



THE ESO Newsletter

December 2004

Volume 9, Issue 3

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ESO Election Results

The ESO Nominations Committee was chaired by Bruce Gill this year. Once again, the committee assembled an excellent selection of candidates for the Society's annual election. This year's election ballot listed two candidates for president-elect, four candidates for the two director positions, and two candidates for student representative. A biography of each candidate was then printed in the June Newsletter and mailed with voting ballots to fellows, students and regulars ESO members who renewed their membership in 2003 or 2004. Of the 184 ballots mailed to members, 68 (37%) were returned to the ESO Secretary. Ballot envelopes were opened and votes were tallied on August 1, 2004. We are pleased to extend a warm welcome (or welcome-back as the case may be) to the following successful candidates:

President-Elect:

John Huber, Canadian Forest Service, Ottawa

2005-2007 Directors:

Hannah Fraser, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Vineland

Margaret Pickles, Science Is Alive, Niagara Falls

Student Representative:

Laura Timms, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto

Laura Timms is returning to serve a second term as our Student Representative. Margaret Pickles is also returning to serve a second term as Director. (Margaret previously served as a Director in 2000-2002.) We are delighted to have Laura and Margaret back and equally excited to have John Huber and Hannah Fraser join our Board.

We also wish to thank each candidate for allowing themselves to be nominated to serve their Society and letting their names stand for election.

Join the growing number of **ESO Newsletter Readers** who are trading in their paper copy for the colourful pdf format newsletter posted on our website. To switch, just say so in an email to **Dave Hunt** or **Dana Gagnier**. We'll send you an email notification when each new newsletter (spring and fall) is available on-line. If you try it and don't like it, simply switch back at any time. See what you're missing at:

<http://www.entsocont.com>

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<http://www.entsocont.com>

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

ESO membership dues are so reasonable they can easily be forgotten. However, your Society depends on these revenues and appreciates prompt remittal.

Members who have not renewed will find an invoice included with this newsletter - please mail it with your payment today.

Send your invoice and payment to:

Dave Hunt, ESO Secretary
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Greenhouse and Processing Crops Research Centre
2585 County Road 20
Harrow, ON N0R 1G0

Student, amateur and emeritus memberships are free but must be renewed each year! Free memberships may be renewed electronically by sending an email to our secretary at:

huntd@agr.gc.ca

Mark your calendars now!

Entomological Society of Ontario
142nd Annual Meeting

Insects in the Urban Environment

October 21st – 23rd, 2005
Toronto, Ontario

More details coming soon ...

If you live in the
Greater Toronto Area and
are interested in helping organize
the meeting, please contact
Laura Timms at laura.timms@utoronto.ca



Consider becoming . . . the **NEW** JESO Editor

The time has come for the ESO to begin the search for a new Editor of the Journal of the Entomological Society of Ontario. Volume 135 is Yves Prévost's fourth volume as JESO Editor. While Yves has enjoyed this opportunity as Editor, he also recognizes that it is time to pass the baton on. This is a great opportunity for someone to take the JESO and bring it to a new level.

Knowing that it may take the Society a while to find the right person, Yves has offered to transition with a new editor, should they request it. Why not consider co-editing volume 135 with Yves this year, and begin 2006 as the new JESO Editor?

The JESO is a fully-refereed and peer-reviewed scientific periodical, with world-wide distribution. If you would like to bring your experience and enthusiasm to the JESO or if you know of someone who might consider this opportunity, please inquire further by contacting:

Yves Prévost, JESO Editor

yves.prevast@lakeheadu.ca or

Fiona Hunter, ESO President

hunterf@brocku.ca

Welcome! to our new members in 2004

Membership in our Society continues to grow and our best source for new members is through word of mouth. Mention the ESO to a friend, amateur, co-worker or student of entomology. Application forms are available on the ESO website at:

<http://www.entsocont.com>

Margaret Appleby
Christine Bahlai
Jonathan Bennett
Michael Bodnar
Angela Brommit
James Dennis
Ghulam Farooq
Bryan Grigg
Mark Hanson
J. Frank Hogan
Jean Pierre Kapongo
Burundi Blaise Kimano
Carolyn King
Chuck Kreutzweiser
Seetha Liyanage
Victoria MacPhail

Nguya Maniania
Mario Miranda
Sunday Oghiakhe
Tracy Oost
Rod Parrott
David Punzalan
Tatiana Romankova
Jennifer Rosati
Roger Duncan Selby
John Semple
Barb Sharanowski
Amy Sharp
Alison Skinner
Mike Spironello
Janet Tam
Kenneth Walton
Gabiella Zilahi-Balogh

Obituary

David Harvey Pengelly 1922-2004

David Harvey Pengelly passed away in his 83rd year on October 31, 2004. Professor Pengelly was born on March 22, 1922 in Red Deer, Alberta and raised on the family homestead near Delburne. On completing his high school, he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force and trained as a pilot. In 1941 he was sent to England where he joined a Royal Air Force squadron and did his tour of operations on torpedo Bristol Beaufighters, after which he served as an instructor on Mosquito aircraft at an Operational Training Unit in Nova Scotia.

He received his B.Sc. (1950) at the University of Alberta, his M.Sc. (Agr) from the University of Toronto (1952) and his Ph.D. in entomology (1955) from Cornell University. He went straight from Cornell to a faculty position in the Ontario Agricultural College, where he remained until his retirement from the Department of Environmental Biology in 1982.



David Pengelly enjoying the company of his family near Erickson, Manitoba. December, 2003. Courtesy of Harvey Pengelly.

