

# IDAHO ENTOMOLOGY GROUP NEWSLETTER

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December 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, The 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 20<sup>th</sup> of every second month. Back issues are available at cost (contact: William H. Clark, OJS Museum of Natural History, The 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.

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## ----- CALENDAR -----

- Jan 7-8 Annual PNW Insect Management Conference
- May 25-30 NABS Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City.

## ----- IEG ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY -----

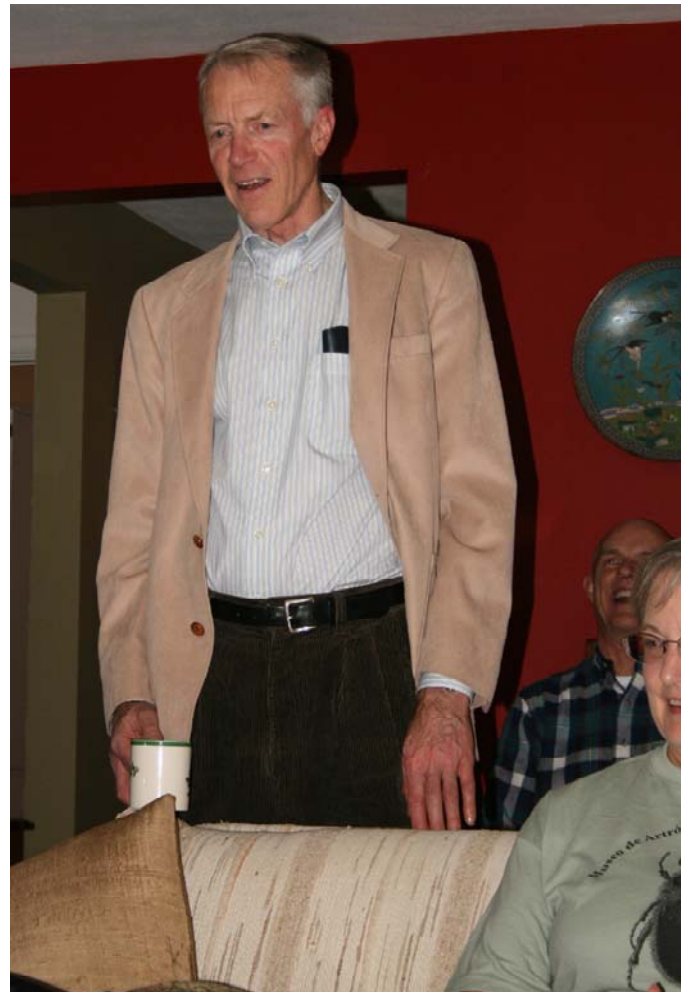
The Christmas party was a very pleasant evening, thanks to the hard work and planning of hosts Pat and Al Gillogly. Pat had steaming mulled cider to warm new arrivals. Casual conversations swirled until all had arrived.

Dinner was a smorgasbord of treats. There were 3 kinds of jello salads! Pat produced the main course of shrimp bouillabaisse ladled onto steamed rice. Other dishes covered a wide range of tastes. Anyone still hungry could choose from a variety of desserts, including cinnamon buns (from...guess who - that's right, Val Ward) and a vividly colored butterfly cake.

After dinner there was a mini-business meeting. Then three PowerPoint slide presentations focused the attentions of all.

Charles and Liz Baker took us on a tour of Tasmania. The adventure started on their arrival when Liz alarmed an agriculture inspector's dog with the odor of bananas in her pack. Their time was mostly rainy and cold, but the weather failed to dampen the spirit of the adventure.

Charles found a distinct character trait difference between new world mustellids and Tasmanian devils. They dined on kangaroo and camel. Early prisons, and

