

The Entomological Society of Manitoba

Newsletter



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ABOUT THE ESM NEWSLETTER

The Entomological Society of Manitoba Newsletter is a forum whereby information can be disseminated to Society members. As such, all members are encouraged to contribute often. The Newsletter is interested in opinions, short articles, news of research projects, meeting announcements, workshops, courses and other events, requests for materials or information, news of personnel or visiting scientists, literature reviews or announcements and anything that may be of interest to ESM members.





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Editors' Comments



As we approach exam season for faculty and students, a variety of stress-relieving articles have been prepared in this Winter-Spring issue of the 52nd edition of the Newsletter. In this edition, we learn the backstories of Robert Wrigley, Chris Pederson, and Sarah Lawton. And a double feature from Todd Lawton! Thank you to all our contributors and readers; if you have any insect-related story, announcements, or an entomologist packed adventure, please consider contributing to the upcoming Summer issue of the ESM Newsletter. Email Phoenix or Vanessa with any questions. Enjoy!

Phoenix Nakagawa and Vanessa Siemens, *ESM Newsletter Co-Editors*



Recent Member Publications



Unfortunately, there were no submissions in this ESM Newsletter Edition; we hope for more next time!



President's Message



Greetings members of the ESM!

It's an honour to deliver my first message in the Newsletter as ESM President. In 2026, I will be celebrating my tenth year in the City of Winnipeg and as a member of the Society and the Department of Entomology. I am very grateful for the supportive community of entomologists who have made the last decade so productive and pleasurable.

It is an important year for the Society, as we will be hosting the next Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada and the ESM in Winnipeg this October 4–7. The organizing committee has been working to develop the plan and program for this meeting. Special thanks to Brent Elliot for taking on leadership in the organization of the JAM and Vincent Hervet for his role in the local organizing committee. We're pleased to have two excellent plenary speakers, May Berenbaum and David Wagner, confirmed to attend and speak on the meeting's theme: Insect Apocalypse: Causes, effects, reality.

We are currently at the phase of asking for symposia and developing a schedule for the meeting. I hope for a strong representation from the Society in terms of presentations and support for the meeting activities, to highlight to our colleagues across Canada and beyond, their passion for insects, arachnids, and kin. I'm grateful to all the members who have contributed to date. I'll thank Kateryn Rochon for taking an early lead, David Wade for acting as meeting treasurer, Jordan Bannerman as webmaster, Mabel Currie as designer of the meeting logo, Taz Stuart and Kathy Cano for seeking support for the meeting, Sydney Wynn-Williams as student representative, the scientific program committee including Neil Holliday and Bob Lamb, and Geoff Powell for support from the ESC.

I'm also thankful to have such an excellent executive team for the Society: David Wade, past-president; John Gavloski, Regional Director; Crystal Almdal, Secretary; Lisa Capar, Treasurer; Jordan Bannerman, President-elect; and Elaine Marineau, Member-at-large. Of course, thank you to all the committee chairs who make the Society function (special thanks to Phoenix and Vanessa, Newsletter editors for reminding me to write this message!) and all our membership.

It's been a cold 2026 so far, but all the great members and the prospect of new insects in the months to come, warms my heart.

Best,

Jason Gibbs,

President of the Entomological Society of Manitoba, 2025–2026



Regional Director's Message



Hello ESM Members,

My goal in producing the Regional Director's message is to summarize information, activities, meeting announcements, etc. from the Entomological Society of Canada (ESC). This article reports on our virtual seminar series, scholarship information and some graduate research opportunity postings.



To add value to having membership in the Entomological Society of Canada (ESC), the ESC has started a virtual seminar series for ESC members. With the initial launch of seminars running from January through April 2026. This new series aims to showcase cutting-edge research from ESC members and our allies across the broader entomological community. Monthly presentations began in January. These initially are only available to ESC members. The lineup of speakers for the winter/spring are:

- **Thursday January 29, 2026: Dr. Stephen Heard, University of New Brunswick.** Mentoring academic writing efficiently and effectively: the value of recognized stages of writing, and stages of writers
- **Thursday February 19, 2026: Dr. Asim Reynard, Summerland RDC, AAFC.** Keeping it simple: Asking fundamental questions for applied answers in ants, grapes, and everything in between.
- **Thursday March 26, 2026: Dr. Christine Noronha, Charlottetown RDC, AAFC.** Strategic rotation crop selection: An important component of integrated wireworm (Coleoptera: Elateridae) management in agricultural fields.
- **Thursday April 16, 2026: Dr. Barbara Sharanowski, University of Florida.** Trait evolution in parasitic wasps (Ichneumonidae): From morphology to genomes.

