

The Entomological Society of Manitoba

Newsletter



Volume 33 Number 1

ISSN 0836-5830

Winter, 2006

About the ESM Newsletter

The Entomological Society of Manitoba Newsletter is published three times per year. It 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.

Pat MacKay, Editor¹
Mahmood Iranpour, Editor²

Dept. of Entomology,
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3T 2N2

¹Ph. (204) 474-9204
pa_mackay@umanitoba.ca

²Ph. (204) 474-6994
iranpour@ms.umanitoba.ca

Editors' Comments

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a great break, and that all are enjoying the start of a new year. Last fall was a busy one for lots of entomologists, and this issue of the Newsletter reflects that. Our new President, Rheel Lafreniere took office, and you will find his first **President's Report** here. Neil Holliday was busy with, among other activities, his **Swiss Connection**, which he tells us about in this issue. Two **New Student Members** of the Society are introduced, with at least two more to come next issue. One of your editors, Pat MacKay, describes **Entomology in the Fall** for Manitobans, at least from her perspective. Then, of course, there's the second of three installments of Bob Wrigley's insect collecting odyssey of last summer, in which he laments of **So many bugs.....So little time**. And finally, to provide a bit of relaxation in the middle of your working day, there's a **Crossword Puzzle**, thanks to Marj Smith. She says she'll provide the solution in the next issue, and we suspect that if she gets lots of positive feedback, she'll perhaps construct another one for us too. The Newsletter finishes up with the usual list of **Meeting Announcements** and **Society Officers**. This issue also has a copy of the **Membership List** at the back for you to tear off is you wish.

Pat MacKay & Mahmood Iranpour

President's Report

As I write my first president's report, it finally struck me that I am the President of the Entomological Society of Manitoba. It doesn't seem that long ago (at least in my mind) when I attended my first ESM annual meeting. I was an under-graduate student taking Dr. Jay's social insects course. "Wow - I guess it has been a couple of years"! At that time, I never imagined that someday I would be the president of the society.

I have had many mentors over my academic and professional career who I would like to thank for giving me the confidence to take on leadership roles in organization like the Entomological Society of Manitoba. Thank you Cam, Neil and Don!



The other thing that struck me as I was writing this report was how it was sounding like a long thank you letter. So please indulge me as I thank the people that have contributed and continue to contribute to the success of the society.

To our illustrious past-president, Brent Elliott, thank you for your humour and all the hard work you did as president this past year. Be warned that I will continue to pick your brain and look to you for your valued opinion as part of the ESM executive.

To all the committee chairs and co-chairs who have served the society this past year and to all those who have taken on new responsibilities - thank you. The webpage with the Executive and Committee chairs is in the process of being updated, so please check it out. <http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~fieldspg/exec.html>

Thank you Neil Holliday and the ESM Scientific Program Committee, the 2005 meeting was excellent! Thank you to all who participated, especially our keynote speakers, Dr. James Hager, USDA-ARS Western Cotton Research Laboratory, Phoenix Arizona and Dr. Chris Lucarotti, CBS, Fredericton New Brunswick. I would also like to thank the donors/sponsors for their financial contributions toward the meeting, without which it would be extremely difficult to bring in outside speakers and hold the student paper competition. Thank you! For a complete list of the sponsors, please see Pat Mackay's review of the ESM Meetings.

Lastly, I would like to thank Pat and Bob for their hard work in helping the Manitoba Naturalist Society (MNS) put on a tremendously successful event that showcased insects and art at the Winnipeg Art Gallery on October 24th, 2005. Recently, we received a very heartfelt thank you letter from George Holland, president of MNS thanking us for our contribution of \$50 towards sponsoring their 85th Anniversary Celebrations.

Thank you to all for allowing me to use my first President's Report as a giant thank you card. Happy New Year!

Rheel Lafreniere
Provincial Apiarist, Manitoba Agriculture, Food & Rural Initiatives
and
President, Entomological Society of Manitoba

SO MANY BUGS -- SO LITTLE TIME

Dr. Bob Wrigley (Curator, Assiniboine Park Zoo), with assistance from Shirley Preusentanz (Teacher)

Part 2 of 3 parts: Other Beetles

Editors' Note: For **Part 1: Tiger Beetles**, see the fall issue of the ESM Newsletter; for **Part 3: Other Insects**, see the spring /summer issue due out a few months from now.