Professor Pengelly, known affectionately as "D.H." to his students, had an enormous influence on Canadian entomology, and a remarkable number of today's professional entomologists were first "turned on" to the discipline through his undergraduate courses. His general entomology course (Natural History of Insects) was immensely popular, and a core course for hundreds of students a year. He not only designed a fine course and an innovative and effective system for laboratory teaching, he was also entirely devoted to his students at all levels. When I took his first course as an undergraduate student he was offering five labs a week for two semesters, and he did not leave the laboratory teaching to teaching assistants. Professor Pengelly was always there, always personable and always ready with a great story or identification tip. I am not sure if he really got to know all of the hundreds of students he taught each year, but I do know that he made every student feel recognized and important. That personal approach, combined with the intrinsically interesting subject area, brought many students into the field of entomology.

Those students who finished his introductory entomology course brimming with enthusiasm for insect diversity usually went on and took Dave's fourth year taxonomy course, the famous (infamous?) "collection course". In those days, his insect taxonomy course was also a requirement for graduate students in entomology, so the students in that course were a mixture of graduate students and extremely keen undergraduates. The cohorts of students Dave shepherded through the collection course shared the excitement of discovery (not to mention sharing hundreds of hours in the lab) and often emerged both as lifelong friends and colleagues in the entomological community.

Professor Pengelly had relatively few graduate students, but those of us lucky enough to work with him have fond memories of the experience. He always had time to talk, and always had a wise word. His standards were high, not only for scientific writing but also for professional ethics. He set high standards for those with whom he worked, and he also encouraged his students to remain generalists despite the need to specialize in order to complete a successful graduate degree. It is part of his legacy that Guelph entomology graduates are widely recognized for their fa-

miliarity with insects as a whole, and not just their particular research groups.

Dave contributed immensely to the Entomological Society of Ontario, and during the 16 years he served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Society he handled virtually all of the Society's business, personally taking care of everything from stuffing envelopes to depositing cheques. This was a huge task, a fact appreciated by those of us who have since struggled to carry out either the Treasurer's OR Secretary's duties for relatively short periods during the years since D.H. retired in 1982. One of his most lasting contributions to the Society, and entomology as a whole, was his maintenance and development of the collection of insect specimens and associated literature at University of Guelph. The University of Guelph Insect Collection had its start as the Entomological Society of Ontario collection and grew into a world-class resource under Professor Pengelly's care. A remarkable number of specimens in the collection, especially specimens of rare species, were collected and identified by Dr. Pengelly himself.

One of Dave's great interests throughout his career was the biology of leafcutter bees, and one of his formative experiences as an entomologist was to spend a summer, with his family, studying leafcutter bees and their relation to alfalfa seed set on the Warder Ranch near Dyer's Bay, Ontario in the 1950s. He continued working with leafcutter bees as alfalfa pollinators after he retired to a farm near Erickson, Manitoba.

The passing of Professor Pengelly marks the end of an era in Canadian entomology, but his powerful influence lives on in the attitudes, knowledge and careers of countless students. Dave is survived by his wife and life-long companion Frances, their three children and eight grandchildren.

Steve Marshall

Special thanks to Steve Marshall for writing this piece and to Frances and Harvey Pengelly for sharing this photograph with our ESO members. Thank-you to Rob Roughley, Terry Galloway (and Carol Galloway), at the University of Manitoba, and Kevin Barber at Canadian Forest Service in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario for their work in bringing us the photograph.



The 141st ESO Annual Meeting was held at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. Having a LIVE BAND at Friday night's mixer was a true crowd-pleaser! Special thanks to the members of **Dr. Funk** (Michael Bidochka, Michael Spironello and Gary Pigeau) for making the mixer so enjoyable! **Totallybuggy Ltd's** display of insect-related gifts and collectables included a very fitting assortment of amber jewellery that had members peering down a microscope to have a closer look at the insect inclusions of each piece. The highlight of Friday evening's mixer was the arrival of Dr. George Poinar. Even Dr. Poinar took a turn sitting up to the microscope, and shared his knowledge of the insects contained within the amber jewellery there on display!

Saturday morning's Plenary Duo of **Dr. George Poinar** (Department of Zoology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon) and **Dr. Douglas Currie** (Department of Natural History, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario) had members winging their way back to the days of the Early Cretaceous for a rare glimpse into the world of **Ancient Insects**.

Dr. Poinar's presentation "Amber, blood-sucking insects and vector associations" included photographs of many types of insects found in amber specimens from throughout the world. Each slide of these beautifully preserved insects helped reconstruct for us a snapshot of the Early Cretaceous insect fauna. One of the more extraordinary amber specimens featured a vertebrate pathogen (a trypanosome) inside reptilian (blood) cells within the gut of a sand fly! Dr. Poinar discussed the possibility that these pathogen infections may have contributed to the extinction of Cretaceous-era reptiles, including dinosaurs.

Dr. Douglas Currie concluded the morning's plenary session on blood-sucking insects in the "fossil record". In an entertaining and interesting talk, Dr. Currie's "Fossils, flies and phylogeny: Evolution of bloodsucking behaviour in the Simuliidae" had us looking at black fly toes! We learned that one can tell a lot about a black fly, even the type of host it preferred to feed on, by looking at its feet. Dr. Currie pieced together the phylogenetic, paleontological and host-specificity data and discussed the types of host-switching events and reversals throughout history for this family of flies. The claws of ancient black

2004 ESO Service Award Recipients



Blair Helson
ESO Treasurer
1995– 2003



Neil Carter
ESO Newsletter Editor
2000-2003

On behalf of the Society, President Jim Corrigan presented "plaques of recognition" to two of our outgoing Appointed Officers; **Blair Helson**, and **Neil Carter**.