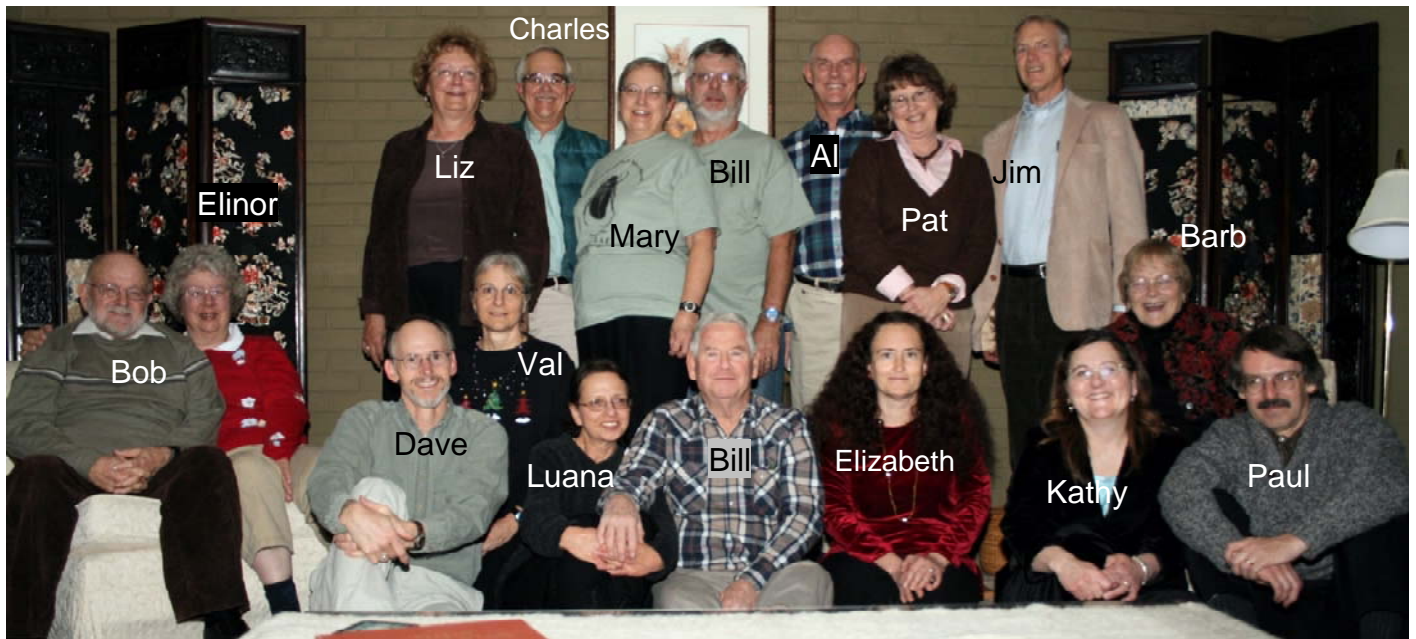


Jim Ryan at IEG Meeting

Dave Ward photo

prisoner heritage, are important themes to Aussies.

Bill Clark attended a science conference in Acapulco, Mexico as one of 4 invited speakers. The conference was successful in stimulating the interests of young



Group Photo, IEG 2007 Holiday Party

Back Row , L to R: Liz and Charles Baker, Mary and Bill Clark, Al and Pat Gillogly, Jim Ryan

Front Row: Bob Chehey, Elinor Chehey, Dave and Val Ward, Luana and Bill McCauley, Elizabeth Dickey, Kath Gerrity, Barbara Alexander, Paul Castrovillo. (Departed before photo: O. David Johnson)

ecologists. Accommodations, and the environment, would have been welcome for any vacationer.

Paul Castrovillo showed butterfly pictures and shared observations on the distribution and seasonal occurrences of several species. Mountain meadows seemed free of biting flies but full of more welcome types of insects. Crab spiders in thistle flowers were blissfully unaware that they were dining on a protected species of skipper.

Dave Ward photographed the assembled party, sans Dave Johnston who left earlier.

Thanks to Pat and Al, to Charles and Liz, Bill, and Paul, and to all the chefs. It was a fun evening.

Jim Ryan

#### ..... ..IEG MEETING .....

A formal meeting of the Idaho Entomology Group was held on 1 December 2007, at the Gillogly residence, following dinner.

President Jim Ryan asked the assembled group to thank Al and Pat Gillogly for hosting the Holiday party, and should have recognized their hosting of the summer party. These possible oversights clarified, he cited the upcoming West Nile discussion. Barb Merrill acknowledged that the treasury held the funds described in the latest newsletter.

New business was solicited from the membership. There being none, acceptance of this report was Moved by Charles Baker, Seconded by Dave Ward, and Carried.

