



482ND MEETING
Minutes of the
**Connecticut Entomological
Society**
22 October, 2010



Jones Auditorium, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven
Pre-meeting pizza and beverages were available to the attendees, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Business Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Richard Cowles at 7:35 p.m.; 24 members and 6 guests were present.

Reports: The secretary's report of the 481st meeting was given by Secretary Munstermann. Several members noted that the "Potluck dinner" indicated in the meeting announcement was a carry over from the April meeting. Dave Marshall noted that an acoustic record of the rare Jumping Bush Cricket, *Orocharis saltator*, was obtained at the Great Mountain Meeting site. The comments were duly noted and corrections made. A detailed treasurer's report was provided by Treasurer Montgomery as follows: cash-\$40, checking acct-\$1,104.38, savings acct-\$2,320.41, Certif of Deposit-\$5,547.39 for a total of \$9,012.18. Montgomery noted that only 11 member dues had been received this year for a total of \$260; and that these individuals had donated an additional \$90 to the society. Expenditures of \$94 for the previous 2 months consisted of food and postage.

Old Business:

-Leonard Munstermann announced that a number of t-shirts of from the 50th CES anniversary of 2000 were discovered and remain for sale as collector's items.

New Business: Michael Montgomery showed a 1974 copy of Memoirs of the Connecticut Entomology Society commemorating its 25th anniversary. He noted that the books were sold at \$25 and made a profit for the society. He also stated that member Ron Gagliardi is interested in compiling a history of the CES to update that edition. Discussion will be continued at the next meeting as how to proceed.

Announcements:

-Carol Lemmon described a project for the restoration of habitat for the endangered Northern Metalmark (*Calephelis borealis*) near Bethel, sponsored by the Connecticut Butterfly Association (CBA). Pamphlets of CBA activities and membership applications were provided on the exhibits table.

Exhibits:

-Dave Wagner pointed to the 4 Cornell drawers of listed (as rare, endangered, threatened or historical) Connecticut species that have been recently curated by Jane O'Donnell. He noted that "historical" were those species not seen for at least 25 years.

-Raul Ferreira provided the following publications:

(1) *The Ecology of Block Island*. 2002. Paton PW, Gould LL, August PV and Frost AO, Editors, published by the Rhode Island Nat. Hist. Survey. 235 pp.

(2) *The Nature of Block Island*. 2005. Author: SB Comings. Published by Royal Bruce Ink, LLC. 148 pp.

(3) *Biogeography of Phanaeus vindex (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae) from horse manure*. 1972. Author: GT Fincher, Journal of the Georgia Entomology Society p.128-133.

(4) Box of specimens collected in two parks on Block Island, including the *Phanaeus vindex* scarab.

–Chris Maier showed specimens of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, *Halyomorpha halys*, a serious invasive pest in Pennsylvania, where 50% of the peach crop was destroyed last year. He has recently found it present in Connecticut.

–Charles Vossbrinck showed a plastic bottle with a small insect attached to the bottom. This insect prevented the acceptance of the shipment in Florida. Some discussion ensued about prevention of interstate shipment of insects. Member William Krinsky later identified the specimen as a species of Thysanoptera.

Evening Presentation: Dr. David Wagner provided the evening presentation titled: *Status Update on Connecticut State-Listed Lepidoptera*. Dr. Wagner first noted that the listing had changed and that he will outline the new listing and summarize the status of each species.

The total number of currently recognized Lepidoptera species in Connecticut is 2,401 up from 2,200 in 1999. Seventy-eight (3.2%) of these are listed as endangered, threatened or historical. A total of 159 insects are on the listing. The Connecticut Dept of Environmental Protection is maintaining an excellent diversity database that tracks each species distribution.

Changes to the current list:

–3 moths to “threatened”

–5 moths to “special concern” (all coastal)

–3 species discovered present, previously listed as “historical”

–2 species relegated to “historical”: Harris Checkerspot, Silvery Checkerspot

–4 species upgraded to “endangered”

–6 species upgraded to “threatened”: 4 butterflies, 2 moths

A quarter of Connecticut’s Lepidoptera are not doing well due to changes in the ecological landscape that include (1) habitat loss–succession to forest, (2) invasives–plants, predators, parasitoids, beaver, deer, (3) minor impacts such as road kill, pesticides and disease. He went on to detail the species and their distributions in each of the above categories.

Dr. Wagner concluded by giving suggestions for ameliorating the status of the listed species:

(1) better planning for land use, (2) “adopt-a-species” for direct assistance in its protection, (3) clearing out of invasive species (plants), (4) political pressure, (5) get the state to hire a State Invertebrate Zoologist.

A lively question and answer session followed.

Submitted: November 16, 2010

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**Note: Corrections and additions are welcome:
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