Thank-you to both of these hard-working volunteers for their years of dedicated service!

flies left us wondering if Dinosaurs were the feathered(?) hosts they fed upon in the ancient world.

Saturday morning's Plenary Session was followed by the student poster session and President's Prize Competitions. New this year, the oral presentations for the President's Prize Competition were divided into two concurrent sessions. ESO listeners had a choice between talks in the Ecology, evolution and behaviour session or the Phylogeny, insect monitoring and insect models session. ESO Members were impressed with the numerous high-quality student presentations!

The ESO banquet Saturday evening featured **Dr. Carol Merriam** (Classics Department, Brock University) as our after-dinner speaker. Dr. Merriam's presentation "Bugs Like Us: Social Insects and Human Society in Antiquity" was enjoyable for everyone. To Western Society, these "ancient views" of the parallels between insects and humans were nothing short of hilarious. Our social insects have inspired human writing far back into the ancient world.

Concluding Sunday morning's excellent line-up of speakers was an inspiring presentation **Joe Shorthouse** brought back from the August 2004 XXII International Congress of Entomology in Brisbane, Australia. The film, "Describing new species—even kids can do it!", was made by a group of Australian kids who had a little help from entomologist Dr. John La Salle (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Canberra, Australia). The children walked us through the steps involved in describing a new species of insect and gave their thoughts on each part of the process. The film left us waiting in suspense to find out what name the children chose for the gall wasp they described. They did reveal to us that their species will be named after Shrek. The children have also co-authored a manuscript describing their new gall wasp, which has now been provisionally accepted by the Australian Journal of Entomology. Way to go KIDS! Joe will update us on this project as details become available. It was a perfect ending to an enjoyable conference.

Special thanks to **Fiona Hunter** and **Miriam Richards** and the entire **crew of volunteers** who organized and hosted this year's ESO Meeting!

2004 ESO Graduate Travel Award Winners



Andrea Brauner
Faculty of Forestry
University of Toronto



Clint Kelly
Department of Biology
University of Toronto



Duncan Selby
Lyman Entomological Museum
McGill University



2004 ESO Undergraduate Travel Award Winners



James Dennis
University of Toronto



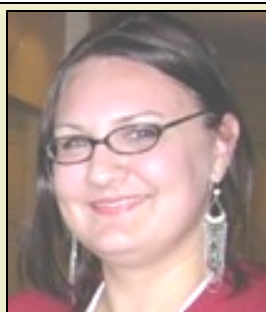
Candra Schank
Laurentian University

Our focus shifted to students as ESO President Jim Corrigan distributed the Society's Student Awards at the banquet.

There were a greater number of awards given to students this year. The Society offered 5 travel awards to students (3 graduate, 2 undergraduate), 1 President's Prize Award for student poster presentation and 2 President's Prize Awards for student oral presentation (one from each concurrent session of oral presentations). Congratulations to all of our winners and excellent student presenters!



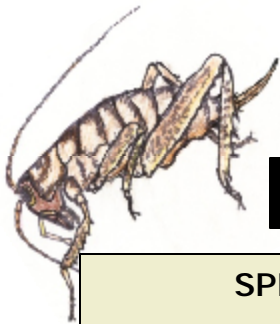
2004 President's Prize Winner for Poster Presentation: Christine Bahlai



ENDOPARASITOID ASSEMBLAGE OF THE PEA LEAFMINER, *LIRIOMYZA HUIDOBRENSIS* (DIPTERA: AGROMYZIDAE), AN EXOTIC VEGETABLE PEST IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO

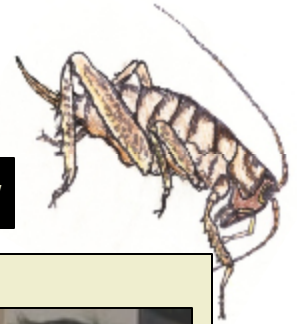
Christine A. Bahlai,
S.A. Goodfellow, D.E. Stanley-Horn and R.H. Hallett
Department of Environmental Biology
University of Guelph

The pea leafminer (PLM), (Blanchard) (Diptera: Agromyzidae) is an important pest of leafy greens in the Holland Marsh, near Bradford Ontario. Concerns about pesticide resistance have led to the study of the PLM's parasitoid complex with hopes of developing an integrated pest management program involving biological controls. This two-year study examined larval-pupal endoparasitoids reared from PLM pupae collected from eight host plants: celery (*Apium graveolens* L.), spinach (*Spinacia oleracea* L.), lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.), mustard greens (*Brassica juncea* L.), pea (*Pisum sativum* L.), potato (*Solanum tuberosum* L.), and Asian broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* L.). Members of three families of Hymenopteran parasitoids were collected: Eulophidae, Pteromalidae and Braconidae. The Eulopid found was identified as *Chrysocharis oscinidis* (Ashmead) and Pteromalids collected appear to all belong to the same species, *Halticoptera circulus* (Walker). The Braconids were found to be of two genera: *Dacnusa* spp. (subfamily Alysiinae) and *Opius* spp. (subfamily Opiinae). Parasitism rates were found to vary from 4% to 13% by host plant, and distribution of parasitoid families varied dramatically with host plant as well.