Jim Ryan

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

- Barr, William F.** 2005. New species and new distributional records for Mexican *Pelonium* (Coleoptera: Cleridae: Enopliinae). *Folia entomol. Mexicana* 44(Supl. 1):55-62.
- Barr, William F.** 2006. A new genus and species of Mexican Enopliinae (Coleoptera: Cleridae). *Pan-Pacific Entomologist* 82.2:269-271.
- Barr, William F.** 2006. A new genus and species of Epiphloeinae from Brazil (Coleoptera: Cleridae). *Insecta Mundi* 20.3-4:215-216.
- Barr, William F.** and Rifkind, J. 2007. Two new species of neotropical *Enoclerus* Gahan (Coleoptera: Cleridae: Clerinae). *Coleopterists Bulletin* 61.2:195-199.
- Clark, William H.** and Van Pelt, Arnold F. Myrmecophiles in Ant Nests, Big Bend National Park, Texas. *Proceedings of the 49th Annual Meeting of the Idaho Academy of Science*, April 19 - 21, 2007., Idaho Falls, Idaho. IAS Proceedings papers on the IAS Web page.
- Clark, William H.**, Bean, Barry M. and Fore, Leska S. Repeat Sampling Method for Rock Cobble Habitat Preferred by the Threatened Bliss Rapids Snail (*Taylorconcha serpenticola*). *Proceedings of the 49th Annual Meeting of the Idaho Academy of Science*, April 19 - 21, 2007., Idaho Falls, Idaho. IAS Proceedings papers on the IAS Web page.

*Publications continued on page 56*

----- BAJA COLLECTION OPEN HOUSE -----

An Open House at Museo de Artrópodos de Baja California, Departamento de Biología de la Conservación, Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (CICESE), was a big success! William H. Clark, Investigador Adjunto, Dr. David M. Ward, Jr., and Dr. Paul E. Blom, Curators Entomología held an Open House at the arthropod



Riley Nelson

collection at CICESE in Ensenada on Sunday, December 9, 2007. They were assisted by Dr. Horacio de la Cueva, Jefe, Departamento de Biología de la Conservación and Daniela Ramirez, Curator Entomología. Since the ECN/ESA national meetings were being held in San Diego this year (8-12 December), we thought this an excellent opportunity to showcase this entomological collection in Baja California. We coordinated this with Dr. Michael Wall of the Entomology Department, San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM). The Open House was about a year and a half in planning. Participants received a packet of information on the collection and an opportunity to purchase a commemorative "Phobetus desertus" tee shirt for \$15.

At 1000 h Jim Berrian departed San Diego with nine

other entomologists in a SDNHM van and headed for CICESE. They arrived on schedule around noon. Bill gave them a general introduction to the collection, its



Jim Berrian sorts Baja spiders.

beginnings, objectives, progress, and a summary of the current holdings. Horacio then gave a welcome to Ensenada and CICESE and described CICESE and its relationship with UABC (the Mexican University that is adjacent to the facility).

We had a lunch (provided by Horacio, Bill, Paul, and Dave). This proved to be a great ice breaker and much networking was accomplished. We then plunged into the collection and various taxonomists began working on their groups of interest. Some took drawers and vials to a work room that had set up with scopes and lights.

Those participating in the Open House and work were: Jim Berrian, San Diego (spiders), Kyle Beucke, University of Florida (Scarabaeidae, Geotrupinae), Dr. Michael Irwin, Tucson (Diptera, Therevidae, Schlinger Foundation, and Arthropods of Baja California project), Aaron Smith, Michigan State University, (Tenebrionidae, Asidini), Dr. Riley Nelson, Brigham



Participants at the CICESE Collection Open House (left to right):  
 Back row - Michael Ferro, Kyle Beucke, Aaron Smith, Matt Gimmel  
 Next row - Big Paul, Little Billy, C. Riley Nelson  
 Next Row - Horacio de la Cueva, Jim Berrian, Dave Ward, Jr.  
 Front Row- Victoria Bayless, Daniela Ramirez

Young University (Plecoptera, Asilidae, and general Diptera), Dr. Vickie Bayless, Louisiana State University, (collection management and BIOTA), Michael Ferro, LSU (Odonata and other aquatics), and Matt Gimmel, LSU, (Coleoptera). Many specimens were sorted and

identified. Loans were set up for future work.