Some Entomological Society of Canada members residing in Manitoba have commented that they did not receive notification of the seminar series from the ESC. There were some issues for the ESC getting the announcement sent out. If you are an ESC member and did not receive notification of the seminar series, please contact me (John.Gavloski@gov.mb.ca) and I can forward you the notice, and try to ensure you get future notifications.

A reminder that applications for all Entomological Society of Canada student scholarships are to be submitted by email by March 1 each year. Scholarships are available in many disciplines of entomology, including integrated pest management (John H. Borden scholarship), arthropod community ecology (Dr. Lloyd M. Dosdall Memorial Scholarship), arthropod biodiversity (Biological Survey of Canada Scholarship), travel scholarships, etc. A list of scholarships that are available, and instructions on how to apply, are posted on the Entomological Society of Canada website at: <https://esc-sec.ca/student/student-awards/>.

For those looking for a career in entomology or graduate student positions, don't forget to periodically check the "Opportunities" portion of the ESC website: <https://esc-sec.ca/opportunities-2/>. There are some graduate research opportunities in Ontario posted there.

A reminder that the 2026 Joint Annual Meetings of the Entomological Societies of Canada and Manitoba will be held at the *Canad Inns Destination Centre Polo Park* in Winnipeg, from Sunday October 4 to Wednesday October 7, 2026. The theme of the meeting is *Insect Apocalypse: Causes, Effects, Realities*. As this is a large event to host, volunteers are needed for various aspects of the preparation and running of the meeting. If interested in volunteering to help with one of the many tasks at the meeting, please contact Vincent Herve, Brent Elliott or myself. Meeting information can be found at the meeting website: https://entsocmb.ca/2026_JAM/JAM.html.

John Gavloski

Regional Director to the Entomological Society of Canada



ESM is on the "Gram"

Rob Currie

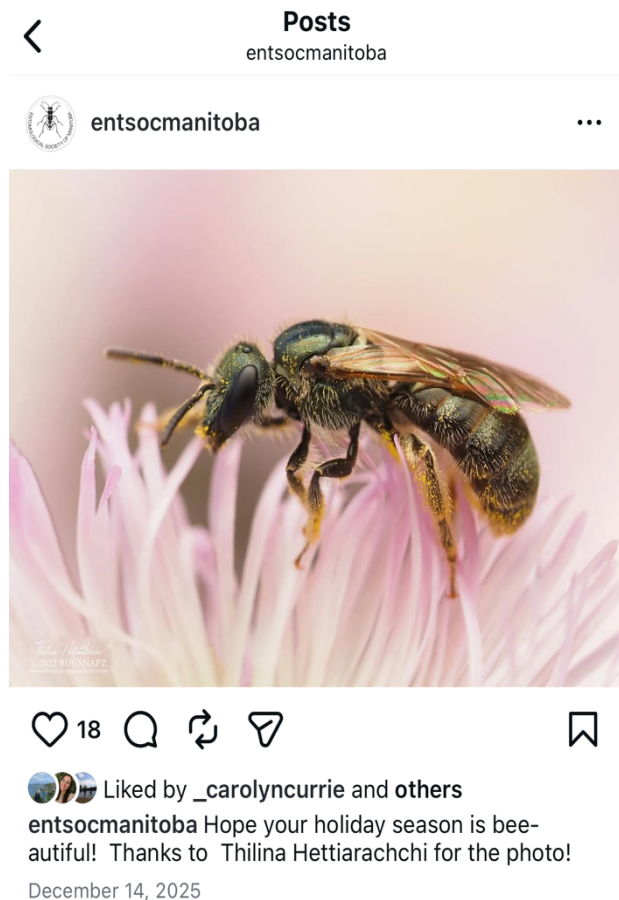
Following a suggestion by Thilina at the ESM annual general meeting the society now has its own Instagram site. Instagram is a social media platform aimed at publishing photos of interest or short videos with short catchy messages that can be in the form of a caption or a line or two of text.