Each year I and one or two friends escape the perimeter of Winnipeg and travel to other locations in North or Central America to study and collect insects and other arthropods -- actually anything that is unfortunate enough to cross our paths, day or night. This past July, only one friend (Shirley Preusentanz) could make it, so we set off for 16 days in July in a compact rental car for the great mid-western states -- actually nine, from the Dakotas to Oklahoma, and Arkansas to Minnesota.....

We caught half-a-dozen species of blister beetles (Meloidae), a yellowish-grey species and the yellow and brown-striped *Epicauta vittata* being the most common. We could have easily picked up hundreds of individuals on roadside alfalfa or resting at night on hydro poles. I was impressed by the hardiness of a species of large black meloid feeding in some numbers in low herbs in an extremely arid location by a drying dugout in Kansas. Again this year my fingers blistered from the cantharidin released by these beetles. At other times, our fingers were blackened by the defensive chemicals shot out by bombardier beetles. I had one bad moment of rather severe pain when I was too-closely examining a blue-margined *Calosoma externum* (Carabidae) and the fumes of its defensive discharge reached my eyes. It took several minutes to compose myself and to see properly through the tears. No wonder this defense works so well on skunks and other small predators. I had recently been reading about the complex reaction of these chemicals in Thomas Eisner's new book; 'For the Love of Insects.'

One quickly learns to identify certain species of ground beetles (Carabidae) by their odour. Some, like the beautiful green, red and blue fiery searcher (*Calosoma scrutator*), are really pungent, and we washed our fingers quickly in alcohol each time we picked one up. The orange and blue *Galeritula janus*, bronze and green *Chlaenius* species, shiny black *Scarites* and *Pasimachus*, and especially, flattened *Harpalus*, kept us grabbing before the beetles outran us or disappeared into the coarse grass. Other habitats supporting abundant, rapid-running carabids were muddy or sandy beaches, which produced the hunch-backed beetle (*Omophron* spp) and shiny green *Chlaenius*. These hid under logs or other debris during the day, but literally swarmed over the beach at night. We must have taken over 25 species of ground beetles, from 8mm long to four robust species of *Calosoma* (*scrutator*, *marginale*, *sayi* and *externum*).

An interesting set of defensive features was seen in half-a-dozen species of water scavenger beetles (Hydrophilidae) and predaceous diving beetles (Dytiscidae), also found frequently on pavement under lights, especially at car washes. Their bodies are so hard and smooth that we found it difficult to pick them up, and then one must be careful of sharp spines on the undersides. I wondered how a bird would handle such slippery prey with its bill. Certain katydids, crickets,

and giant grasshoppers were also armed with powerful cutting jaws or spines on the legs, which they would use effectively if we were careless in handling them.

We searched the bark and trunk debris of stressed pines for the flattened, deep-blue, bark-gnawing beetles (*Temnochila*; Trogositidae), but saw none this time. I was first shown this unusual genus in Florida, and quickly found out they can bite. Shirley discovered a colorful, 28mm jewel beetle, *Buprestis* (Buprestidae) under some bark of a cottonwood, while I gathered two other species of the smaller *Acmeodera* on flowers. One particularly attractive yellow and blue species of checkered beetle (*Trichodes ornatus*; Cleridae) was abundant on ragweed in deciduous woodland.

There were few cerambycids out at this time of year (only seven species taken); a milkweed beetle (*Tetraopes*) was common on succulent milkweeds. I found one aberrant longhorn (*Parandra brunnea*) in grass under a street light. We each succeeded in finding a cottonwood borer (*Plectrodera scalator*) -- a 40mm black beetle with a wonderful pattern of white on the elytra. Two years ago in Arkansas, along the Red River, we found over 150 of these big beetles emerging from feeding on cottonwood roots, and mating on small willows near the shore. We caught only one species of the subfamily Prioninae -- the tile-horned prionus (*Prionus imbricornis*); in Florida and Arizona, this subfamily of tooth-necked longhorns was richly represented, some reaching a length of 70mm.

There was always something exciting to investigate around the next bend in the highway, such as a major flight of the big green June beetle (*Cotinis nitida*; Cetoniinae, Scarabaeidae), which often spends its larval stages in manure piles. Five whacked into the car's windshield before I could stop and park. Over 500 were buzzing around some junipers and pink flowers of ornamental trees in the front yard of a landowner, and he kindly gave us permission to take all we wanted. It was quite a challenge to capture these fast flying beetles with our nets -- a quick swing was needed, drawing on old baseball skills. A young boy came out to see what we were up to, and I soon had him swinging a net as well. Hopefully he will start an insect collection of his own instead of spending the day inside playing video games.

