

# ENTOMOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS NETWORK

ANNUAL MEETING  
SAN DIEGO  
DECEMBER 8-9, 2007

- **Schedule of Events**
- **ECN-L & ECNWEB**
- **2008 meeting info!**



Photo: Erotylid photographed in Guyana  
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*W*elcome to the 2007 Annual Meeting  
of the Entomological Collections  
Network in San Diego. Thank you for  
attending - we hope you'll find this year's  
presentations and resulting discussions  
informative.

*This year the ECN was extremely fortunate to receive donations from a number of generous sponsors. To these companies and individuals, we wish to extend our thanks:*

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*Sincerely,*

*Andrew Smith*

*Michael Wall*

*Christopher Marshall*



# PROGRAM OF EVENTS



**SATURDAY, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

7:30am **Reception-** Town & Country Resort  
San Diego Room

**Coffee & Refreshments  
will be served in the San Diego Room  
until the morning break**

8:15am **Welcome and Introduction**

**Early Morning Session:  
California Collections: Highlights from the West Coast  
Powerhouse of Entomology Museums**

8:25am **Michael Wall** San Diego Natural History Museum  
*My collection is better than your collection: a case  
study in assessing biodiversity data content across  
varied taxonomic collections*

8:40am **Peter Kerr** California Dept. of Food and Agriculture  
*California State Collection of Arthropods - 1.5 million  
and growing*

The California State Collection of Arthropods (CSCA) currently houses 1.5 million specimens, with an inventory of taxa nearly complete. A special collection of the CSCA is its Frozen Tissue Collection, which started as a resource for fruit fly DNA but is now growing significantly in all areas. The collection is currently growing at a high rate, with active collecting by staff, including on-going surveys of California's State Parks system.

8:55am **Lynn Kimsey** University of California Davis

*The Bohart Museum: new roles for university collections*

The Bohart Museum of Entomology houses the seventh largest insect collection in North America with well more than 7 million specimens. Our mission is four-fold: research, university education, informal science outreach, and diagnostic and information services. Thanks to the NSF we have just completed two large curatorial projects on our very large mosquito (300,000 specimens and 800 species) and scale insect (nearly 500,000 specimens) collections.

9:10am **Brian Brown** Los Angeles County Museum

*LACM - forgotten giant of the west*

The history of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is briefly reviewed, especially with regard to the entomological collections. Current projects, as well as the immediate future of entomology at the museum are discussed.

9:25am **Gordon Nishida** University of California, Berkeley

*Status of collections and digital assets at the Essig Museum*

The Essig Museum anticipates moving its collections in late Winter or early Spring into new a newly renovated and climate controlled space. Capture of digital assets is well underway with the use of web forms permitting remote data entry. Web-based delivery of data assets has also been under development.

9:40am **Dave Kavanaugh** California Academy of Sciences

*The California Academy of Sciences: a new home for its growing collections*

9:55-10:10am

**Break**



**SATURDAY, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Late Morning Session:  
“News, events, and new initiatives”**

- 10:15am **Nico Franz** University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez  
*UPRM insect collection - then and now*  
An overview of the history of the insect collection at UPR Mayagüez, western Puerto Rico, from its beginnings in the 1920s to a recent inventory of the holdings - approximately 135,000 specimens. This is also a call for collaborative projects to document the Puerto Rican insect fauna.
- 10:30am **Derek Sikes** University of Alaska Museum  
*Specimen Barcoding (not DNA) at the University of Alaska Museum*  
The University of Alaska Museum Insect Collection is experimenting with a barcoding system for specimens and their containers. This talk will describe the pros and cons of various approaches to barcoding insect collections.
- 10:45am **Amanda Hodges** University of Florida &  
**Steve Gaimari** California Dept. of Food and Agriculture  
*The value of connecting with the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) to taxonomic collections and specialists*
- 11:00am **G. Keith Douce** University of Georgia  
*The nuts-and-bolts of insect images*  
This talk will introduce InsectImages, [www.insectimages.org](http://www.insectimages.org), an online resource that contains nearly 25,000 images of insects and insect-related subjects that have been contributed by 695 photographers. Details associated with image selection, image storage and image searching as well as actual web statistics will be presented.
- 11:15am **Jim Woolley** Texas A&M University  
*CollectionsWeb: a new initiative to organize natural history collections in North America*

11:30am **Quentin Wheeler** Arizona State University &  
**Roy Larimer** Visionary Digital  
*The role of digital imaging in the future of  
cybertaxonomy*

11:45am **Owen Lonsdale** Smithsonian Institution  
*Progress report on the Biosystematic Database of  
World Diptera*

12:00 - 1:00pm **Lunch** (on your own)

## Microptics, Inc

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I would like to thank the ECN and its members for their continued support. Microptics, Inc. will now be specializing in Forensic and Material Science.