We would like to have regular submissions posted (at least one per month) to maintain activity.

If you have a photo or short video of a neat bug picture, a current or novel pest insect, a society event you want to promote, or other items of Entomological interest you would like to contribute please forward them to me Rob Currie (Rob.Currie@UManitoba.ca) and I will arrange to upload them to the site.

A link to the site is here:

<https://www.instagram.com/entsocmanitoba/>.



Photos from the 2025 ESM AGM!







Winners of the ESM 2025 AGM

Previous Page (Top Left to Bottom Right): David Wade with Mabel Currie, Thilina Hettiarachchi, Jacqueline Bowles, and Justis Henault with Mabel Currie.

Current Page (Top Left to Bottom Left): Laura Rojas with Justis Henault, Daham Gamage, Justis Henault, Danika Strelaeff, And David Wade with Adeniyl Ayodele.

Thank you to our student participants and congratulations to the winners of societal awards! The AGM and evening social were a success and lovely gathering of entomologists. Next year will be a joint meeting with ESC, AGM will be held on October 4-7 in Winnipeg. Please see entsocmb.ca for more information.



Submitted Articles



Lightly-Salted Snacks

Todd Lawton



I've always been drawn to alkaline habitats. They may be hardly noticeable, just small patches of bare mud in roadside ditches. Other times they may be vast flats, a virtually characterless expanse extending to the horizon. They are seemingly lifeless; often it takes time to catch a glimpse of the organisms which live there, one element of what makes them remarkable. I eventually sampled beetles in alkaline habitats in every central and western US state as well as in all the western Canadian provinces. If you've traveled the Trans-Canada highway across western Saskatchewan you've seen the salt lakes, they're impossible to miss, dark waters surrounded by starkly white salty borders. Manitoba has a smaller number of salt lakes and their borders are not as brilliantly white as those in the west. Having sampled in Manitoba since the early 1980's I've seen most of the smaller alkaline areas transition into grassland.

Salt flat beetles can be collected in a variety of ways. "Splashing" is often used, simply pouring water on the ground, especially into cracks in the mud. This brings nocturnal species to the surface. I found that moving across mud flats on my knees and elbows brought beetles to the surface; often I had dozens of beetles moving away in front of me and I could select any interesting specimens. Sometimes I set black light panels powered with AA batteries over pans of soapy water. The batteries last until morning so the traps sample throughout the night.

Cobbes Lake, near Baldur Manitoba, was once a frequent stop for early Manitoba entomologists. It's the type locality for *Dyschirius criddlei* Fall 1912 a lovely, large, red species. There are also Cobbes Lake records for halophilic *Bembidion* such as *B. obtusidens* Fall 1922, *B. flohri* Bates 1858, *B. salinarium* Casey 1918, *B. dejectum* Casey 1918 and *B. insulatum* LeConte 1852. I've visited Cobbes Lake in recent years and had no success finding these species. I've captured *Bembidion roosevelti* Pic 1902, *B. diligens* Casey 1918, *B. aeneicolle* LaConte 1847, *B. graphicum* Casey, 1918 and *Elaphrus lecontei* Crotch 1876, which are associated with a variety of habitats including alkaline areas, but the lake no longer has alkaline flats. Perhaps changes to drainage patterns have altered the water levels and alkalinity of the lake. Fortunately, *D. criddlei* was found in Texas and Oklahoma following its description; hopefully its future is secure.

I recently searched for *Bembidion* on the Westbourne salt flat and was pleasantly surprised. With the apparent disappearance of *Cicindela fulgida westbournei* Calder 1922 at Westbourne, its type locality, I wondered if other halophilic species may have suffered the same fate. But *Tachys halophilus* Lindroth 1966 was abundant and *Bembidion scudderi* LeConte 1878, *B. diligens*, *B. viridicolle* Laferte-Senectere 1841 and *B. consimile* were also present although it took some searching to find them.