We baited a trap (human dung works best) for red and green *Phanaeus vindex* dung beetles beside a horse pasture, but only small hydrophilids and histerids were there in the morning, but a nice dead *Phanaeus* was found by the motel door, beside a Coke machine (any message there?). We pried out several dozen black tumblebugs (*Canthon pilularius*) from fresh cow patties, much to the amusement of the nearby herbivores. We also picked up a few black *Dichotomius carolinus* dung beetles, the size of a small plum (28mm). A new species of dung beetle for me was the orange and black *Bolbocerosoma bruneri*, three specimens of which I picked up under lights. B.C. Radcliffe, in his book on 'The Scarab Beetles of Nebraska', indicated this species was seldom encountered and that its immature stages and biology were unknown.

Over a dozen other kinds of medium-to-large scarabs (e.g., *Osmoderma subplanata*, *Hoplia trifasciata*, *Euphoria inda*, *Trichiotinus affinis*, *Polyphylla diffracta*, *Dyscinetus*, *Ligyris*, *Trox* spp, *Anomala* spp, *Phyllophaga* spp) were collected on flowers and were encountered frequently at lights, one particularly attractive one being the yellow-spotted grape beetle (*Pelidnota*

punctata). At one site, two species of little yellow *Serica* literally covered the ground, and were often in company of several species of brownish May beetles (*Phyllophaga*). Japanese beetles (*Popillia japonica*) were abundant (many hundreds) in one marshy area, but we did not see them again. We stopped at another marsh site on private property, and gained permission to collect, but the fellow warned us about the copperheads and water moccasins that were common around the water's margin. We learned to walk with our nets out in front, just in case. In a dry wash, I had my annual close call with a rattlesnake when I kicked over a dried cow patty, and the startled snake beneath rattled convincingly and slithered down a burrow. Actually, my most painful bite was from an ambush bug, which succeeded in piecing my finger with its proboscis. My finger felt numb and hurt for days. I did not realize these bugs could bite, having handled dozens of these before without a problem. I will be a lot more careful next time. Another annual scourge - - poison ivy -- raised its itchy, ugly welts on various body parts.

We found four species of carrion beetles of the genera *Nicrophorus*, *Necrodes* and *Silpha* (Sylphidae) at lights, and I was half hoping to see a specimen of the giant (35mm) American burying beetle, *Nicrophorus americanus*, since we were within the current reduced range of this highly endangered and now localized species -- one of the few beetles on the United States endangered species list. Six species of mostly small-to-medium-sized click beetles (Elateridae) were picked up, but not the large species with eye spots (*Alaus oculatus*), which I had hoped to find for the first time.

A variety of leaf beetles (e.g., *Calligrapha* spp, Chrysomelidae) were taken, including the spectacular gold tortoise beetle (*Metriorhina bicolor*). Witnessing them take flight was like seeing a pure ray of sunlight. The only other beetle that I have seen that can match this brilliant color is the gold beetle (*Chrysina resplendens*; Rutelinae) from Costa Rica. Interestingly, the tortoise beetle's gold color vanishes quickly on death, while the latter's color is permanent. The largest leaf beetle we saw was an attractive, 11mm milkweed beetle (*Labidomera clivicollis*). Over a dozen species of ladybird beetles and their relatives (Coccinellidae) were collected. I was unable to identify these in the field, so I was left wondering how many kinds were exotics.

While some species of insects, like water boatmen, were found under lights in the thousands on occasion, other species were represented by only one or a few specimens, such the passalid beetle (*Odontotaenius disjunctus*; Passalidae), wheel-backed reduvid bug (*Arilus cristatus*), and an owlfly (Ascalaphidae); other relatively rare and large species were exciting to discover this far north -- the 35mm pinching stag beetle (*Lucanus capreolus*, Lucanidae) and the 50mm, horned and beautifully spotted hercules beetle (*Dynastes tityus*, Scarabaeidae). I have been referring to mostly larger beetle species in this article, but we also have many smaller ones that we hope to have identified once we have access to keys and the Wallis collection.

Here ends **Part 2**.