Roy Larimer, founder of Microptics, Inc. is proud to announce the formation of his new company specializing in the field of Entomology.

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**SATURDAY, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Afternoon Session:**

1:15pm **Wendy Moore** California Academy of Sciences

*Private beetle collection moves to a public museum:  
associated issues and a plan for curation*

The California Academy of Sciences recently acquired the private paussine beetle collection of Eduardo Luna de Carvalho [1921-2006]. In this talk I describe this collection, discuss associated curatorial issues, and present our plan for curation and incorporation into our existing holdings.

1:30pm **Colin Favret, Jennifer Gixti, & Lisa Wong**

Illinois Natural History Survey

*The plight of the bumblebee: historical collections  
document changes in pollinator populations*

For the past three years, the INHS has been databasing its Hymenoptera collection. In conjunction with its now databased and excellent historical collection of *Bombus*, we have also spent the summer collecting *Bombus* all over the state of Illinois. With three time periods of significant material (the 20's and 30's, the 70's, and 2007), we will be able to make inferences regarding the effect of the Green Revolution on bumblebee populations and scientifically document the recent decline of this important group of pollinators.

1:45pm **Piotr Naskrecki** Conservation International &

**Derek Sikes** University of Alaska Museum

*Mantis - a cross-platform biological data manager*

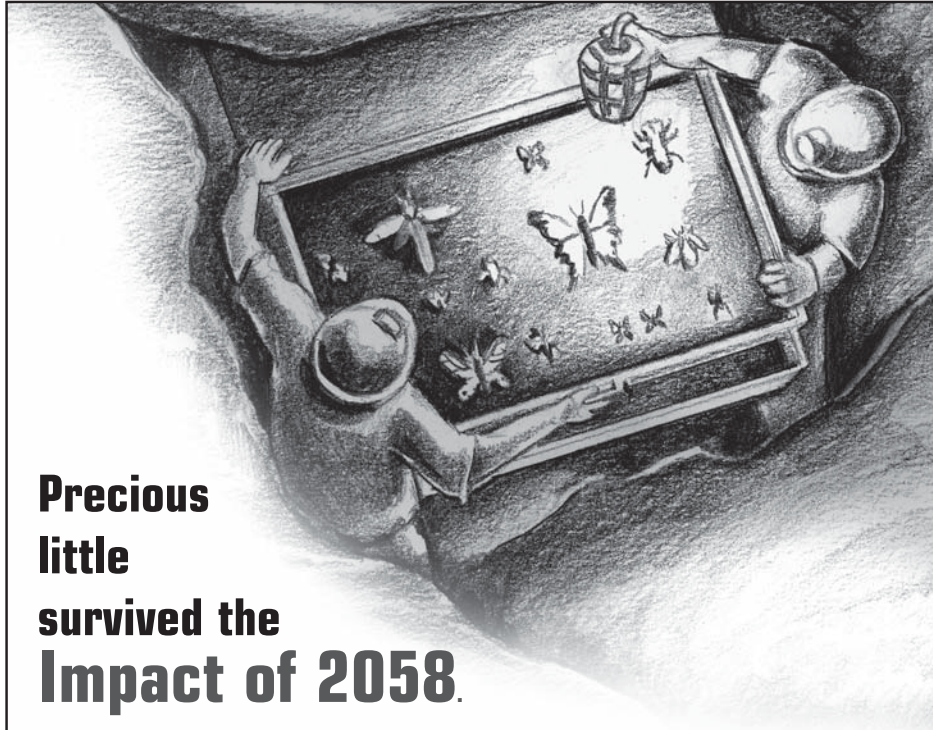
2:00pm **Paul Skelley** Florida State Collection of Arthropods

*Insecta Mundi goes Electronic*

*Insecta Mundi*, an arthropod systematics journal with a publication history of 20 years, has recently transitioned to digital dissemination. This talk will discuss pros and cons of electronic journal publication, its potential impact on systematics and the scientific societies that produce them.







## Precious little survived the Impact of 2058.

But once a great city thrived here.  
And a museum. Shattered columns,  
fractured statues and fragmentary  
artifacts tell us so. Not much to go on.

But what's this?

"We've discovered another!" we cheer.  
Eagerly we unseal it, confident marvelous  
treasures await. Securely nestled inside.

Butterflies. Brilliantly beautiful. Fearfully  
fragile. And wholly intact. Imagine!

