

IDAHO ENTOMOLOGY GROUP NEWSLETTER

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The Idaho Entomology Group (IEG) is composed of professional and non-professional people interested in any facet of the study of insects. Participation is not restricted to Idaho. Membership dues are \$5 / year (non-domestic E-subscriptions only), used to cover costs of the bimonthly newsletter. Application can be made to any officer (see below) or the Idaho Entomology Group, c/o Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History, Albertson College of Idaho, Caldwell, ID 83605, USA. **Materials for publication** (e.g. important dates, summaries of meetings, references, publications of members and others, collection records, etc.) should be sent directly to the Editor. Deadline for submission is the 20th of every second month. Back issues are available at cost (contact: William H. Clark, OJS Museum of Natural History, Albertson College of Idaho, Caldwell, ID 83605). Advertisements are included in the *Newsletter* at the Editor's discretion when items are thought to be within the membership's interest. There is no cost for advertisement, deference in publication is given to members. The IEG is an affiliate of the Idaho Academy of Sciences.

2006 OFFICERS: **PRESIDENT**, James K. Ryan, 6614 Newman St., Boise, ID 83704; jameskryan@hotmail.com; **SEC./TREAS.**, Barbara Alexander, 2715 Snowflake Dr., Boise, ID 83706 ☎: 208-344-6017, 208-863-4024 (cell), bmerrill@cablone.net; **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**, Paul Blom, 1107 Grant Ave., Prosser, WA 99350-1115 ☎: 509-788-0181/786-9358, e-mail pblom@BioDataManagement.com.

CALENDAR

Aug	4	OJS Museum Workday
	5-10	92 nd Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America
	20-24	13 th European Carabidologists' Meeting
Sep	8	OJS Museum Workday
	9-14	A Malaria Conference, Oxford, UK
	17-19	1 st Intl Conf Malaria Vaccines for World
Oct	21-26	Insect Rearing Workshop, Mississippi State
Dec	9-13	ESA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA

KEEP A WATCHFUL EYE !

In a recent article (Shaw, S.R. 2007. A new species of *Elasmosoma* Ruthe (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Neoneurinae) from the northwestern United States associated with the western thatching ants, *Formica obscuripes* Forel and *Formica obscuriventris clivia* Creighton (Hymenoptera: Formicidae). Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington 109.1:1-8.) a new species of endoparasitic wasp on *Formica* ants was found in Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. Gotta be in Idaho too!!

IEG JUNE SOCIAL

Billed as the first annual pig roast and IEG get-together, Al and Pat Gillogly threw the social event of the summer in the back yard of their home early in June. Their special barbequed pork recipe was a huge success--and as usual, the pot-luck feasting was amazing! Put the SECOND annual pig roast on your radar for next year's calendar!

Thank you Pat and Al for your generosity! The weather was perfect, and a good crowd showed up for the evening's fun. In attendance were the host and hostess, the Gilloglys; Bill and Mary Clark; Paul Blom and Gwen Hoheisel with son Joseph; Dave and Val Ward; Paul and Cathy Castrovillo (check out the cake they brought--it was first I.D.'d and then promptly devoured by

the group!); Elizabeth Dickey; Barb Alexander, Charles and Liz Baker and grandson "River"; Jim Ryan and John and Charlene Keebaugh. We all had a memorable evening, and once the word gets out, watch the crowd double for next year's bash!! I'm salivating already.

Barb Alexander



photo by Dave Ward, Jr.

PUBS BY FORMER MEMBERS

Attached is the latest paper... done for the most part by my colleague Wu Xiao-Qiang. ... She has made amazing progress in the last two years and really is THE expert on China tiger beetles, having a good relationship with the world experts. Much to the envy of her colleagues here at the Forestry College, who tend to shun foreigners, she has gained a good reputation with the big boys in Beijing.

Xiao-Qiang, W.U. and **Shook, G.** 2007. Range Extensions, New Records, an Artificial Key and a List of Tiger Beetles of Yunnan Province, China (Coleoptera: Cicindelidae). *J. Ent. Res. Soc.* 9.2:31-40.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 16 July we have \$421.10 in the bank account, with all bills paid.