The Swiss Connection

Neil Holliday

To the general populace, Switzerland is known for mountains, skiing, chocolate, pocket knives, watches, cuckoo clocks, fondue, and international banking. Most in the Department of Entomology at the University of Manitoba would list these things too — perhaps not international banking as few of us have numbered bank accounts in Zurich. First, however, they might think of biological control. Since 1998 the Department has had a Swiss Connection, which involves students from the University of Manitoba participating in biological control projects that have some or all of their focus at the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau International (CABI) Bioscience Switzerland Centre, Delémont, Switzerland.

CABI has its roots in the British Empire of the early 20th century, and Canada has been a participant in many activities of the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau throughout the latter's existence. This agency has operated one of the most long-standing entomological abstracting services and is an important scientific publisher. There are CABI centres in several parts of the world, and among other things, they investigate local natural enemies that might be used in classical biological control programs to deal with pests now established elsewhere, but which originated in the general vicinity of the centre. As many Canadian pests are of European origin, there has been a long-standing relationship between Canada and the European CABI centre, located in Delémont. Part of that relationship has involved funding for CABI in Delémont from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, funding which was frequently used to hire European summer or graduate students to perform the research. In the mid-1990s, it was realized that more benefit could be garnered for Canada from its investment, if Canadian summer students and graduate students were funded with this money, and so the Swiss Connection was born. The Swiss Connection has so far involved a total of five students from the Department doing some of their graduate research at CABI, and several other associations in which undergraduate or graduate students have spent time as research assistants at CABI.

Our students doing graduate research at CABI typically spend 4–5 summer months in Switzerland working on European natural enemies, and then return to Winnipeg for their course work, and possibly more research. The Department has been able to maintain European natural enemies in quarantine facilities for winter research. The Winnipeg-based supervisors of these students have been Pat Mackay or Neil Holliday. In Switzerland, the students are supervised by Dr Ulrich Kuhlmann,



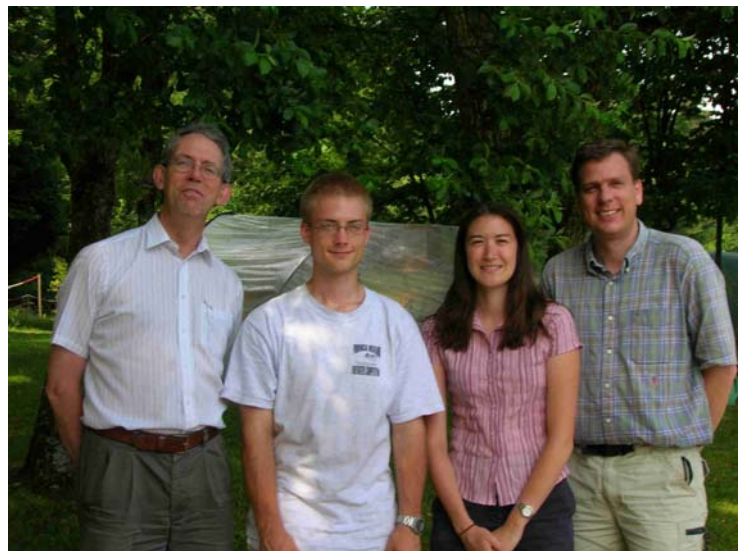
Some elements of the Swiss connection at a conference in Davos: L-R, K.S. Hemachandra, Lars Andreassen, Neil Holliday and Kim Riley. Lars and Kim are doing M.Sc.s through the program and Hema completed his Ph.D. in the program. 6

Head of Agricultural Pest Research at CABI. In most cases, Ulli, the Winnipeg supervisor, and the students, meet at least once a year in Switzerland, and again at the Entomological Society of Canada meetings.

While in Switzerland, the students live in rented rooms in the French-speaking historic town of Delémont, but generally cook, do laundry and hang-out at CABI — “The Institute”—, which is set on a hillside above the town. The common language of the Institute is English, but the milieu is multi-national in the extreme.

