



485TH MEETING
Minutes of the
**Connecticut Entomological
Society**
20 February, 2011



University of Connecticut, Storrs, Biol.-Biophysics Bldg Rm.130
Pre-meeting pizza, soda, and entomological conversations were enjoyed 6:30-7:25 p.m.

Business Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Richard Cowles at 7:30 p.m.; 14 members and 1 guest were present.

Reports: The minutes of the 484th meeting were read by Secretary Munstermann. Treasurer Montgomery reported yr-to-date income of \$780, expenses of \$380 and a total balance of \$9,236.22. He noted that the CES Certificate of Deposit was earning 1.2%. The reports were approved as read.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Exhibits:

–? National Geographic, March 2011, has series of pollinator insect photographs by Mark Mofitt. (Article: *Gold dusters* by Jennifer S. Holland.)

–Raul Ferreira presented 3 journal publications:

(1) *Coleoptera Bulletin Monograph #9*. 65 p. *Classification of Epiphloeinae (Coleoptera: Cleridae)*.

(2) *Cicindela* 42(4): 77-96. *Assessment of the conservation status of Habroscelomorpha circumpicta johnsonii*.

(3) *Coleopterist Bulletin* 64(4): 289-302. Maier, et al. *A new northernmost record for the family Hydroscopidae (Coleoptera: Myxophaga)*.

–Chris Maier showed a copy of *Beetles of New England*. (1895) by E. Knabel. Adlee Whidden Publ., Boston. Cost: 50¢.

–Leonard Munstermann presented another drawer of the latest cycle of preparation of Lepidoptera from the French Guiana expedition of October 2010 in which several CES members participated.

–Ron Grondin presented a Cornell drawer containing a synoptic collection of Connecticut insects, as well as selected Florida specimens. One chrysomelid with pink hind wings he was unable to identify.

Evening Presentations: CES members Dr. Michael Montgomery and Dr. Richard Cowles provided a joint program of beetle taxonomy and Arizona arthropod photography, respectively. Montgomery led the program with a discussion of the tooth neck fungus beetles (Coleoptera: Derodontidae). These are well-represented in an “Atlas of beetles of Russia”:

[//www.zin.ru/animalia/Coleoptera/eng/atlas.htm](http://www.zin.ru/animalia/Coleoptera/eng/atlas.htm).

The derodontids are small, 1-4 mm, with 4 genera worldwide: *Derodontus*, *Laricobius*, *Nothoderodontus* and *Peltastica*, each representing separate subfamilies. They are characterized by 2 ocelli, open coxal cavity, explanate (winged) prothorax, and elytra with 10-11 punctate rows with fine hairs. A species was recently described from Japan, *Laricobius osakensis*, without ocelli, however. In the U.S., the derodontids are noteworthy for their predation on the woolly

adelgid– *Laricobius nigrinus* on *Adelges tsugae*, *L.rubidus* on *Pineus strobi*, and *L.erichsoni* on *Adelges piceae*.

Laricobius osakensis has been approved for release as a biocontrol agent in the U.S; it is very similar to *L.nigrinus*. In Connecticut, other derodontids include *Derodondus esotericus* and *D.maculatus*–both can be collected in leaf litter in fall and in mushrooms.

Voucher specimens of released and collected derodontids are being preserved and will be deposited at the Yale Peabody Museum. The derodontid species are difficult to distinguish morphologically; but the genotypes of successful introductions will be characterized.

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Dr.Cowles presented an extensive series arthropod photographs provided by his sister, Ms. Jillian Cowles. Many were taken south of Tucson at the Colossal Cave Mountain Park with a Canon 65mm macrolens a 1x to 5x magnification.

Photos:

Ichneumonidic wasps, spiders, cactus spider (on *Opuntia*), spiders hatching, scorpions, scorpion mother with young on back (young do not UV fluoresce), Arizona recluse spider with thoracic violin pattern, mutillid ants (♂ and ♀), membracid, fulgorids inside cave, nymphs, *Olympia geronimo* (?).

Speckled grasshopper, green and black acridid, stick insect (green with red on antennae), belostomatid, red hemipteran, painted lady butterfly, pipevine swallowtail, sesiid moth–red wings with yellow & black abd (wasp mimic).

Arctiid moth, microlepidoptera, scarab beetle, cerambycid, a yellow & brown poisonous meloid, ants, bee diversity, chalcid wasp–green metallic, bee on aster, asilid fly, black bee, dolichopodid (long-legged) fly, bee fly, metallic woodborer, glowworm, more spiders. mayfly.

Spiders: *Argiope*, *Hyposinga*, *Mastophora*, *Micra*, *Neoscona oaxensis*, *Tetragnatha*, *Uloborus*, *Dictyna*, *Cicurina* (troglodye, eyeless), *Physocyclus enaulus*, *Thymoites*, *Anelosimus arizona*, *Lactodectes hesperus*, mating spiders showing sexual dimorphism, *Rhomphaea*, *Mimetus*, *Ummidia*.

Megalomorphs: *Kukulcania*, *Zorocrates*, *Loxosceles arizonica* in cave by the thousands, spider with prey, white crab spiders, *T.marus*, *Sassacus*, *Habronattus hallani*, *H.hirsutus*, *Metaphidippus*, *Phidippus octopunctatus*, *P.pius*, *Sassacus*, *Homalonychus*, *Pardosa*, *Hogna*, *Olio* producing glue venom.

Overall, the photos were of impressive quality and diversity; Cowles mentioned that all were taken in the field with handheld camera and ambient lighting.

Questions: Much discussion occurred during the photo session with respect to the identification of each arthropod.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard E. Munstermann, CES secretary
15 March, 2011