The spin offs from this Open House were many. It promoted awareness of the collection and we received



Michael Ferro

some specimen gifts, returns of loans, and literature from various people (Dr. William Warner, Dr. Henry Hespenheide, Craig Brabant, Terry Griswold via Joe Wilson, etc.) who could not attend but wanted to make a contribution. Dr. Robert Dalglish (Phthiraptera) of San Diego expressed interest in the Open House but could not attend on the 9th. He rode to Ensenada with us on the 12th following the ESA meetings and received a personalize introduction to the collection.

The day ended too quickly with the van loading for the return to San Diego and the ECN/ESA meetings around 1500 hrs. Bill, Dave, Paul, Matt, Vickie and Daniela stayed and took care of some of the projects before heading back to the border. Bill Clark

*Publications continued from page 54*

**Hoheisel G.A.**, and Fleischer, S.J. 2007. Coccinellids, aphids, and pollen in diversified vegetable fields with transgenic and isoline cultivars. *Journal of Insect Science* 7.61

<http://www.insectscience.org/7.61/>

Lysne, S.J., Riley, L.A. and **Clark, W.H.** 2007. The life history, ecology, and distribution of the Jackson Lake Springsnail (*Pyrgulopsis robusta* Walker 1908). *Journal of Freshwater Ecology* 22.4:647-653.

**Westcott, Richard L.** 2007. A new species of *Chrysobothris* Eschscholtz feeding on *Dudleya* spp. (Crassulaceae) from California and Baja California, with biological, distributional and taxonomic notes on other North American Buprestidae (Coleoptera). *Zootaxa* 1630:23-37.

**Westcott, R.L.** and **Barr, W.F.** 2007. Resurrection and review of the genus *Knowltonia* Fisher, with description of a new subspecies of *Chrysobothris* Eschscholtz and new species of *Acmaeodera* Eschscholtz from North America (Coleoptera: Buprestidae). *Zootaxa* 1481:49-58.

#### ----- TWO SEMINARS PRESENTED -----

Linda O'Connor, a PhD candidate at the University of Delaware Department of Entomology, gave two very interesting talks at Boise State University on 13 and 14 November. These presentations had minimal off-campus notice. The first talk was about forensic entomology. Linda was a probation/parole officer for 10 years. Her interests led to her being called to several death scenes to collect entomological evidence. Currently, she works closely with the Delaware Medical Examiner's Office. She is a thorough investigator. This presentation was well received by B.S.U. criminology students.

The second presentation was about West Nile Virus transmission in Delaware, the topic of her PhD thesis. She presented interesting data on the virus carriage rates by different species of mosquitoes collected from various locations. West Nile disease erupts in humans mostly in late summer. Could this result from late season hybridization of two different forms of *Culex pipiens*, the primary Delaware vector. *Culex pipiens f. pipiens* is known as a bird feeder. *Culex pipiens f. molestus* is a mammalian feeder. Her data did NOT support this. Hybridization between these two forms occurs throughout the mosquito season. It seems more likely late season mosquitoes that are physiologically and physically older become less discriminate in their feeding behavior, consequently feeding more frequently on mammals. This question is clouded by the difficulty in lab rearing *Culex* mosquitoes for more than 1 - several generations. If long term cultures could be maintained, more would be learned about *Culex* feeding and mating behavior. Linda's intensity made this research well worth hearing.

Her husband has accepted a position with the Government Training Institute in Boise, ID. She has been offered office space on campus. When Linda settles in Boise she will be a welcome asset to our entomological community. Jim Ryan

#### ----- VIP AWARD -----

Idaho Power Company has again recognized the volunteer efforts of William H. Clark, Director, Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History, in the form of a "VIP (Volunteer Involvement Program) Award." The announcement was made in the company's December 10, 2007 newsletter "News Scans," thus giving additional publicity to the Museum and the College. Clark was recognized for the over 500 hours of volunteer time donated to the Museum and Museum projects during 2007. Among his tasks were the coordination of the monthly Museum Volunteer Workdays, other volunteer related activities, the Museum Board and its monthly meetings, Museum fundraising and publicity, most aspects of Museum administration and specimen curation and research associated with Museum collections.