Institute life is certainly different from life at the Department, and Delémont is quite different from Winnipeg. Delémont is in a valley in the Jura, a region of parallel valleys and steep, relatively low, tree-covered mountains. It is about half an hour’s drive along the valley to Basel and the Rhine Valley, where France, Germany and Switzerland meet. It is only a few hours drive to Austria or Italy. Agriculture in the Jura is mostly small scale, with crop lands in the valley bottoms, and pastures, hay meadows and forests on the slopes. Hiking trails are everywhere, and frequently follow the skyline, thus providing views of the distant Alps on a clear day. Many of the farmhouses perched above the valley offer traditional cuisine and stupendous views to hikers and weary entomologists at the end of the day. CABI work days tend to be very long, and work usually extends into the weekends. However, field work is frequently in picturesque surroundings and can take in several countries in the course of a week. One of the regions most used for our field work is near the Bielersee, in the next valley south from that in which Delémont lies. There, we work in the fields of a thriving organic vegetable production industry. While the location is similar to the Red River Valley in that it is recently emerged from a glacial lake, there are some differences too. Travel to the field sites can be done by train which tunnels through the intervening mountain range, or one can drive through a narrow gorge and series of tunnels to reach the sites. Perhaps the most striking difference between the drive to a field site in Carman, Manitoba and that to the Bielersee region from Delemont is the compression of the Swiss landscape: we go from valley bottom to high altitude and back, passing through commercial forest, pasture land, field crops and vineyards; and encountering timber mills, steel works, the Rolex factory, monasteries and tourist restaurants — but seldom mosquitoes!

The Swiss Connection has certainly enriched our Department’s graduate research activities. So far, it has yielded one Ph.D. thesis and two M.Sc.s and a further two M.Sc. projects are in progress, and publications from these have also begun to emerge. Our students have also benefited from the diversity experience to which they are exposed. Of course, the rest of the Department benefits too, when the students arrive back in Winnipeg laden with chocolate!



Current members of the Swiss connection: L_R, Neil Holliday, Lars Andreassen , Kim Riley, Ulli Kuhlmann

Kate Bergen

Kate Bergen joined the Department of Entomology at the University of Manitoba in September 2005. She graduated from McGill University in 2003 with a BSc in Environmental Science, and came to Winnipeg to continue her studies in her favorite area – insects. She will be working with Dr. Dilantha Fernando from the Plant Science Department and Dr. Neil Holliday from Entomology studying the effects of canola treated with bacterial biocontrol agents on insects.



Sunday Oghiakhe



Sunday Oghiakhe joined the University of Manitoba's Entomology Department in the fall session of 2005 from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) in the Toronto region where he worked as a Food Processing Specialist Inspector from December 2004 until August 2005. Prior to joining the CFIA, between September 2003 and November 2004, Sunday was an Industrial Product Inspector with AGRICORP, a crown agency of the Government of Ontario, responsible for delivering government and non-government priority products and services that assist Ontario's agri-food industry in managing risks.

Sunday is a registered Professional Agrologist (P. Ag.) with the Ontario Institute of Professional Agrologists and a member of its Board of Examiners. He has many years of research experience and a good publication record in host plant resistance and integrated management of insect pests of cowpea, *Vigna unguiculata* L. (Walp.), a major legume crop supplying vegetable protein to millions of people in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Highlights of his post graduate research at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan, Nigeria include: Development of cowpea resistance screening techniques to *Maruca vitrata*; Evaluation of cowpea plant architectural traits conferring resistance or susceptibility to *M. vitrata*; and Identification of 4 moderately *M. vitrata* resistant cultivars from the world collection of cowpea germplasm.

He holds M. Sc. and M. Phil. degrees from the University of Lagos, Nigeria and is currently working on his Ph. D. degree under the supervision of Dr. Neil J. Holliday, Professor and Head of Entomology. He is studying biology and management of native elm bark beetles: vectors of Dutch elm disease. The following agencies and institutions are funding his project: Manitoba Conservation, Province of Manitoba Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF), City of Winnipeg Forestry Branch; University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowship (UMGF), Coalition to Save the Elms and a number of other Manitoba municipalities.

ENTOMOLOGY IN THE FALL

Pat MacKay

Without thinking about it very much, I suspect that most of us would expect entomological activity to decline as September fades into October and then November. You might think this doubly true for a retired entomologist such as I am. Well if that's what you thought, you'd be wrong, at least this year. This October, November, and even December were full of entomological events.

The Manitoba Naturalists Society

It started for me on October 17. Neil Holliday spoke, as part of the Manitoba Naturalists Society (MNS) indoor program, on "Norman Criddle: Pioneer Entomologist of Manitoba". Bob Lamb and I have become more active in this organization since retirement, and I was interested to see how Neil would tailor the material, which I'd heard him speak about before, to the interests of the MNS members. He did a superb and very amusing job, emphasizing the close connection between Criddle and the MNS in its early days. The Criddles and Vanes in the audience guaranteed that the question period was interesting!