I made a few visits to Whitewater Lake, another alkaline lake, in SW Manitoba, during the summer of 2025. On my first trip, during May, I found only *Bembidion graphicum* and *Dyschirius dejeanii* Putzeys 1846; they were particularly abundant. On a later trip, in July, I found *B. insulatum*, *B. viridicolle*, *B. cheyennense* Casey 1918 and *B. obtusidens*. They were absent from most of the shoreline, but when I did find them, they were common.

During June, 2025, I also made a quick weekend trip through Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta in search of halophilic *Bembidion*. Arriving at Reed Lake in south central Saskatchewan, I was happy to see a broad salty shoreline. Winds were incredibly strong, making it very difficult to even get my car door open. I immediately investigated the muddy shore, forgetting my hat and sunscreen. I eventually found *Bembidion insulatum*, *B. timidum* LeConte 1847 and *B. obtusidens* sheltering under mats of dry vegetative debris, (probably Russian Thistles, "Tumbleweeds"). These beetles ran along the surface after being flushed from cover, generally disappearing into cracks in the mud. I've found that some flying insects will take advantage of strong winds, immediately taking flight and quickly escaping. But when winds are very powerful, some insects run instead; perhaps flying during such conditions could cause physical harm.

I had carried a green bucket out to the shore of Reed Lake to attempt some splashing. I set it down at the edge of the salt flat and it became my benchmark as I wandered the area. Without warning a particularly strong wind gust swept it up, tossing it end over end, leaving a trail in the mud like a galloping antelope. I attempted to chase it, but it was hopeless. Within seconds the bucket was in the

lake, sailing off for the far shore. I continued to search for beetles; I found that *Bembidion scudderi*, *Amara scitula* C.C.A. Zimmermann 1832 and *Anisodactylus nigrita* Dejean 1829 were sheltering in cracks beside and under stones farther up the shore.

At one point I was surprised to see a gull standing three meters away, intently watching me capture beetles; "What's he up to?" we



probably each asked ourselves. I had returned to the car for a large milk jug filled with water to attempt some splashing. Once it was empty I held it between my knees but eventually I lost my grip and it quickly tumbled toward the lake. Taking advantage of my distraction, the gull had his head over my open collecting jar in an instant. It's not clear if he had the time to extract a lightly-salted beetle snack but I took no chances and waved him off. I felt bad that I was leaving increasing amounts of plastic in the lake!

Earlier in the day I made a quick stop at Chaplin Lake, another Saskatchewan landmark and the site of a salt plant. I searched at a few places along the salt lake until I discovered where the best activity was. I was able to collect a nice series of *Bembidion flohri* with its characteristic pale elytra. I also caught a few *B. dejectum* Casey 1884, apparently a rare species. I had traded with American friends to obtain several of the pale salt-flat *Bembidion* species for reference; it was nice to finally find some on my own in Canada.

Traveling west, I stopped at Waldeck, SK, to sift cattail debris for *Agonum ferruginosum* Dejean 1828 and other Carabidae. I also attempted, unsuccessfully, to find the highly localized *Bembidion balli* Lindroth 1962 at Outlook and Saskatoon. It can be difficult to reliably find beetles on large sandy rivers; sand bars often change position from year to year and directions from other collectors can be of little help. I caught *B. obtusidens*, *B. insulatum* and *B. scudderi* on a rocky beach on the South Saskatchewan River in Alberta. Perhaps during drought years halophilic beetles move from drying salt flats to river banks. It was nice to see the western prairies again but unfortunately there are far more fences and "No Trespassing" signs. Sadly, eastern Alberta is starting to look like southern Ontario, much of the wildness is gone. They truly are badlands now