Barb Alexander

----- PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS -----

Clark, William H., Arnold Van Pelt, and Raymond Skiles. 2007. The red imported fire ant, *Solenopsis invicta*, in Big Bend National Park, Brewster County, Texas. *Southwestern Entomologist* 32.1:67-68.

----- WHAT'S THAT BUG -----

Have you ever seen this little bug before? It looks like an immature pentatomid to me, and it has the face of an Incan God on its back, according to the lady who sent these photos (Mary Ann Hurt)!!! I think it's just gorgeous!! Tell me it's not some horrendous pest?



Can anyone help out with some level of ID for this Divine Bug?

-----..OF POTENTIAL INTEREST..-----

INTERMOUNTAIN CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT
18-19 September 2007 Idaho State University campus in Pocatello, Idaho. Deadline for abstracts is 10 August 2007. See <http://www.isu.edu/departments/confsvcs/current.htm> or contact ISU's Continuing Education and Conference Services at (208) 282-3155 or extendedlearning@isu.edu with any questions. Barb Alexander

ANT STORY IN NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Moffett, M.W. 2007. Able Bodies. *National Geographic* August: 140ff. Some amazing biologies and photographs of ants. Fastest jaws in the west (?world), falling like a leaf, escargot, and the list goes on!

----- ERRATA -----

Paul, I couldn't get the url to Robertson's pollinator story to work. Went to the BLM website and found it at: http://www.peoplelandandwater.gov/scienceandstewards/hip/blm_06-18-07-insect-pollinators-to.cfm

An underline apparently didn't show up in the pdf.

Alan Gillogly

----- O.J. SMITH -----

**MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY NOTES
(ALBERTSON COLLEGE OF IDAHO)**

Museum ☎: (208) 459-5507, bclark@albertson.edu.
<http://www.albertson.edu/campus/community/museum>

**** MUSEUM MONTHLY VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS**

For the Workday Schedule see the Museum Event Web Page:
<http://www.albertson.edu/campus/community/museum/event.htm>

The Museum is open all day on Workday Saturdays, 8 AM until late afternoon. Enter via west basement door. We have a variety of Museum tasks that need volunteer assistance. We currently need someone to construct wooden bases for displays. We have tasks for students and non-students alike. We need volunteers to assume a variety of Museum duties and responsibilities. We have the following needs: Plywood, particle board, Masonite, 1x2" stock lumber, electrical fixtures, bookshelves for journals and funds for specific Museum projects.

We supply coffee and hot water for drinks as well as a taco lunch for volunteers. We usually have a brief research seminar at noon. The Museum collects aluminum for recycle. Please leave in Museum or contact Bill Clark (208-375-8605), John Keebaugh (208-459-5507), or Dr. Eric Yensen (208-459-5331).

Bill Clark

****COMING 2006 LUNCH SEMINARS**

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| August | 4 | Elizabeth Dickey – "Bug Day Announcement" |
| September | 8 | Dr. James K. Ryan - "Ultrasonic Control of Pests." |
| October | 6 | Jan Summers Duffy - "Egyptian Archaeology." |
| November | 3 | Alan Gillogly - "Biology of Passalid Beetles." |
| December | 1 | Dr. David M. Ward, Jr. - "Baja California Travels and Entomology." |

****MUSEUM HOSTS MONTANA STUDENT RESEARCHER**

The Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History hosted Kiza Gates for a week of training (June 4-8, 2007) on identification of snails found in the Snake River. Gates is a Graduate Research Assistant at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana. Her primary reason for learning to identify snails is to join the Snake River physid search team currently sponsored by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and work on the Bureau's Utah valvatid project as well. The Museum is handling snail identification and acts as repository for all specimens collected during the three year project. John Keebaugh, Museum Research Associate, is doing the identification work and incorporated the material Gates would be working with on the projects into the training session. When asked why she selected the Museum for the training, she stated "The Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History offered the most extensive collection of preserved Snake River physid and valvatid snail species available for study. The Museum also has one of the few world expert identifiers of these species on staff, John

Keebaugh." Combined with the Museum's video linked dissecting microscopes used for instructions, the Museum was the perfect place to become acquainted with Snake River gastropod identification."

--- SUMMER PINE BEETLE COLLECTING -

This summer we had the opportunity to have some large ponderosa pine trees (*Pinus ponderosa*) removed that were near our cabin at Sumpter, Baker County, Oregon. June 14-16, the three large trees adjacent to the house were cut down and the remaining four large trees in the back were thinned.