Neil's talk was the first presentation in the series celebrating the 85th anniversary of the MNS, and a talk by Bob Lamb and me was the second. On October 24, Bob and I gave a talk entitled "Secrets of the Bug World". The venue for our presentation was the Muriel Richardson Theatre at the Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG), one of the largest and certainly the most formal lecture space I've ever spoken in. Our presentation was at the WAG as part of the program associated with the WAG show "Bug City", and after we were finished the audience was invited to go upstairs to the galleries to view the artwork. Our presentation was aimed at a general audience and had a light hearted tone, for example describing silk as insect spit, honey as bee barf, and shellac as insect sweat. The audience was large and very responsive, so the evening was fun for all. A month later, near the end of November, Bob and I went back to the WAG on a Sunday afternoon, as part of a family day showcasing "Bug City". We took with us lots of pinned insects and insect books, and especially some live Madagascar hissing cockroaches and Vietnamese stick insects. We were told that about 400 parents and children passed through the program that afternoon. All the children and most of the adults were delighted with the opportunity to hold a cockroach or have a stick insect walk up their arm.

The Entomological Society of Manitoba

In between Neil's and our talks, on October 21 and 22, the Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of Manitoba took place. On Friday the 21st, the keynote speaker, Jim Hagler from USDA-ARS, Phoenix Arizona, spoke on the topic of how to tell who eats whom in the insect world. This is an important issue if we are to succeed at "Biological Control in the 21st Century", which was the theme of the meeting. The rest of Friday was spent hearing 14 submitted papers, nine of which were entered in the Student Paper Competition. The winner of that competition was Andrea Patenaude, a student with Rob Roughley working on pollinators at the Yellow Quill Prairie Preserve. On Saturday the 22nd, the theme of "Biological Control in the 21st Century"

continued with a symposium of five speakers, two of whom were visitor to the Society. Chris Lucarotti, from CFS in Fredericton NB, told the story of taking a biological control agent from concept to market (or almost to market). Dilantha Fernando, of the Plant Science Department at U. of M., spoke about the possibilities for biological control of canola insects using bacterial agents. Neil Holliday, Rob Roughley and Mahmood Iranpour were the local speakers. The abstracts of all the talks are available in the booklet distributed at the meeting, or in the Proceedings, available next fall. The meeting also included two social events: the Friday night banquet and the Saturday night mixer. At the banquet we learned that: Ayman Mostafa, Ph.D. student with Neil Holliday, won the ESM Graduate Scholarship; Cherie Dugal, Zoology undergraduate at U. of M. and Entomology bug line staffer, won the Orkin /Swat Award; and C-Jae Morden, Biology undergraduate at U. of W. won the Student Achievement Award. All sessions, both scientific and social, were attended by between 35 and 45 people, all of whom appeared to be having an excellent time, regardless of whether they were drinking in information or beer.

The meeting was made a success by two major factors. First was the hard work of the organizing committee, consisting of Neil Holliday (Chair), Brent Elliott, Andrea Thomson, Desiree Vanderwel, Sheila Wolfe (Co-Chair, Social), Rheal Lafreniere (Co-Chair, Social) and Joel Gosselin (Chair, Fund Raising). Second was the financial assistance, for which we are deeply grateful, of all the sponsors who are listed below.

Bayer Cropscience	North South Consultants
Canadian Ctr. for Mosq. Management	Orkin/PCO Services Inc.
Canadian Grain Commission	Poullins Pest Control
Canola Council of Canada	Prairie Pest Management
City of Winnipeg Insect Control	Province of Mb.-Conservation
Louisiana Pacific Ltd.	Viceroy Distributors
Metro Pest Control	

The Entomological Society of Canada

Following rapidly after the ESM Meeting came the ESC Meeting, from November 02-05. This year it was held jointly with the Entomological Society of Alberta, in Canmore Alberta, which was a stunning venue and close enough to home for a fairly large contingent from Manitoba to attend. Manitobans included at least 18 people: a run through the Society's membership list recently, yielded that number, but I have serious doubts about my memory in this case (and many others too). The theme of the Meeting was "Entomology: A Celebration of Life's Little Wonders!" which could cover just about any topic an entomologist might care to work on. It seemed to me that this meeting continued a pattern that has been developing over the last few years, with an increasing emphasis on issues of biodiversity, and an increasing number of workers studying arachnids of various sorts and sizes. The Plenary Speaker **and** After-Dinner Speaker at the banquet was Michael Majerus from Cambridge in Britain. His first paper was on "Peppered Moth: Decline of a Darwinian Disciple" a stimulating and very funny diatribe in favour of evolutionism and against creationism and intelligent design. His second paper was entitled "Ladybirds Behaving Badly" a hilarious but still scientifically rigorous description of mating behaviour in coccinellids. Also presented at the Meeting were: 48 submitted papers in the