Discovering Entomology

Chris Pedersen, Robert (Bob) Wrigley, and Sarah Lawton

CHRIS'S STORY

Encouraged by both my mother and grandmother, a fascination with Nature came naturally for me at a very young age. When I was 10 years old, a package came in the mail from my grandmother in Denmark in time for my birthday – a pair of 10x 50mm binoculars. As I had already developed a love for birds, this propelled me deeply in to the study of birds, and out birdwatching every spare moment year round. Fast forward to 1969, where the McKittrick Park attendant in Fort Rouge noticed a young person regularly wandering the paths of the park with a pair of binoculars around his neck – after daily hellos and chats, he asked if I was also interested in butterflies. I said I was, although I didn't know much about them; as it turned out, he was also quite a naturalist, and butterfly collector. He proceeded to help me understand how to observe and collect butterflies, including making my own butterfly net with cheesecloth on a hoop made with a wire hanger. I was hooked, and brought the net with me while out bird watching whenever the weather was suitable. However, it would be 10 years before I actually got around to starting my first collection, and that was by a strange twist of fate when I started working at the Tanco mine in eastern Manitoba as a recently graduated geologist (and not the ornithologist which I always had thought would be my calling).

Much to the amusement of the Tanco miners, this young, long-haired geologist could be seen after working hours traversing the mine road, butterfly net in hand, collecting butterflies and moths. Lots of wise cracks of course, all in good fun, but a week or so later, a knock on my bunkhouse door brought one of those same miners, holding very reverently a spectacular, freshly emerged luna moth that he had found in the morning after shift on the side of the mine head frame. He couldn't believe something so beautiful could occur here, and asked about it, and would I like to have it for my collection. After that, there were regular donations from many of the miners, each with some new natural treasure that needed identification. By the end of that summer, I had a very good start to my first collection!



Drawer of Peruvian Sphingidae (and a few Saturnidae)



Drawer of Ranched Indonesian Birdwing Butterflies (*Ornithoptera*)

It struck me that in spite of stereotypes, most people have an inherent fascination with the natural world; they just have to be introduced to it.

My wife Carmen and I moved back to Manitoba from Vancouver in 1990 after purchasing a woodlot north of East Selkirk, where we built our home and started our family. After a 10-year hiatus from collecting, I was back to it in earnest as I catalogued the flora and fauna on our

woodlot. By a stroke of good fortune, I was introduced to Dr. Brian McKillop at the Museum of Man and Nature, who was most gracious and instrumental in setting me on the right path to properly prepare and document an insect collection. He also spent time showing me the Museum's insect collections, including the remarkable tropical butterflies from around the globe. Entranced, I set about to garner my own tropical collection, which entailed writing letters to all the embassies of tropical countries (the days before the internet) asking about suppliers, collectors, etc. I was pleasantly surprised at the amount of response I got from this, and to the contacts I made, some of whom I am still in touch with today. Out of this grew our part-time business of producing insect displays for museums and butterfly conservatories, which in turn led to meeting my close friend Bob Wrigley, who at the time was the Director of



Morphos rhetenor and *menelaus* Groups

the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre. We set about curating a butterfly exhibit at the Interpretive Centre, and over the years have individually and mutually written articles, given talks, and produced exhibits on the amazing world of insects. I often reflect on how fortunate I've been to have the friends I have made through mutual fascination of the natural world, and how so much has been because of the kindness of family, friends, and indeed, strangers serendipitously met through the years.

ROBERT'S STORY

While I was the Director of the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre, a young fellow named Chris Pedersen came to my office and enquired whether I'd be interested in hosting a display of his collection of butterflies and moths. Since I was focussed for most of my career on studying mammalian ecology, insects were something I enjoyed simply as a passing glance. However, always looking for new exhibit ideas to fill our temporary-exhibit hall, I instantly agreed to work with Chris on his proposal. As he brought in well over 200 spectacular specimens from all around the world, we discussed storylines and prepared labels. Carefully mounting this many moths and butterflies, and placing all the labels, proved to be challenging but fulfilling tasks. When the exhibit opened for a six-month run, it was greeted with great enthusiasm by the public and school groups; visitors had never seen such colourful creatures, both large and small. School teachers in particular appreciated the many interesting biological concepts presented, such as metamorphism, camouflage, and mimicry.