2004 President's Prize Winners for Oral Presentation

Ecology, Evolution and Behaviour Session Winner: Clint Kelly



SPERM GAMES AND MATING STRATEGIES OF WELLINGTON TREE WETA

Clint D. Kelly

Department of Biology
University of Toronto at Mississauga



This study investigated gametic expenditure by males within the framework of sperm competition hypotheses and reports on several facets of Wellington tree weta, *Hemideina crassidens*, mating behaviour. I show that, contrary to prediction, testes mass is allometrically related to body size; however, larger testes did not produce larger ejaculates. This suggests that males may strategically allocate ejaculate expenditure in relation to their expected mating success. Contrary to expectation, sperm length did not covary with either sperm number or male body size. I also report that males do not engage in either pre-copulatory courtship behaviour or post-copulatory mate guarding. In fact, males act aggressively to recently mated females, driving them away from the local vicinity of the gallery. Post-copulatory aggression may be adaptive if it allows males to dedicate time and energy to guarding their gallery rather than the female, if the time between copulation and oviposition (sperm utilization) is long and/or if removal of the female either reduces the resident male's chances of remating a female (versus devoting mating resources to novel harem females) or it reduces the possibility of a rival male mating the female.



Phylogeny, Insect Monitoring and Insect Models Session Winner: Curtis Russell



ANALYSIS OF THE POTENTIAL SWITCH IN HOST ATTRACTION OF THE *CULEX PIPIENS* MOSQUITO (DIPTERA: CULICIDAE)

Curtis Russell and F.F. Hunter

Department of Biological Sciences
Brock University



Culex pipiens is believed to be the primary bird vector for West Nile Virus in North America. This species of mosquito feeds mainly on birds, but it is believed to have the potential to bite mammals. It is suspected that as the mosquito season progresses into the fall months (September) that *Cx. pipiens* weakens in its host attraction to birds, and will bite any available host for its last bloodmeal. Since it is still unclear how the virus spreads from the bird population to mammals (i.e. humans and horses), if it can be shown that *Cx. pipiens* does weaken in its host attraction, it will give significant insight into the transmission cycle of West Nile virus. To determine if this switch in host attraction does occur, mammal (guinea pig) and bird (chicken) hosts will be placed next to Center for Disease Control (CDC) miniature light-traps in a woodlot and the mosquitoes captured in these traps will be analyzed for host attraction and age.

Visit the ESO website (www.entsocont.com) to view the entire 2004 meeting program. Our webmaster, Barry Lyons, has updated our website with colour pictures of service award recipients and student winners receiving their awards from Jim Corrigan. You'll also find colour photographs from this year's meeting.



A word of thanks to parting Board Members

The ESO Annual Meeting marks the transition of Board Members in the Society and with it the cycling of presidents. As the newly elected board members take their positions, we also wish to thank our departing members for their dedication and service to the Society over the past three years. On behalf of the Society we wish to thank our out-going Past President **Bruce Gill** and our 2002-2004 Directors **Rebecca Hallett** and **Peter Mason**. Thanks to **Laura Timms** for being our 2003-2004 Student Rep too. Laura will be extending her year of service to two by returning as our 2004-2005 Student Rep. In addition to their Board duties, each of these volunteers took (are taking) major roles in organizing various Annual Meetings for the Society. Thanks to you all!

ESO President Jim Corrigan becomes Past-President

I want to heartily thank all members of the Entomological Society of Ontario for granting me the privilege of serving as your President in 2003-2004. I thank all members of the Board for their continued commitment to our Society! If I have one Presidential 'parting shot', it would be to encourage all members to participate in our Society's activities.

If we "look to the insects" (to quote Stu Dixon), we can see many examples of spectacular achievement through selfless effort to a 'greater good'. Like the social insects, many tarsi make for light work when it comes to the activities of the ESO. Think about writing an article for the Newsletter or submitting your next manuscript to JESO. Offer to stand for election as an Officer of the Society. Help to put on the next AGM in your area. Tell a student or a colleague about the benefits of ESO membership. Volunteer for an ESO outreach activity. Every bit helps us to promote the awareness and study of entomology in Ontario. I would encourage each member of the ESO to find their own way to do a 'bit' for the Society.

Jim Corrigan

In 2003-2004 Jim Corrigan was both President and the Society's Public Education Chairperson. The combination of wearing these two particular hats produced a synergistic reaction in our President that resulted in a Society leader that was heavily involved in the new initiatives and outreach activities of the Society. Jim's newsletter articles were informative and packed with personal notes of thanks to Society Members whose names he placed in "bold". He was sincere in his efforts to recognize and appreciate the work of every ESO Member. Jim's enthusiasm for entomology and our Society continues to be contagious and we look forward to having him as our Past President in the coming year.

As Jim Corrigan passes the gavel and ceremonial roach on to Fiona Hunter, we look forward to having both these entomologists on the board for another year!

ESO President-Elect Fiona Hunter becomes President

Hard work (and lots of it!) went into hosting the Society's 141st Annual Meeting. Thanks to Fiona and Miriam Richards and your entire crew, from all of us! We welcome Fiona as our Society's 2004-2005 President!



BUGS of ONTARIO

by John Acorn with illustrations by Ian Sheldon, 2003
Published by Lone Pine Publishing

Many of us know and love John Acorn as Discovery Channel's "Nature Nut". John's enthusiasm for all things in the natural world is apparent in this insect guide. Throughout the book John employs the same conversational mode of communicating as he does on his hit show, which makes it easy and fun to read.

John is a self-professed bugster—a name he and his fellow buggy friends have coined to describe "people who are fascinated by insects and enjoy them for no other reason than their intrinsic niftiness."

The book highlights 125 of the coolest bugs out of over 30,000 species that are found in Ontario. It will never be the definitive identification guide but it does tell you some very interesting and cool facts about many of the common bugs we have seen on our walks or that you might see close to home. There are fabulous colour illustrations of each bug. The book also has a great introduction that explains bug structure, life history, ecology and systematics as well as tips on how to be a bugster.

The book is intended to be inspiring more than scholastic. Inspiring it is! I would highly recommend it to any nature lover that would like to know more about bugs or for parents and grandparents who would like to inspire the younger generation to be bugsters.