Presidents' Prize Student Paper Competition, including Paul Kozak from ESM; 51 contributed papers, including one read by Paul Fields, two read by Bob Lamb, and one read by Neil Holliday for Kathleen Ryan, all from ESM; 38 submitted posters, 12 of which were in the Student Competition, including ones by Lars Andreassen and Ali Hosseini Gharalari, both from ESM; 34 symposium papers from five symposia, including one by Suresh Desai in the Graduate Student Symposium, and one by Rob Roughley, in the symposium of which he was one of the organizers; five workshop papers in one workshop, including one by Kim Riley, our new ESM member-at-large; and finally one Gold Medal Address, One Heritage Lecture, and one Demonstration. Added to all this were the Board and Business Meetings. Manitoba was represented on the Board by: Bob Lamb, the outgoing President; Paul Fields, the Editor of the Bulletin; Rob Roughley, Director-at-Large; and me, Pat MacKay, Regional Director for ESM. It was a busy meeting!

The Department of Entomology, U of M

There followed about a month of relative calm, at least for me, until December 09 and the Department of Entomology Christmas Party, held as usual in one of the lecture rooms in the Department, and organized by the graduate students. This year there was a significant contingent of adjuncts and other associates, including Paul Fields and his wife Lorraine Forbes, Noel White, Ron and Louella Sinha, Richard Westwood and his wife Enid and daughter Alana, and Cheryl Podemski and her husband. There was tons of delicious food for the potluck supper, the usual visit from Santa, and a competition among the dinner table groups to define obscure and bizarre phobias. But perhaps the highlight, at least for some, was a formal symposium organized by the students. The speakers in the symposium were the faculty (including, unfortunately and in spite of my being retired, yours truly). The only catch was that the students hadn't told any of us that we were to speak, hadn't given us our topics ahead of time, and hadn't allowed us to see our slides before we began to speak. As you might imagine, the resulting seminars were interesting to say the least. The photographs documenting the festivities are thanks to Rob Currie. Happy New Year to Everyone!



Neil Holliday receiving his Secret Santa Gift from the great "Man" himself (Anita Stjernberg)



Santa's elf Rob Roughley and Kim Riley graduate student and ESM Member at Large

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS*

International Symposium: Integrated Pest Management in Oilseed Rape

University of Gottingen, Gottingen, Germany, 3-5 April 2006

<http://www.symposium-ipm-oilseed-rape.de>

Entomological Society of Manitoba Meeting

Fall, 2006

Contact: Brent Elliott, BElliott@gov.mb.ca

Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Societies of Canada and Quebec

Montreal, Quebec, 18-22 November, 2006

<http://www.esc-sec.org/agm.htm>

53rd Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America

Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, 10-14 December, 2006

http://www.entsoc.org/annual_meeting

*If you have a meeting you would like listed in the next ESM Newsletter, contact the editors with the details by early May 2006

An Entomological Puzzle

All the words in this puzzle are in the Fall 2005 issue of the Entomological Society of Manitoba Newsletter, except for 20-across. That word has a close connection with all issues of the Newsletter, and was a theme of one of the articles in the Fall 2005 issue. The answer to the puzzle will be in next issue of the Newsletter. Have fun!