Saturniidae species *Actias dubernardi* (Sichuan, China) and *Copiopteryx jehovah* (Peru)

Working together, we found out we had many interests in common, and soon developed a close friendship. Chris invited me to his entomology store in Selkirk on Sunday mornings, where we enjoyed examining tropical insects, discussing insect ecology, and sipping coffee, all the while listening to opera. Later, I was invited to see Chris' workshop at his home near East Selkirk, where he and his wife

Carmen operated a part-business of preparing and selling mounted insects in glass-covered boxes to insectaria across the country. It was there that I examined box after box of his amazing inventory of papered beetles and other insects from exotic locations such as Chang Mai, Thailand; Iquitos, Peru; Indonesia, and; Tanzania. All were packaged dry, fully labelled, and ready to mount. Since I had formerly prepared thousands of specimens of mammals and birds, I was keenly interested in learning how to mount beetles, and the different techniques for specimen sale versus research. Chris led me through my first attempt, and it turned out fairly nice. From this first specimen, I was hooked.

Examining a giant scarab, moistened for a few days to enable positioning the appendages without breakage, I was amazed how the legs operated on the ball-and-socket principle. Within Chris' large beetle collection, the body shapes, surface sculptures, and particularly the vast array of colours and patterns I found absolutely astonishing. I had no idea the world of beetles boasted such extravagance and unusual ways of living. From that chance introduction, I delved head-on into the study of beetles



Chris Pederson (Right) and Sarah Lawton (Left) with an *Ornithoptera tithonus*

with every spare hour, acquiring dozens of books, reading articles on the internet, collecting my own specimens on expeditions around North and Central America and Europe, trading and purchasing specimens, and curating my own collection, which now runs to over 10,000 species, and likely over 40,000 specimens of beetles and other arthropods. It has now been 30 years of entomological fascination and leaning, during which time I have donated over 30,000 specimens to local, provincial, and national museums, and to an entomologists in the United States.

I enjoy sharing my interest in entomology and my collection with colleagues and friends via articles, and with both young people and adults through



Peruvian Glasswing (Satyridae) genera *Haetera*, *Dulcido*, and *Citherias*.

presentations and visits to my home. And this is the reason I arranged a recent visit to Chris' home for young, budding entomologist Sarah Lawton, and my friends Martin Zeilig and his partner Jennifer. Martin interviewed Sarah and Chris for a potential article in the Winnipeg Free Press, on the topic of encouraging a passion for entomology in young people. And as is customary on visits to the Pedersen's, we were treated to a sumptuous lunch prepared by Carmen. I often wonder what I would be doing today had not my buddy Chris walked into my office that day, three decades ago.

SARAH'S STORY

I've had great fascination with the natural world for as long as I can remember. In elementary school, I was teased with the nickname "nature freak"- for me a moniker that I've grown to view with endearment. The place that inspired my love and study of the environment is Manitoba's Whiteshell Provincial Park. I spent many summer days with my parents,

fishing, canoeing and hiking. I believe my earliest memory to be sitting between my parents in the canoe, watching water bugs and damselflies nearby while my dad fished.

Insects, particularly butterflies, have always garnered my interest, opening my mind to the beauty and diversity of insects. Like many children across Canada, I grew up observing butterflies, bees, and many other insects in my family's garden. Monarch butterflies were drawn in by swamp milkweed my Mum planted, quickly became a favourite of mine. It was fascinating to see their caterpillars grow so quickly each day, finding their chrysalides', and seeing them emerge weeks later. I remember always feeling proud that our garden could offer a home to such vibrant and sizeable butterflies. My dad, who I get much of my outdoorsmanship from, taught me how to identify butterflies in his Audubon society-style butterfly books, teaching me the small differences that distinguish species with nearly identical patterns.

My most exciting interaction with lepidoptera as a child was in 2009, when I found a large green moth behind a storage container at Hunt Lake. The Luna Moth had likely just emerged from its cocoon in the leaves scattered below it. Luna Moths are one of the largest moths in Manitoba, and among our other giant silk moths are the most vibrant. I was thrilled with the one sighting, but night is when the real show began. The Luna Moth I had found was not the only one to emerge by the cabin that weekend. Attracted to the light and each other's pheromones, seven green moths began mating, beating at the cabin window, drawing our attention to the sound of their plump bodies against the glass. By 2010 I made the decision. When I grew up, I would be an ecologist.