Margaret Pickles

Reprinted with permission from Nature Niagara News, Bulletin No. 266, August 2004.

The Nature Niagara News is the newsletter of the Niagara Falls Nature Club. The newsletter features the column "**And We Saw Bugs**" written by **ESO Member Margaret Pickles, "The Bug Lady"**.

If you like getting out into nature and are looking to join a nature club in the Niagara Falls area, consider this one. You'll find a list of upcoming meetings and outings, membership applications, newsletters, a photo gallery and more information about the club on their website at <http://niagaranatureclub.tripod.com>

JESO

Journal of the Entomological Society of Ontario

Why not submit YOUR next manuscript to JESO?

While Volume 135 of JESO is well on its way, we are looking for more submissions and especially 1000-word book reviews of works 2004 or later. Please follow the format for book reviews in volumes 132-133. If you are considering writing a book review, please contact our JESO Editor, Yves Prévost to ensure that someone else is not reviewing the same book.

Send submissions and inquiries to:
Yves Prévost, JESO Editor



ESO CREATIVE WORKS:

Where ESO members can show their creative side

BREAKING NEWS: ENTOMOLOGISTS HAVE CREATIVE SIDES, TOO

This fall's conference season left me feeling motivated. I was inspired academically by the large number of great presentations and posters that I saw and all of the bright young entomologists that I had a chance to meet and speak with. I also came home with an enthusiasm for creative expression in entomology. At the ESC meeting in Charlottetown, **Monica Sliva's** (recent Laurentian University graduate) performance of her original "gall song" had the crowd singing along and laughing. ESO President **Fiona Hunter** (Brock University) also showed her prowess on the fiddle during the ESC Kitchen Party, and several other entomologists from across the country joined in later on the piano, guitar and harmonica. At the ESO meeting in St. Catharines, **Mike Spironello** (University of Toronto) demonstrated his own musical talent as part of the Dr. Funk ensemble that entertained the mixer crowd.

A little research reveals that this sudden outburst of creativity by entomologists is not another recent phenomenon to be blamed on global warming; there are precedents of this. The late **Dr. Keith Kevan**, a former ESC President, was known to "doodle during duties" or jot down a poem during a conference break. Dr. Kevan collected and put together several volumes of verse on Orthopteroid insects, titled "The Land of the Locusts", Parts 1 - 5. These volumes include original works by Dr. Kevan as well as poems and limericks that he collected from all over the world. If you would like to read one of his originals, I recommend **The Mantispid**.

I'm sure that there are more examples of entomologists-cum-artists. I'd like to know what other untapped talents there are out there amongst our members. I've written this brief little verse about the Emerald Ash Borer in the hopes that it will inspire you to send in your creative work. If you have entomological poetry, songs, cartoons, short stories, whatever ... send it in and share it with us.

Cheers,
Laura Timms

Agrilus planipennis

pale larvae munch across the bole,
each tiny Dee an exit hole,
when emerald jewels fill up its crown,
this royal ash will soon come down.
oh what a mess,
who could have guessed,
these letters three (the Ee Eh Bee),
could do so much damage to a tree?

Laura Timms

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND... THE 2nd ONTARIO INSECT FAIR

The ESO is returning to the second (Annual?) **Ontario Insect Fair** in 2005! This year's fair will be held at the **Wings of Paradise Butterfly Conservatory in Cambridge**, Ontario on the weekend of **9 & 10 April 2005**.

Bring your ideas, enthusiasm and entomological expertise to the Fair. Help the ESO educate and inspire the next generation of Entomologists! Support your Society by offering to **help staff the ESO booth**.

Society members and friends interested in helping at the ESO Booth should contact the Society's new Public Education Committee Chairperson:

Margaret Pickles at mpickles@sympatico.ca
or

Dana Gagnier at gagnierd@agr.gc.ca

Find out more about **Dr. Kevan**, his collections, or read a few of his creative works including **The Mantispid** at http://www.insects.org/ced3/dkmce_kevan.html

Read more about the role of **insects in human culture** on the insect.org website under cultural entomology digest (cedigest) at <http://www.insects.org/ced/index.html>



Treasurer's Report 2003 (final part)



The following is the financial report for the period 25 November to 31 December 2003. A financial summary for this period appears to the right and has been duly audited (Auditors: Carl Nystrom (non-Member) and Leo Cadogan (Member)).

This short reporting period provides a bridge to switch our fiscal year from the AGM-to-AGM back to the calendar year. This enables us to use a fixed 12-month period, to incorporate an audit process in our year-end reporting, as well as to have the potential of capturing the bulk of the AGM financial reporting in the calendar year in which it falls. The fiscal year is the calendar year as specified in our Constitution (Article 8 (3)).

The audited, annual fiscal report (in the coming years) will be tabled first at the Interim Board Meeting in the following spring. It will then be re-tabled at the AGM (fiscal year ended 31 December of previous year). An interim report for the current fiscal year will also be provided to the Board and Members at the AGM.

During this short period at the end of 2003, subscription payments were received from 16 subscribers and dues received from 6 members.

Payment for page charges was received from authors contributing to Volumes #132 & #133 as well as for reprints. There is one outstanding page charge (incl. reprints) each for Volume #132 (\$525.00) and for Volume #131 (\$315.00).

The Society is in sound financial shape and is maintaining a reserve of about \$21,000 in the bank accounts. In addition, the principal amount of the Ontario Savings Bonds of \$20,000 has accrued an estimated* \$1,723.50 in interest.