An official certificate and check for \$100 made out to the Museum will be received soon.

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

### MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY NOTES (THE COLLEGE OF IDAHO)

Museum ☎: (208) 459-5507,  
email [bclark@collegeofidaho.edu](mailto:bclark@collegeofidaho.edu).

<http://www.collegeofidaho.edu/campus/community/museum/>

#### \*\* MUSEUM MONTHLY VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS

For the Workday Schedule see the Museum's **NEW** Event Web Page:  
<http://www.collegeofidaho.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 2007 LUNCH SEMINARS

January	5	Dr. David M. Ward, Jr. - "Baja California Travels and Entomology."
February	2	Alan Stanford – "The Rapid Spread of the Eurasian Collared Dove, <i>Streptopalia decaocto</i> , Throughout Southern Idaho and adjacent Oregon and Montana."
March	1	Gene M. Gray – "Vegetation and Sage Grouse in West Central Idaho."
April	5	David Blew - "Hair of the Hare."
May	3	Howard Emry - "Succor Creek Fossil plants."
June	7	Dr. Paul Castroville – "Idaho's Most Distinctive Butterflies" and "Training for the Fourth of July Butterfly Count."
July	12	Richard Salisbury - "MIDWAY ISLAND - Wildlife Paradise."
August	2	Elizabeth Dickey – "Bug Day Report and Announcement", and Kathy Hamlett - "Adventures with the Idaho Archaeological Society."
September	6	Jan Summers Duffy - "Egyptian Archaeology."
October	4	Barbara Alexander – "Kauai and Hawaii."
November	1	Dr. Eric Yensen - "Current Research Topic Dealing with Mammal Ecology"
December	6	Dr. Chris Walser - "The ecology of redband trout"

#### ----- 4 TALKS ON WEST NILE VIRUS -----

This four speaker session went well, running only 20 minutes longer than scheduled. For an unrehearsed presentation by strangers, this was an achievement. The audience was primarily students from the several Apollo College health programs, I.E.G.members and two very keen Boise State faculty members.

I introduced some historical background about mosquito-borne diseases, beginning with the West Nile Virus U.S. introduction. Yellow Fever is also caused by a flavivirus. Nineteenth century america saw very significant problems from this disease. The first attempt to build a Panama Canal, by the french engineers who built the Suez Canal, failed due to high mortality from Yellow Fever. Water Reed became an american hero for the discovery that *Aedes aegypti* transmitted the disease. Malaria even more seriously impacted this country, although the full effect is less easily assessed.

Nikki Sakada described the spread of West Nile from the east coast into Idaho. She cited the eastern vector *Culex pipiens*, which is most frequently referred to in studies. Our western vector is *C. tarsalis*. Cases in wildlife, horses, and humans were tallied by year and county. Her insights on epidemiology were very appropriate for this audience.

Ed Burnett reported that the south side of Lake Lowell supported large populations of *Culex* larvae. His power point slides showed adults, larvae, and prime breeding sites. He displayed one of the trap types used to monitor the mosquitoes. Political issues figured into Canyon county having no West Nile cases while adjacent counties, without mosquito abatement personnel, had numerous cases.

Desiree Keeney addressed mosquito control efforts in Boise. New subdivisions, and lands in transition, presented the greatest risk for water catchments with mosquito larvae. Such sites were monitored and treated. Her presentation was enthusiastic and differed in substance from Ed Burnett's.

All who heard these presentations gained important insights on the epidemiology and risks from West Nile virus.

Jim Ryan

## ----- WHO IS THAT ! -----

Here is this month's Contest (photo submitted by Rick Westcott). Can you name these three ID Entomologists? Send that guess to your editor ([pblom@biodatamanagement.com](mailto:pblom@biodatamanagement.com)).



## ----- OF INTEREST ? -----

<http://www.sierra-entomology.com>

The Idaho Academy of Science Newsletter, The Retort, is now available online to members. Go to the website for information: <http://www.isu.edu/ias/>

BioQuip's January Product Special: Micro Dissecting Kit, Book Special: Photographic Atlases for Entomology and Botany.

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