With that background, it surprised many when I decided to go to music school at university. That path did not last long; with impending eco-anxiety, I decided I needed to make a change. I switched to the University of Manitoba's Riddell Faculty of Environment Earth and Resources to pursue a degree in Environmental Studies, a multidisciplinary degree that allows flexibility for future work and study focuses. From there, I thought that maybe I would become a plant person. I spent my summers working in the horticultural sphere learning about plants and how to identify them. It turns out that when you work in the horticulture, you interact with a lot of insects. My passion for butterflies was reignited- this time in connection to the host plants that allow these insects to thrive.

Over the past year, Bob has been a great mentor to me. He taught me how to collect and pin entomological specimens. He has also introduced me to some of his friends. New contacts like Jim Reimer, who has an expansive natural history museum with hundreds of specimens from plants to taxidermied animals including birds, mammals, and insects from all over the world. His collection perfectly represents the beautiful diversity of life on earth. Most recently, Bob brought me on a trip to



meet Chris Pederson. As soon as I saw the natural wonders that the Pedersons decorated their home with, I knew we would get along. Chris has thousands of butterfly specimens from all over the world, and I am very fortunate to have been able to see them. At the end of the visit, Chris gave me over a dozen specimens of moths and butterflies for my collection. If that wasn't generous enough, his wife treated us to a delicious meal of soup and crostini while we chatted.

Martin Zeilig (left), Chris Pedersen (middle), and Sarah Lawton (right) discussing mimicry in Lepidoptera



of bees, inspired by the Fibonacci sequence. Studying insects has been a major part of my adult life so naturally this was reflected in my jackets.

I eventually bought a blue-jean jacket and started to put needle to thread, primarily as a winter hobby. I had a silk-screened cotton panel that I created back in the 1980's, a whale and a calf, and sewed it on the back of the jacket. Eventually the garment featured over 150 patches, pins and emblems; it became quite heavy. The next two jackets I decorated were black, then a green one, then red. I've committed to an eleventh but who knows how many will come; I never have a lack of ideas or inspiration.

I suppose this is more of an art project than an attempt to expand my wardrobe. The jackets are more suited to special occasions, whatever

those might be. I suppose they make me look like a biker environmentalist, perhaps a time traveler or a leftover from the 1970s. I always get a reaction wherever I wear one in public but I tend to be a person who prefers to go unnoticed. Several people who have seen one of my jackets have told me they would like to make their own; I consider this a compliment. With online shopping, it's now easy to find inexpensive patches of any variety. I often get offers to buy a jacket, but they are too personal to part with; an interesting jacket doesn't make a person interesting unless they have a personal connection to it. An advantage to being a citizen entomologist is that I can express myself in unprofessional ways and have a lot of fun doing it.

Curation night at the J.B. Wallis/R.E. Roughley Museum of Entomology

Vanessa Siemens

Last night was a fun gathering of entomology graduate students, and bug enthusiast undergraduates. The Department of Entomology Graduate Students Association (DEGSA) hosts a J.B. Wallis/R.E. Roughley Museum of Entomology curation night every few months. Curation nights, arranged by the DEGSA president James Watson, give students a chance to come together, pin insects, organize insect trays, and curate insects collected by past Master's and Ph.D. students and are waiting to be put into the museum. These nights are a



A box of *Megachile inermis* specimens.

wonderful way to become familiar with the museum, insect families, and organizing insects. There is always information shared between the graduate and undergraduate students, such as opportunities for summer employment and what it is like to be an entomology graduate student. Afterwards, we ended the night with pizza and drinks. This is valuable work and helpful because there are a lot of insects that need to be organized before being put into the museum and many hands help make the work go by quickly. DEGSA is ever grateful to the undergraduate volunteers. Thank you for all your hard work; we could not do it without you!



Jason Gibbs (proudly) looking at the collection.



Many hardworking volunteers!



ESM Executive & Committees



2024-25 EXECUTIVE

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