Kevin Barber

Financial Summary Period: 25 November-31 December 2003

Canadian Account

Credits		Debits	
Dues (6)	\$ 180.00	Pres. Prizes (2)	\$ 500.00
Subscriptions (16)	\$ 480.00	Travel Awards (2)	\$ 700.00
Bank Interest/Credits	\$ 29.93	Bank Charges	\$ 21.75
Page charges (132)	\$ 1,470.00		
Page charges (133)	\$ 175.00		
Reprints	\$ 100.00		
TOTAL	\$ 2,434.93		\$ 1,221.75
Starting Balance, 25 November 2003		\$13,939.73	
Credits		\$ 2,434.93	
Debits			\$ 1,221.75
Closing Balance, 31 December 2003		\$15,152.91	

US Account

Credits		Debits	
<i>No transactions</i>		<i>No transactions</i>	
	-		-
TOTAL	US\$ 0.00		US\$ 0.00
Starting Balance, 25 November 2003	US\$ 4,615.19		
Credits	\$ 0.00		
Debits			\$ 0.00
Closing Balance, 31 December 2003	US\$ 4,615.19		

Ontario Savings Bonds	Principal	Accr. Interest *	Value
2001 (5-year step-up - mature 20 June 2006)	\$10,000.00	\$ 1,261.00	\$11,261.00
2002 (3-year fixed rate - mature 20 June 2005)	\$10,000.00	\$ 462.50	\$10,462.50
Closing Balance, 31 December 2003	\$20,000.00	\$ 1,723.50	\$21,723.50

* (as of 20 December 2003 - Bond Calculator - <http://www.ontariosavingsbonds.com/calculator.asp>)

TOTAL ASSETS

Canadian Account	Cdn \$15,152.91
US Account	US \$ 4,615.19
Ontario Savings Bonds (P&I)	Cdn \$21,723.50

Look for some coming changes to the reporting of ESO Finances in 2005

In 2004, we switched the fiscal year back to a calendar year, added a yearly estimate of our accruing Bond interest in our Financial Summary and opened a new Savings Account to add to our Canadian and US Chequing Accounts.

Including these new elements precipitated a larger restructuring of the our current Financial Report. By clustering transactions around our 3 main areas of ESO business activities (Publication (JESO), General and Meeting) we hope to emphasize the business activities of the ESO as a primary theme while still reporting 3 bank account balances, bond interest and an estimate of our Total Assets. The document is intended to provide a transparent report of the ESO business affairs to our Auditors, ESO Board and Members. The reporting format is a work-in-progress and feedback is requested (kbarber@nrcan.gc).



ESO COLLECTOR'S CORNER:

Pinning beetles remains an art-form in Ontario

"Wow" is an understatement when your eyes spot a beetle pinned by Al Boudreau of London, Ontario. I had the opportunity to view several kinds of beetles pinned by Al at the first Ontario Insect Fair held in Guelph this past spring. Al pins all the beetles that Ken Thorne has for sale at Thorne's Insect Shoppe Ltd. in Lambeth, Ontario (<http://www.thornesinsects.com>). While Ken's business consists of insect specimens from all over the world, including Canada; the majority of beetles that Al pins for him are from tropical regions of the world.

Al believes pinned insects should "display all the insect has to offer." His specimens alone are evidence of the care he takes in pinning each one. Even the antennae have a particular place. Al often chooses to spread one or both sets of wings on some of the larger scarabid beetles. But on the other hand, when it comes to beetles like the 'very beautiful' weevils and jewel beetles, he leaves the wings closed; deciding that the hind wings would distract from the impressive colours on their elytra. "You need to consider carefully what each feature will add to the final display of the insect."

In addition to being the most numerous of the insect orders, beetles are also the most diverse. Al finds the diversity of this group overwhelmingly spectacular! While Al admits his passion is beetles, he also has a fondness for larger insects, and their interesting relatives (Tarantulas, Scorpions, Millipedes, etc.) that make us "Ooh" and "Aah". It was just these kinds of insects that Al remembers a guest speaker bringing into his grade 10 science class. The guest that day was Ken Thorne. In the time since then, Al's interest in beetles has grown into a hobby he finds rewarding. Al often shares his passion when he is invited to demonstrate the art of pinning insects.



This stag beetle (left) pinned by Al, now has a home in my collection!

*Cyclommatus metallifer
aenomicans (Lucanidae)
Halmahera Island, Indonesia*

Al keeps his personal collection of beetles in air-tight show cases. He does not use a chemical preservative in his boxes. The lack of preservative in his collection boxes requires him to examine the boxes a few times a year, but makes him much more aware of the contents of his collection. If he finds signs of dermestid beetle damage, he places the entire tray of insects into a garbage bag and then into the freezer for up to a day, and repeats this if required.

At the First Ontario Insect Fair, Ken Thorne's booth featured an inexpensive grab bag called "Baggie of Beetles." The bag contained a variety of six beetles, each in their original packaging from various parts of the world. These insect specimens are sold ready to be rehydrated and pinned. I asked Al if he would share some helpful tips regarding rehydrating and pinning these specimens. I have tried to capture these and pass them on to you. This will also apply to insects that have dried out before you had a chance to pin them.

Come have a closer look at Al's beetles at the next Ontario Insect Fair (April 2005).

Dana Gagnier

*Al Boudreau lives in
London, ON with his wife
Liz and son Julian.*



Left: The beetles Al uses are collected and dried onto cards in other countries. A small piece of clear plastic is wrapped around the package and stapled to the edges. A small collector label is attached on the back of each specimen which includes the collection date, locality and name of the insect. The packaged beetles are then shipped here to Canada.