We know little of the culture that  
produced this safe-guarding wonder.  
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2:15pm **Lyubomir Penev** Pensoft Publishers

*Publishing on insects - a presentation by Pensoft Publishers*

Established in 1994, Pensoft has become a leading publisher in entomological publications for the last 15 years. Pensoft publishes books for authors from all around the world and the geography of insect faunas and topics discussed is unlimited, too. During last years, Pensoft had a strong development in offering publications on Nearctic and Neotropical faunas. An important new development in the publication activities is launching online open access journals, with one planned to serve animal taxonomists. This talk will present some of the major publications and book series of Pensoft and discuss some of the issues related to targeting a publishing house to entomologists in the coming era of digital open access publishing.

2:27pm **Steve Marshall** University of Guelph

*Canadian Journal of Arthropod Identification*

The Canadian Journal of Arthropod Identification, (<http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/bsc/ejournal/ejournal.html>), is a web-based journal produced on behalf of the Biological Survey of Canada. We welcome the submission of digital keys and associated original contributions to the identification of arthropod groups that include Canadian species. Current submissions range in scope from global to regional. The CJAI is fully refereed, open access, and free.

2:40 - 3:00pm

**Break**



BioQuip Products would like to thank our customers and friends for all the support and encouragement that has been received over the past 60 years.

Entomology is one of the most important sciences of our time. Where would the world be without you? The important work you do is being done so that future generations will have the opportunity to appreciate the true diversity of the earth's insects, and hopefully, their natural history. BioQuip applauds your passion for the preservation of insect collections.

We welcome the opportunity to continue serving you and the science of entomology. If you have any product needs or ideas that BioQuip can assist you with, please contact us. Together we can continue to support entomology by curating the world's insect collections, and providing the equipment and tools needed to perform these important responsibilities.

Please visit us at the ESA convention, booth #'s 405, 406, 407.

With gratitude and appreciation,

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**SATURDAY, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007**  
**Afternoon Session:**  
**The Future of Taxonomic Publications II:**  
**the Zootaxa Phenomenon**

- 3:00pm **Paul Johnson** South Dakota State University  
*The Zootaxa Phenomenon*
- 3:12pm **Neal Evenhuis** Bishop Museum  
*Zootaxa: Diptera*
- 3:24pm **Matt Buffington** Systematic Entomology Lab,  
ARS/USDA  
*Zootaxa: Hymenoptera*
- 3:36pm **Bob Dagleish** San Diego Natural History Museum  
*Zootaxa: Phthiraptera*
- 3:48pm **Shen-Horn Yen** National Sun Yat-Sen University  
*Zootaxa: Lepidoptera*
- 4:00pm **Ed Dewalt** Illinois Natural History Survey  
*Zootaxa: Plecoptera and Megaloptera*
- 4:12pm **Paul Johnson** South Dakota State University  
*Zootaxa: Coleoptera and wrap up*
- 4:30 **Panel discussion and Q&A session**

~~ECN  
MIXER~~  
**FIESTA**  
& Cash Bar

**Tijuana Caesar Salad  
with Garlic Croutons  
Fresh Seafood Lime  
Ceviche**



**MARINATED AND GRILLED  
CARNE ASADA  
CITRUS-MARINATED CHICKEN  
FAJITAS**

**and did we mention  
the Cash Bar?**

*Cheese  
Enchiladas  
Suizas with  
Tomatilla Sauce*

**San Diego Room**

**6-8pm (cash bar until 9pm)**

at the Town & Country Hotel & Convention Center



**SUNDAY, December 9th, 2007**

**8:15am Introduction**

**Early Morning Session:  
Lots of Lots: Managing Work and Data Flow for  
High Volume Sampling Studies**

8:25am **Elizabeth Arias** University of California, Berkeley  
*Preliminary results from the Chilean Arthropod BS&I,  
and status of Chilean biological collections*

8:40am **Norman Penny** California Academy of Sciences  
*When is enough enough?*

8:55am **John T. Longino** Evergreen State College  
*Freeing the genie: making the specimen-cyberspace  
connection*

9:10am **Bob Anderson** Canadian Museum of Nature &  
**John T. Longino** Evergreen State College  
*Leaf litter arthropods of Mesoamerica; Llama: an  
overview*  
An overview of the LLAMA (Leaf Litter Arthropods of MesoAmerica) project will be given. This 5-year study is to quantitatively sample ants and weevils from leaf litter using protocols developed for the ALAS Volcan Barva transect along 3 altitudinal profiles (each with 1 low (300-500 m), 1 medium (1400-1800 m) and 1 high (>2000 m) elevation site) in each of Mexico (Chiapas) (2008), Guatemala (2009), Honduras (2010), and Nicaragua (2011). Year 1 was a reconnaissance trip to Chiapas and Guatemala to set up logistics for 2008-2009 field sampling. An extensive educational component is involved with 4 USA undergraduate students and 4 students from the host country as primary participants in sampling and specimen processing.

