

IDAHO ENTOMOLOGY GROUP NEWSLETTER

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31 September 2007

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@cableone.net; **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**, Paul Blom, 1107 Grant Ave., Prosser, WA 99350-1115 ☎: 509-788-0181/786-9358, e-mail pblom@BioDataManagement.com.

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----- C A L E N D A R -----

Oct	6	OJS Museum Workday
	21-26	Insect Rearing Workshop, Mississippi State
Nov	3	OJS Museum Workday
Dec	1	OJS Museum Workday
	9-13	ESA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
Jan	7-8	Annual PNW Insect Management Conference

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

- Clark, W.H.**, B.M. Bean, and L.S. Fore. 2007. Repeat sampling method for the Bliss Rapids snail, *Taylorconcha serpenticola*, a preliminary assessment. *Journal of the Idaho Academy of Science*, 43.1:38.
- Clark, W.H.** and A. Van Pelt. 2007. Myrmecophiles in ant nets, Big Bend National Park, Texas. *Journal of the Idaho Academy of Science* 43.1:39-40.

----- ESA MEETING SUPPORT -----

This year funds will be made available for student and early professional members of the Entomological Society of America to help defray costs of attending the meeting in San Diego. For details see the October issue of the ESA Newsletter, pages 4-5.

----- CALL FOR NOMINATIONS -----

Currently the IEG Officers hold a 2-year term. For those currently serving that period is coming to an end. My understanding is that we have 3 offices: President, Secretary/Treasurer and Newsletter Editor. The **President** is responsible for arranging and providing over IEG Events (e.g. meetings, field trips, etc.). It is also a welcome contribution when the Pres. generates write-ups or commentaries for the Newsletter. The **S/T** records minutes generated at those meetings and manages the dues and costs incurred by the Group. The **Newsletter Editor** provides the regular Newsletter for the Group based on membership contributions. Currently this is monthly, but in the recent past was bi-monthly.

Barb Alexander is our current and longstanding **S/T**. She is willing to continue at the post and your Editor certainly gives his endorsement. However, if any wish other names may be suggested for the ballot.

I would like to be replaced, if possible, as Editor. I feel that my energy is waning and Newsletter quality has been on the decline. I certainly haven't inspired an increasing submission of materials from the membership and when that stream starts to dry compiling each issue becomes arduous.

The procedure will be to receive nominations from the Group or individuals interested in the office. I will have to confirm each nominee's interest in the position. With the October issue a ballot will produced and distributed with the Newsletter. Elected Officers can then be announced at the December meeting and Christmas Party.

Send names, ideas and comments to your editor (e-mail pblom@BioDataManagement.com, see above for mailing address).

----- EDITOR'S NOTE -----

Yes, the date on this issue is 31 September, that hyper-temporal date which can bring the September issue to your door promptly in mid-October. Apologies from the Editor! - Oh, I will attempt to get the October issue out on time. Please send me items to edit !!

----- 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**

October	6	Jan Summers Duffy - "Egyptian Archaeology."
November	3	No Lunch or Seminar - scheduled presenters will be attending Carl Cannon's Memorial Service
December	1	Alan Gillogly - "Biology of Passalid Beetles."
January	1	Dr. David M. Ward, Jr. - "Baja California Travels and Entomology."

----- MEMBERS IN THE NEWS -----

Chuck Baker was quoted in the article Idaho Statesman article "Widespread use of Bt may be killing off hornworms" (Margaret Lauterbach, 14 October). An excerpt: "Charles Baker, a retired entomologist from Boise State University, suspects that the extensive use of *Bacillus thuringiensis*, or Bt, is the cause of the hornworm's vanishing. Hornworms are easily hand-picked, but some people spray or dust plants whenever any unwanted creature appears." The article is concerned that there have been no sightings of the tomato hornworms in the Boise area this year. While the author recognizes that this species is an important pest, she suggests it may be a bioindicator in the gardening world analogous to the canary's role in the mines.

----- THE BEAUTIFUL LOCUST BORER ---



An adult locust borer, *Megacyllene robiniae*, photographed while walking on glass raised above a blue background. I found this beautiful beetle in my garden while picking corn in early morning recently. Its physical attractiveness is tarnished by its reputation for the damage caused by its larvae in trunks of black locust trees. The beetle and black locust were introduced to Idaho and other areas of the west from eastern USA where they are native. The generic name for black locust is "Robinia," from which the beetle's species name "robiniae" is derived. Like the locust borer, many tree-infesting insects are host specific, which is why mixed species of forest trees suffer less damage than do monocultures.

Mal Furniss, Moscow

----- MYRMECOLOGICAL NEWS -----

Volume 10 of the Myrmecological News is out and online!

