for our members to enjoy. We would also like to thank our judges Jeff Skevington (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada), Morgan Jackson (University of Guelph), and Max Skwarna (Ashley and Crippen Photography/member of the Toronto Entomologist's Association). We look forward to seeing what photos you have to offer next year! The winners of the 2011 contest are:



Ontario Insect:

**Mark Helm
Dorchester, ON**

A common green bottle fly in Dorchester, covered in early morning dew.

Ontario Resident:

**Mark Helm
Dorchester, ON**

A crane fly resting in a clump of long grass during a rain shower in Dorchester.



Open:

**Crystal Ernst
Chesterville, ON**

An acorn weevil (*Curculio* sp.) taken using off-camera flash and a "white box" during a workshop at the Shaw Nature Reserve, in Gray Summit, Missouri.



Biodiversity Inventories:

Expert Volunteer Opportunities in Ontario Region for the Entomological Society of Ontario



Credible biodiversity inventories on NCC properties are critical for our conservation work. These inventories are necessary to identify the distribution and health of biodiversity targets, the magnitude of threats, and ultimately to design effective conservation actions and effectiveness measures. Biological inventories also support fund-raising and communications by documenting the occurrences of rare species and demonstrating to our donors that the actions we need funding for are based on good information. The Nature Conservancy of Canada has identified five potential projects that would benefit from a partnership with the Entomological Society of Ontario:

Insects of Ontario: The Great Lakes region of Ontario contains many globally rare habitats that are known to harbor unique and endemic insect species. A list of NCC properties and research/ collection permits can be issued to ESO members to support inventory for rare insects. NCC properties occur throughout Ontario, and current priorities for insect surveys include on alvars, rock barrens, grasslands and Great Lakes coast.

Conservation Volunteers: NCC's Conservation Volunteer program helps to increase awareness on biodiversity, engage communities in conservation, collect biological information and implement key actions. Assistance from ESO members to help design and guide these events would increase our capacity to inventory the richness and abundance of insects.

Insect Species at Risk Recovery Planning & Conservation: NCC would be interested in partnering with ESO members to develop and implement recovery strategies for Ontario's insects that are at risk, or those that are globally rare or endemic.

Insect Migration: While there have been substantial efforts to identify and monitor migration habitat for birds, little is known about the sites used by migrating insects. NCC would be able to support background research and pilot studies that lead to a better understanding of this important ecological phenomenon. This information would be incorporated into NCC's conservation plans so that key areas for insect migration are better protected.

Hosting training sessions for ESO members on NCC properties: NCC would be interested in increasing our internal knowledge of arthropods. In turn we would like to host experts on our properties as a training opportunity for both NCC staff, ESO members and others in the biological sciences. These could be done in the same manner as the Field Botanists of Ontario field trips. This will create a great learning opportunity for all involved.

Recognition Opportunities

NCC would be pleased to recognize the contributions of the ESO in supporting inventories on some of Ontario's most important conservation lands and biodiversity conservation. Opportunities could include profile in NCC's newsletter, *The Ark*, circulated to approximately 12,000 supporters, profile on NCC's website; or recognition in NCC's Annual Report and annual *Globe and Mail* recognition ad.

In order to foster this relationship and increase the knowledge of our organization, NCC would welcome the opportunity to come and deliver a talk at an ESO meeting about our organization and highlight some of the unique habitats we have on our properties.

For more information, please contact:

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www.natureconservancy.ca/on

Featured ESO Member: Chris Earley

I am the University of Guelph Arboretum's Interpretive Biologist and Education Coordinator. I have been a zoology geek my whole life and I strive to get others excited about nature in hopes of inspiring them to observe, enjoy and protect it. I teach a variety of nature workshops on birds, insects and art and have written 5 bird books. The two books I am currently working on are promoting insect study by youth. One is called "How to be a Caterpillar Mommy" that I am co-authoring with my 10-year-old daughter. This book is an account of her finding, identifying and raising caterpillars. The book covers many topics such as parasitoids, anatomy and life stages, and it has a field guide at the back of commonly found caterpillar species and what they eat. It is a book that will encourage families to do some hands-on insect activities. The second book is "How to be a Dragon Hunter." This book, written with my 15-year-old son and two of his friends, describes their participation in a variety of odonate counts and shows how kids can contribute to citizen science projects.



I am currently doing a part-time Master of Science on European Paper Wasps and cavity-nesting birds under the fine tutelage of Dr. Gard Otis. I've also been working on a side project trying to better understand the relationship between tropical wasps and the bird species that nest beside them for protection. During my "off" time, I can usually be found with a net trying to catch odonates or with a camera working on a project to teach kids about life found on goldenrod.