Rehydrating a Beetle for Your Collection

Materials:

dehydrated beetles (see photograph above)
plastic container (25 x 30 cm or larger) with lid
piece of Styrofoam (less than size of container)
(pink or blue Styrofoam lasts longer than white if you intend to reuse it)
water
various tweezers, probes & lifters (your preference)
assorted sizes of entomological pins
sewing pins
pinning block

When Al is pinning beetles, he makes best use of his time and materials by setting up an assembly-line of beetles by placing more than one in the container, and then removing and pinning one at a time.

Cut the package open on 2 sides and peel the plastic covering off the specimen. This is best done by running a cutting blade around the edge of the package (just inside the row of staples). Hold the package down on a flat surface (cutting board / table) as you are cutting. Care must be taken when removing a specimen since dehydrated specimens are brittle and can easily shatter. Using scissors to cut through the package might shatter the insect.

Remove the specimen. Less handling results in less damage. Larger specimens can be picked up with fingers by placing a thumb and finger either side of the thorax. Specimens are placed onto the Styrofoam inside the plastic container. Specimens could also be transferred using L-shaped lifters (mini "spatulas"). Smaller, more delicate specimens should not be handled dry and are better left on the card. Transfer the works (insect+card) to the Styrofoam.

Add water. Add approximately 1-2 cm (depth) of water to the plastic container (the Styrofoam becomes a floating "island of bugs"). It is also possible to use a towel under the Styrofoam. If you are using a towel, add only the amount of water that the towel will hold. The towel prevents the water splashing up onto your precious specimens in 2 ways; it prevents backslash when the water is added and reduces the sloshing that happens when containers are moved. Place the lid on the container.

Wait (for the beetle to rehydrate). The amount of time required for the insect to soften and become pliable varies with the size of the insect (smaller usually means it requires less time), but it varies with how thick the beetle's elytra is. It is possible to reduce the waiting time to a few hours or less, by adding boiling water. When you do this, the insect needs to be monitored more frequently. Leaving the specimen too long can result in the insect falling apart, or mould can set in. Adding a few drops of bleach to the water in the beginning can help to prevent mould. Check the beetle periodically until the legs and wings are posable.

Set the pin and pin the insect. They don't call it pinning for nothing! It's incredible how many pins it takes to arrange a single insect in a "natural-looking" position. It takes time to get a specimen just right and patience is the most important quality a person can bring to this work. Since there are many excellent pinning resources that are readily available, the details here have been simplified. (Find more tips and illustrations on pinning beetles at: <http://www.insectcompany.com/howto/beetle-pinning.shtml>)

For beetles, the pin is inserted off-centre in the area of the right elytra. If you intend to spread the wings, insert the pin after opening the wings. Use a pinning block to get the height of specimen on the pin consistent. Setting a pin in the weevils can be difficult due to the thickness of the elytra. Although Al has heard more amusing suggestions from collectors over the years, he prefers to hold the weevil down on a flat surface with his fingers and press down on the pin as he rotates the top in a circular motion for a few seconds. This technique is repeated until the surface of the insect is scored enough for the pin to be inserted through the top. The specimen is then pinned onto a dry piece of Styrofoam. Sewing pins are used to keep the body parts in place while it dries. If you are ever attempting to pin a Tarantula, please wear gloves; the hairs can penetrate your fingers! If you run out of pinning time with a batch of specimens, it is possible to leave them to dry and rehydrate them later.

Leave the insect to dry. Remove the sewing pins. Label the beauty and add it to your collection!



Spread the word about this feature in the ESO Newsletter. . . .

Graduate Position Announcements

GRAD ADS

Advertise **Ontario Graduate Student Positions** in the **GRAD ADS** section of the ESO Newsletter.

Send Graduate Student Advertisements to: Dana Gagnier at gagnierd@agr.gc.ca

Call for Nominations

It's not too early to **start thinking** of candidates for the **2005-2006 Election**.

The Nominations Committee is calling on the ESO Membership to nominate candidates interested in running for the elected positions on our Board of Officers:

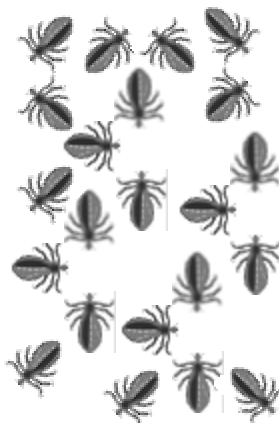
President-Elect Directors & Student Representative

We require a minimum of 2 candidates for the position of President-Elect, at least 3 candidates to fill the 2 Director positions, and at least 2 candidates for the position of Student Representative. Our Student Rep position is a one-year term, while the Directors each serve a three-year term. You'll notice that our current list of ESO Officers (see front page of newsletter) includes a total of 6 Directors, 2 of which are replaced on an annual basis. Like the Director position, the President-Elect is also engaged in Society business for a three-year period as the individual serves one year as President-Elect, President, and Past President.

Any member of our society can nominate a candidate. However, candidates must also agree to let their names stand for election. It's a compliment to be nominated, and the duties are by no means onerous, yet they are critical to the smooth functioning of the Entomological Society of Ontario.

Early in the spring of 2005, the Nominations Committee will begin gathering the names of candidates and their biographies to be printed in the Spring ESO Newsletter. Election ballots will be distributed to members via the Spring Newsletter mailing. Ballots are then returned to the secretary and counted. Successful candidates will be notified and begin serving on the ESO Governing Board at the 2005 Annual Meeting in Toronto.

Please forward your nominations and informal suggestions to our current **Secretary David Hunt** or **Past President Jim Corrigan** by February/March 2005.



Missing Members



If you know the whereabouts of these members, please ask them to contact our Secretary David Hunt to update their address.