– Marj Smith

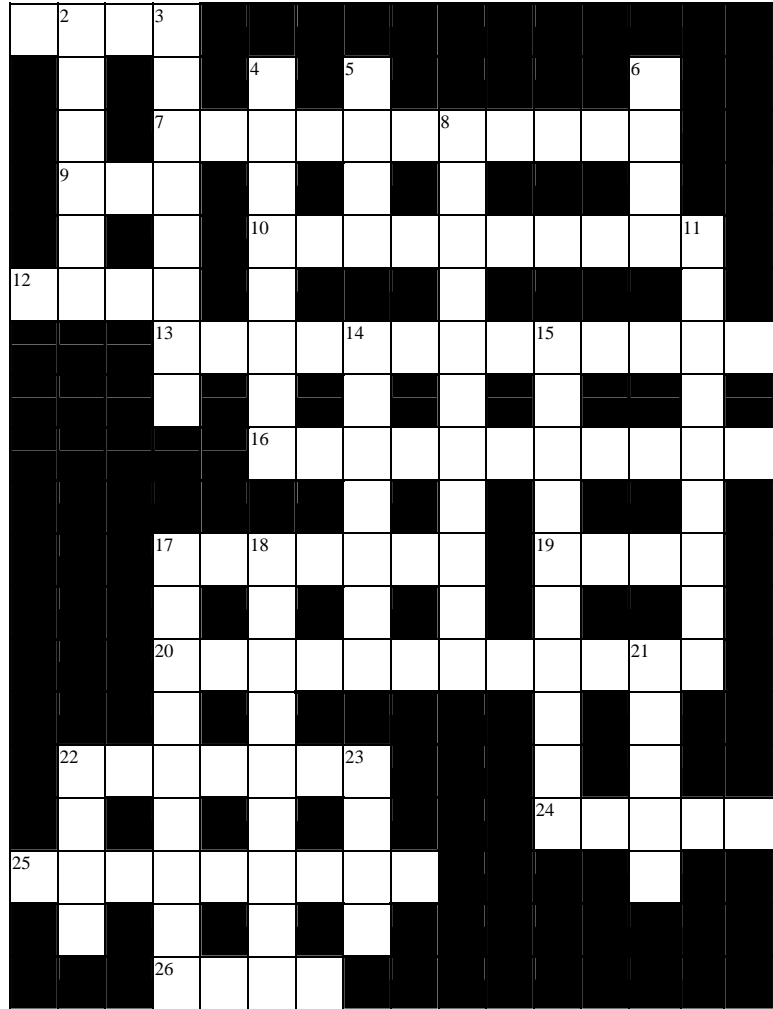
CLUES

Across

1. Word on an octagon
7. What you are if you live on dry land.
9. By way of
10. Taking care of business
12. Too
13. Ticks, fleas and lice
16. Result of demand by more than one organism for a limited resource
17. Game or insect
19. Close by
20. Subfamily of the insect on the ESM logo
22. Toxic in people but OK in thermometers
24. You shouldn't judge a book by this
25. Family of ground beetles
26. Size of King Kong

Down

2. You need to do this if you want to go somewhere
3. *Solanum tuberosum*
4. Fragrant
5. Arctic____, world champion migrating bird
6. Arrange beforehand
8. Common name of the insect on the ESM logo
11. Stay ____ _____. (Endure to the end.)
14. *Cucurbita pepo*
15. _____ program, part of the Annual General Meeting
17. Often a member of urban households (archie?)
18. Making a part of
21. Over top of 18. Making a part of
22. Three a day is usual.
23. Period for one revolution.



ESM EXECUTIVE 2006

POSITION	PERSON	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	Rheal Lafreniere	rlafrenier@gov.mb.ca
Past President	Brent Elliot	BElliott@gov.mb.ca
President-Elect	Blaine Timlick	btimlick@grainscanada.gc.ca
Representative to ESC	Patricia MacKay	pa_mackay@umanitoba.ca
Member-at-Large	Kim Riley	umrileyk@cc.umanitoba.ca
Secretary	Noel White	nwhite@agr.gc.ca
Treasurer	Ian Wise	iwise@agr.gc.ca
Proceedings Editor	Terry Galloway	terry_galloway@umanitoba.ca

ESM COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2006

Endowment Fund	Marjorie Smith	msmith@agr.gc.ca
Finance	Marjorie Smith	msmith@agr.gc.ca
Scientific Program	Brent Elliot	BElliott@gov.mb.ca
Newsletter	Patricia MacKay	pa_mackay@umanitoba.ca
Youth Encouragement	Mahmood Iranpour	iranpour@ms.umanitoba.ca
Social	Andrea Patenaude	ampatenaude@yahoo.com
Archives	Brent Elliot	BElliott@gov.mb.ca
Scholarships & Awards	Sheila Wolfe	swolfe@agr.gc.ca
Fund-Raising	Rob Roughley	rob_roughley@umanitoba.ca
Nominating	Richard Westwood	richard.westwood@uwinnipeg.ca
Membership	Joel Gosselin	jgosselin@viceroydistributors.ca
Scrutineer	Brent Elliot	BElliott@gov.mb.ca
Web Page	Desiree Vanderwel	d.vanderwel@uwinnipeg.ca
	Colin Demianyk	cdemianyk@agr.gc.ca
	Rob Currie	Rob_Currie@umanitoba.ca