I also lead tours (Arctic, Africa, Galapagos) for Quest Nature Tours and get to see lots of amazing insects on these trips. One of my favourite encounters was with a very large walking stick at Lake Manyara in Tanzania. As I was getting to my 2nd floor room at a lodge my group had just arrived at, I found, to my great delight, a massive walking stick on the outside wall. I took a couple of photos of it and then passed my camera to a nearby porter and asked him to take a photo of me with the bug on my shirt (he was horrified). As I carefully tried to pick up the insect, it suddenly threw open incredibly long, brilliant pink wings. This surprised me so much that I stepped backwards, lost my footing and almost fell down the stairs. The startle response works on large vertebrates! As I pulled myself up by the handrail, I watched the walking stick clumsily but effectively fly off to a safer hiding spot.

The ESO is made up of a diverse and interesting membership, and we want to get to know all of you better. We're looking for members to write a small piece about themselves and their entomological work for our newsletters. If you're interested in being featured, or for any other submission of entomological articles, notices of upcoming events, insect photos, or ideas for columns, please contact:

Angela Gradish
Newsletter Editor
agradish@uoguelph.ca

Don't be shy - we love hearing from you! And thank you, Chris, for being our first featured member!

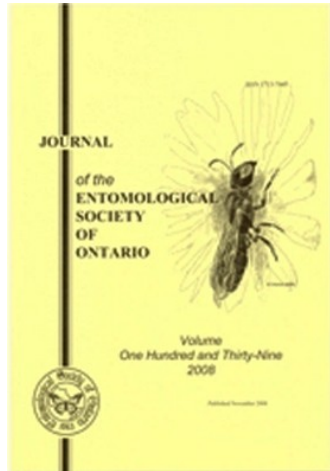
Obituary: Bill Judd

JUDD, William Wallace - At Chelsey Park Nursing Home on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 William Wallace (Bill) Judd Ph.D. Professor Emeritus of Zoology, U.W.O., London in his 96th year. Beloved husband of the late Kathryn Elizabeth (Baker) Judd. Dear father of Kenneth W. Judd (Bonnie) of Pickering, Donald W. Judd (Diane) of Calgary, Ruth E. Burton (Dudley) of Mitchell and Dorothy G. Judd (Ray Hamilton) of Pennsylvania. Dear brother of Alan F. Judd of Winnipeg and David A. W. Judd of Niagara-on-the-Lake and predeceased by Gladys Valerie Judd, Betty Jones and Patrick Judd. Loved by 5 grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Friends will be received at Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church, 442 William Street, on Friday from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Funeral service will be held at Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church on Saturday, October 22, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Rae Fletcher officiating. Cremation to follow with interment at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto. LOGAN FUNERAL HOME, 371 Dundas St., is in charge of arrangements. 519-433-6181. Friends who wish may make memorial donations to the charity of their choice. Online condolences www.loganfh.ca. A tree will be planted as a living memorial to William Judd.



Submit to JESO

Consider submitting your next manuscript to JESO.



Instructions to authors are available on-line at www.entsocont.ca

****NEW! As of 2011, page charges in JESO have been waived!****

Electronic submissions should be directed to:

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If you know any of these members, please ask them to send their contact information to ESO Secretary, Nicole McKenzie:

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Charles K Zubovits
Scott MacIvor
Kimberley Janes
Iain Buchanan
Claudia Bustos
Alex Ardila-Garcia
Connie Chan
Cara McCreary
Carrie Woods
Jason Gibbs
Phil Careless
Amy Meekes
Patrick Schaefer
Muhammad Oamar
DJ Pree
Tony Renda
Jessica Hurley
Harris Luckham
Cole Luis
Peter Wm. Wood
Tian Wu
Alan Macnaughton

Thank You to Mark Lurz

A special thank you to ESO member and calligraphist Mark Lurz, who has created some beautiful new certificates for this year's President's Prize award winners!

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Membership Renewal

Please visit www.entsocont.ca to pay via PayPal or mail your invoice and payment to:

Nicole McKenzie, ESO Secretary
Vista Centre
1830 Bank St.
P.O. Box 83025
Ottawa, ON
K1V 1A3

Student, amateur and retired memberships in Canada are free but **must be renewed each year!** Free memberships may be renewed electronically by sending an email to Nicole at:
nicole.mckenzie@hc-sc.gc.ca



Peek-a-boo! A grasshopper peaking through a leaf at the Tiputini Research Station, Amazon Basin, Ecuador. Photo: Laura Burns.



ESO Board Members working hard for you at the October, 2011 Board meeting! From left to right: Angela Gradish, Christie Bahlai, Nicole McKenzie, Morgan Jackson, Michelle Locke, Jeff Skevington, Katie Marshall, Rose Buitenhuis, Jeremy McNeil, Simon Lachance, Joel Gibson, Shiyu Li, Hannah Fraser, Bruce Gill, Gary Umphrey, Hume Douglas, and Ian Scott.