Paper and digital version (printable .pdf-files; exclusively for personal use) are available for € 20 each (€ 10 for members) from OEGEF (Austrian Society of Entomofaunistics). The online version (printing disabled) can be viewed at <http://www.oegef.at/MN.html>

Volume 10 brings about some changes, aimed at further increasing the awareness of our journal in the international community: we have changed the journal's name, widened its scope (i.e., now accept manuscripts on any ant topic from any part of the globe), and enlarged the Advisory Board. But two significant aims for the near future remain, an Online Early version and application for inclusion of the journal in the Web of Science. Find details on all this and more in the Editorial of volume 10 at <http://www.oegef.at/Editorial.pdf>

To order the paper and/or digital version please send an E-mail to herbert.zettel@nhm-wien.ac.at; for payment modalities see <http://www.oegef.at/Preise.pdf>

We invite you to submit manuscripts for volume 11 now. Please find information on the scope of the journal, the Advisory Board, and the instructions for authors at http://www.oegef.at/MyrmecologicalNews_english.pdf

All the best, Birgit Schlick-Steiner, Herbert Zettel, Florian Steiner.

submitted by Bill Clark

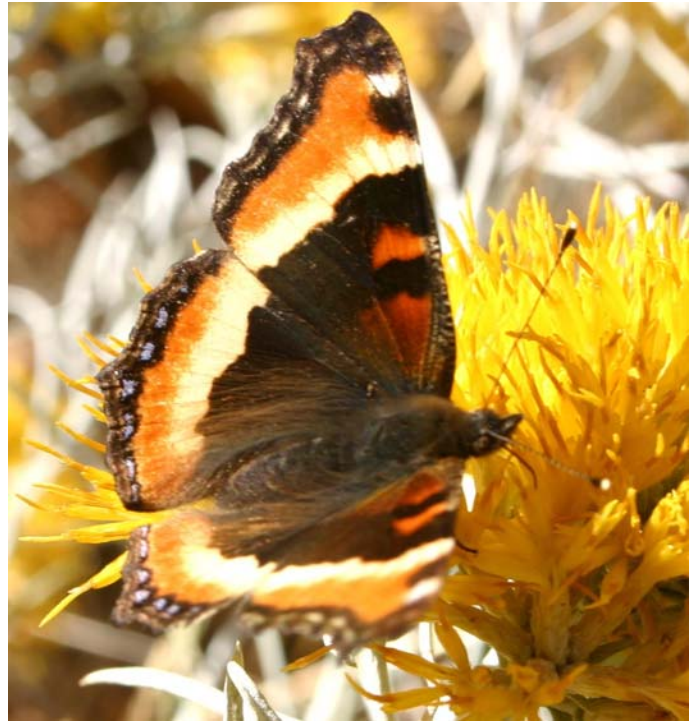
----- SAD NEWS -----

It is with great sadness that I send this report about Carl Cannon, a long-time IEG member and avid lepidopterist. Carl has been battling an aggressive cancer for several months and it appears that the cancer has nearly won the battle. I talked with his sister tonight and she felt that his time was very limited, maybe as short as a few days and maybe as long as a very few weeks. He and his family would love to have any visitors who wish to see him one last time. The cancer has affected his brain so his attention and communication ability is poor. Carl's sister noted that he may not always recognize visitors and he probably won't actually be able to carry on a conversation with you but he does still hear and understands a great deal. Thankfully, he has experienced little pain.

Bill Clark and I are planning on going over tomorrow evening (Tuesday, Sept. 25th). If you knew Carl and would like to see him again, please do so soon. Carl has always had a "strong constitution" so none of us know how long he may last but his doctors say it will not be very long. You can reach his sister Janice at 761-1816 to arrange a time to visit.

His family has arranged for a memorial service after his death and I will try to keep you all informed about that as well.
Dave Ward, Jr., 24 Sep. 2007

Alas with my slow pace at getting the Newsletter out I must now report that on 8 October Carl died. There is a very nice obituary in the 14 October Idaho Statesman.



There will be a memorial service for Carl at the White Pine Elementary School in Boise on 3 November at 1300 hrs.

----- PNW INSECT MANAGEMENT CONF --

The 66th Annual Pacific Northwest Insect Management Conference will be held in Portland, OR 7-8 January 2008 at the Hilton Hotel (921 SW 6th Ave, Portland, OR 97204, 800-445-8667).

Please come and participate in informal discussions of research progress in insect/arthropod pests of field, row, vegetable, seed, small fruit and berry crops, and related commodities in the PNW and Intermountain West. This is not a spray meeting only, and papers in Biological control, IPM, info- chemicals are welcome. We invite you to make oral presentations and written reports in one or more of the following general Sections:

- Section I. Surveys of Invasive and Emerging Pests (begins 9 am on 7 January)
- Section II. Bee Poisoning, Environmental Toxicology, Regulatory Issues
- Section III Biological & Cultural Control
- Section IV Cereal Crop Pests
- Section V Soil Arthropods
- Section VI Vectors of Plant Pathogens
- Section VII Foliage & Seed Feeding Pests
- Section VIII Mites & Sap-Sucking Pests
- Section IX New Product Development

Deadline for submitting presentations is 15 December.

For more information contact David Bragg, Sec/Treas./Editor 509-843-3701 or better e-mail braggd@wsu.edu.

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----- PHOTO CREDITS -----

The Milbert's Tortoiseshell (p .45) was taken by Paul
Castroville on 12 April 2006.

As described in his article the locust borer image (p.
44) was taken by Mal Furniss.

----- MORE SPIDER FUN -----

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20751427/>

----- MISCELLANEA -----

BioQuip October Product Special: Advanced Insect
Collecting and Mounting Kit.

http://www.bioquip.com/specials/product_special.asp

Ent. Soc. of America begins a program to digitize all
of its journals from pre-1999.

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