Jacob Miall
Bob (Zhibin) Liu
Janisse Bailey
Andrea Martin
Jennifer MacIntyre-Allen
Justin Renkema

Insects In the News

NEW: Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*):

The main page for this pest on the CFIA website:
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/protect/pestrava/asialong/asialonge.shtml>

North American Plant Protection Organization:

Updates on new pests: <http://www.pestalert.org/main.cfm>

THE USUAL SUSPECTS:

Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*):

The main page for this pest on the CFIA website:
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/protect/pestrava/ashfre/agrplae.shtml>

Swede Midge:

<http://www.gov.on.ca/OMAFRA/english/crops/facts/03-035.htm>

West Nile Virus:

Health Canada website (check out the new 2004 data):
<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pphb-dgspsp/wnv-wnv/index.html#wnvgen>

For information on collecting and submitting dead birds for analysis:

<http://wildlife.usask.ca/WestNileAlertHTML/WestNileAlertEng5.htm>



Upcoming Events: Entomology in your 'hood!

Toronto Entomologist's Association – Monthly Meetings

TEA Website: <http://www.ontarioinsects.org>

The Toronto Entomologists' Association (T.E.A.) welcomes everyone who is interested in the insects of Ontario.

Monthly meetings are scheduled for the last Saturday of each month, and usually start at 1 PM. All meetings are open to the public. Please join us!

Meetings are held at:

Northrop Frye Hall Room 113

Victoria University (at the University of Toronto)

73 Queens Park Crescent Toronto, ON

(Museum subway stop; opposite the Museum, on the east side)

Saturday, January 22, 2005 - 1 PM

-Don Davis-HOT ON THE TRAIL OF THE MIGRATORY MONARCH

February 26, 2005 - TBA; April 23, 2005 - TBA

Toronto Entomologist's Association – Student Symposium - Saturday, March 19, 2005

Every year on the 4th Saturday in March, the T.E.A. sponsors a Student Symposium. Graduate students or senior undergraduate students are eligible to present either a talk or a poster. Everyone is welcome to attend the symposium.

If you are interested in participating, please e-mail the president of the T.E.A. info@ontarioinsects.org. We will contact you to discuss whether a talk or poster is feasible as we wish that the limited slots for talks be used to cover a broad range of groups and approaches.

Provisional titles will be published in Ontario Insects, the newsjournal of the T.E.A. Final submitted and edited abstracts (250 words) will also be published in Ontario Insects. Longer reports are optional. Posters must be self-standing, without damage to walls, and of a reasonable size (3-4 feet). Talks will be timed for 15 minutes, with 5 minutes being allowed for questions. Abstracts for the talks and posters must be handed in at the symposium (3 copies and diskette).

Toronto Entomologist's Association – Student Travel Award

W. John D. Eberlie Research Travel Grant is a research travel award of \$300 to assist graduate or undergraduate students conducting original field research into Ontario insects. The award is intended as a travel grant to defray costs of travel to field sites used for research. Application must be postmarked no later than March 25 for consideration in the current year. Find further details on how to apply, or to request an application on their website.

Website: <http://www.ontarioinsects.org/who%20we%20are.htm>

Ottawa Entomology Club – Monthly Meetings

This is an informal gathering that meets on the 3rd or 4th Thursday of each month (September to April) at 8PM in the K.W. Neatby Bldg. on the Central Experimental Farm. Typically, a visitor or a local insect enthusiast gives a slide show of recent insect work or presents a travelogue from a collecting trip. Notices for these meetings are sent out a week or two in advance, and often are posted on the doors of Carleton University Biology Department professors Drs. J. Yack or S.B. Peck.

Interested entomologists are encouraged to attend. For more information about upcoming meetings, you can contact Dr. Bruce Gill at: gillbd@inspection.gc.ca

The Second Ontario Insect Fair – Wings of Paradise Butterfly Conservatory - Cambridge, ON – April 9 & 10, 2005

Exhibit and Sales of dead, dried, worldwide insects; entomological equipment; specialist books; entomological information; societies and associations; demonstrations; collectibles..... Ideal for the experienced and novice enthusiast. Also enjoy the LIVE Butterfly Exhibit in a tropical setting.

Check Thorne's Insect Shoppe's website in 2005 for further details.

Website: http://www.thornesinsects.com/fair_ad.html

142nd ESO Annual Meeting- Toronto, ON - Oct 21-23, 2005

Meeting Theme: Insects in the Urban Environment

For information, contact Laura Timms at laura.timms@utoronto.ca

MEETINGS: OUTSIDE ONTARIO

55th ESC Annual Meeting

Joint Meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada and the Entomological Society of Alberta, November 3-5, 2005, Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre, Canmore, Alberta
Meeting Theme: A Celebration of Life's Little Wonders

<http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/courses.hp/esa/annmeet.htm>

ESA Annual Meeting, November 6-9, 2005, Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Website: http://www.entsoc.org/annual_meeting/2005/index.htm

North Central Branch ESA Annual Meeting, March 20-23, 2005, Stewart Center, Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana
Website: http://esa.ent.iastate.edu/2005_west_lafayette/meeting

Eastern Branch ESA Annual Meeting, March 20-22 Harrisburg, PA; Harrisburg Hilton and Towers
Website: <http://www.ento.vt.edu/EBESA/mtnginfo.html>

CONFOR conference

February 3-6, 2005, Laval University
This annual, graduate-student run conference on forest-related topics includes an entomology session.

Website: http://www.sbf.ulaval.ca/confor2005/main_e.html

Tell Us About Entomology in Ontario



Notices of upcoming entomological events, ideas for columns, and articles of interest to ESO members are always welcome. This is YOUR newsletter.

Send submissions to:

Dana Gagnier,

ESO Newsletter Editor

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

G.P.C.R.C.

2585 County Road 20

Harrow, ON

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