9:25am **Break**

# NEW ECN WEBSITE !!!

Thanks to the efforts of Michael Wall, we now have a new web presence:

<http://www.ecnweb.org>

What can you find on the website? Information about the ECN and its members and links to entomological collections and sponsors specializing in products and services related to curation and entomology.



Not only that, but ECN members can log in and modify their own profile/contact information, post announcements and communicate with other members...and next year, we're looking forward to online meeting registration!

Instructions for logging into ECNWEB:

- (1) direct your web browser to: <http://www.ecnweb.org/>
- (2) on the left hand side of the window you should see a Username field and Password Field
  - a. your username and password were given to you in your registration package
  - b. if you have lost your username/password, please contact: [mwall@sdnhm.org](mailto:mwall@sdnhm.org) or [mwall@truebug.net](mailto:mwall@truebug.net)
- (3) enter your username/password in these fields & click the LOGIN button
- (4) once logged in, you should see a User Menu (along left hand side) that will allow you to modify/edit your profile. This menu is a little buggy and may not appear until you reload the page (we will fix this soon).
- (5) You can also use the website to post news/events, provide a link to your collection, contact other ECN members etc.





## Tell us what you really think:

Comments/suggestions for ECN meeting organizers:

What did you like about this meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

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What didn't you like about this meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you have suggestions for symposia/talks Reno 2008? :

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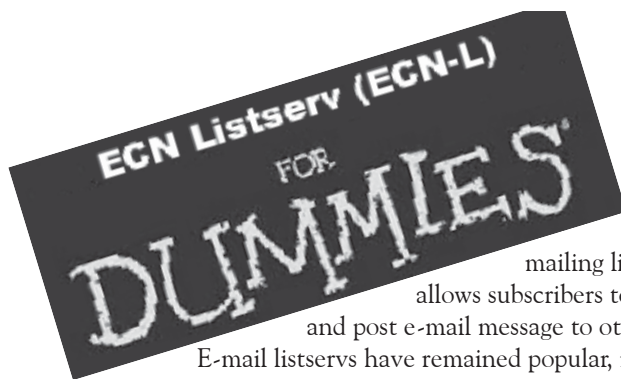
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your name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to cut/tear this out, fold over and put in comment box or hand to one of the three organizers.



Since 2004, ECN has had an electronic mailing list, called ECN-L, which allows subscribers to conveniently receive and post e-mail message to other ECN-L subscribers. E-mail listservs have remained popular, in the face of newer more sophisticated web-based networking tools (e.g., wiki, web forums, video conferencing, etc.) largely because of their ease of use and the widespread use of e-mail in general.

If you're worried about receiving unsolicited e-mail, ECN-L has relatively little traffic and it is very simple to unsubscribe should you wish to remove yourself from the list. A brief synopsis/review of basic operation is presented below for those ECN members unfamiliar with ECN-L.

You can access ECN-L in 2 ways: (1) e-mail or (2) a web interface.

**E-mail interface:**

To Subscribe:

- (a) send an e-mail message to: [LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UNL.EDU](mailto:LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UNL.EDU)
- (b) In the BODY of the message type only the following:  
SUBSCRIBE ECN-L

To Unsubscribe:

- (a) send an e-mail message to: [LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UNL.EDU](mailto:LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UNL.EDU)
- (b) In the BODY of the message type only the following:  
SIGNOFF ECN-L

To Post a message to the group:

- (a) After subscribing, send your question, announcement, etc., to:  
[ECN-L@LISTSERV.UNL.EDU](mailto:ECN-L@LISTSERV.UNL.EDU)

**Web interface:**

Direct your browser to: <http://listsrv.unl.edu/archives/ecn-l.html>

From this website, you can follow links to:

- subscribe to the list
- unsubscribe to the list
- search the archives of the list
- post to the listserv
- set a number of other options/preferences

For help or comments on the ECN-L, please contact: **Andrew Smith** -  
[asmith@mus-nature.ca](mailto:asmith@mus-nature.ca)

# THE ECN NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

**ECN is looking for volunteers to serve as part of a STEERING COMMITTEE to help plan and conduct upcoming meetings.**

**Are you willing to help?**

**Benefits:**

- free attendance
- loads of peer esteem
- good karma

**If you are able to help or know someone who is, please let us know sometime during this year's meeting.**

**thanks,**

**Andrew Smith,  
Chris Marshall, &  
Michael Wall**



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