While we had a lot of wood to cut (Figure 1) (the largest logs were sold to a sawmill) and lots of limbs to pile for winter burning, etc., we did take notice of the many Coleoptera attracted to the fresh cut pine. A clear succession of beetles was observed. On June 30-July 1, bark beetles (Scolytidae) were swarming in the evening air. A variety of species were noted and collected. On July 4th and 8th, metallic wood-boring beetles (Buprestidae) were abundant and this was mostly during the hot part of midday (90-100 degrees F). *Chalcophoa* and *Buprestis* were common as well as other taxa. July 14-15th the long-horned beetles (Cerambycidae) were the most frequently seen and collected. These were dominated by *Monochamus*, but many other species were present. Other species were also collected, but the above-mentioned groups seemed to dominate the time periods mentioned.



Collecting was not our primary objective, but we tried to obtain as adequate a series for the Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History as possible. While many of what we collected are fairly common taxa, most represent much larger series than we presently have in the Museum collection and I think the Scolytidae are especially under represented.

We hope to get the specimens pinned/pointed and labeled this Museum workday.

Bill and Mary Clark

----- KID'S CORNER -----

HOW THE ANTS GOT IN MY UNDERWEAR

a Poem by Zachery Mace, Age 8

Ants Everywhere!

Ants in a pair of my underwear!

How did they get in my underwear?

I don't know ask my little stuffed bear!

Maybe from their hill they crawled to Dr. Fills to borrow chewing pills!

Or maybe in the bad weather they rode through my window on an eagle's feather!

Ants, ants, ants, ants, ants, ants!

AN UNDERGROUND STORY

Have you ever thought of what's underground? Bugs of course! Lots of bugs make their home out of dirt. They have lots of tunnels in the home. Termites make their homes from wood. But bugs don't have noses! Why? Well they have something on their head called antennae. Bugs use antennae to feel and smell. Maybe if you look on leaves or mushrooms you will find, bugs called aphids. So back to ants. Did you know there are many kinds of ants? There are pavement ants, Formica ants, janitor ants, parasol ants, and thatch ants. Some of these ants devour other bugs and creatures. Ants go underground and curl in a ball to hibernate. How about next Wednesday you search in your own neighborhood. You might even find ants in the ground or the highest buildings!

Zachery Mace, Age 8

----- IMAGO PHOTO CONTEST -----

First annual insect photography contest for the Oregon State Arthropod Collection. Contact the Collection, osac@science.oregonstate.edu, for details.

----- ..OF POTENTIAL INTEREST.. -----

Gordon, S. and C. Kerst. 2005. Dragonflies and Damselflies of the Willamette Valley: A Beginner's Guide. Willamette Resources and Educational Network, CraneDance Publications, Eugene, OR. 110p. ISBN: 0-9708895-5-0

Schiff, N. M., S. A. Valley, J. R. LaBonte and D. R. Smith. 2006. Guide to the Siricid Woodwasps of North America. Forest Health and Technology Enterprise Team. Technology Transfer. USDA FHTET-2006-15. available from : www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/technology/publications.shtml

----- IEG HISTORY CONTEST -----



As you might guess this photo pre-dates the person's participation in the IEG. Who is he? Hint: This member was featured not too long ago! Contact your editor with a guess (pblom@BioDataManagement.com).

--- OREGON ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The next OES meeting will take place 3-4 November in Cordley Hall at OSU in conjunction with the Pacific Northwest Lepidopterist Workshop. If you are interested in joining the OES and/or receiving electronic announcements from the group send your name and desired e-mail address to

osac@science.oregonstate.edu

----- IMAGO NEWSLETTER -----

IMAGO is the Newsletter of the Oregon State Arthropod Collection. Its spring issue, recently released, features scorpions of the Pacific Northwest, among other interests. Contact the email address above if you are interested in the collection or receiving the Newsletter. It may be available electronically, though cost is at present unknown to your editor.

<http://osac.science.oregonstate.edu/>

Rtn: Paul Blom, Editor
Idaho Entomology Group Newsletter
 1107 Grant Ave.
 Prosser, WA 99350-1115