



FFEM Newsletter

President's Message



Hannah Stout
FFEM President 2007-8

Greetings new and returning Friends,

It is my honor and pleasure to serve as this year's President! We have accomplished so much under the guidance of my predecessors! In the past year, we have welcomed dozens of new members to our list of Friends. We have also added several new critters to the Insect Zoo: a (rather cranky) red-clawed scorpion, two giant African millipedes, a tiger centipede, and a feather-tail centipede---who surprised us with 19 "pedelings"! Most importantly, we have a new colony for the honeybee display, courtesy of our own apiarist-extraordinaire, Maryann Frazier.

A very exciting development has been our increased collaboration with the Master Gardeners. Molly Sturniolo, Pam Ford, and the rest of the "Masters" have envisioned many incredible improvements to our Museum's display area, further collaborative efforts, and opportunities for increasing our involvement in the community.

Speaking of involvement, I am very proud of the interest and commitment shown by many of my fellow Entomology students. In the last year, several students have led tours here at the Museum, and many others have donated supplies and critters.

And, of course, we had a fantastic day at this year's Great Insect Fair! For Museum tours, nearly every busload was at capacity, and we had dozens of "walk-ins" thanks to Creamery patrons.

I hope that we can accomplish much more in the upcoming year. Just in the last month, we have begun brainstorming new and updated displays, ways to increase publicity for the Museum and the Tudek Memorial Butterfly Gardens, and additional creative and fun projects that would involve my fellow Entomology students and engage the community.

With the Berkey Creamery now located across from the Museum, we have a greater opportunity to expand, to improve, to entertain, and to educate our ever increasing numbers of visitors!



One of our youngest additions to the insect zoo!

Photo: Jon Lelito

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Master Gardeners, New Partners with FFEM

The Master Gardeners of Centre County Cooperative Extension are thrilled to be part of the partnership in working at the Tudek Memorial Butterfly Garden with Professor Emeritus Robert “Butterfly Bob” Snetsinger. In addition to routine weeding and developing new planting areas, the



Master Gardeners learned to identify the different Lepidoptera, and the host and nectar plants that contribute to a successful butterfly habitat. Thirty one species of butterflies were observed as the team worked to improve the garden throughout the summer. One of the highlights of the summer was the monarch tagging fieldtrip out to Black Moshannon State Park. Working with Dr. Snetsinger, the Master Gardeners were very pleased to assist in developing creative educational goals for the habitat. One such initiative is to make displays that will enhance the interactive experience, and in the creation of display posts, butterfly garden visitors will become more familiar with the plant species that are adult nectar plants and caterpillar host plants.

Other educational and stewardship projects include assisting in the formation of educational materials for the Tudek Butterfly Garden display board, creating site maps of all the existing planting areas, developing self-guided tour visuals, and providing formatting support for data collection.

During 2008 the Master Gardeners hope to continue to develop our partnership with the Friends of Frost Entomological Museum through outreach activities such as the Great Insect Fair and the Master Gardener Green Thumb Expo in May. Increased public interest in gardening to create and enhance butterfly habitats, continues to create opportunities for educational outreach at Tudek Park and other locations throughout Centre County.

Submitted by:
 Molly Sturniolo – Master Gardener Coordinator
 Pam Ford – Master Gardener Chair for Tudek Butterfly Garden
 Penn State Master Gardeners of Centre County Cooperative Extension



Butterfly Bob and helpers

The Great Insect Fair

The Friends of the Frost Museum solicited new members at their booth at the Penn State Great Insect Fair by offering the Manduca bookmark designed by Jerry Jackson as a gift with any new membership. Butterfly Bob answered questions from interested fair visitors.



The master Gardeners also had a booth right next to the Friends of the Frost Booth.



This arrangement was beneficial to both groups and probably will be repeated next year at the fair. We gained several new members at this year’s fair. Please see page seven of this issue for the list of all new members we have gained since the last newsletter!

Minutes of FFEM Executive Committee Meetings

Several meetings of the Executive Committee have been held since the last newsletter.

Frost Museum,
Penn State University
University Park, PA 16802
May 21, 2007

President Justin Runyon called the meeting to order at 10:15 00 AM. Also present were Bob Snetsinger, Hannah Stout, and Bob Byers.

President Runyon called for a reading of the minutes of the last executive committee meeting held on Aug. 11 April 9, 2007 by secretary-treasurer, R. Byers. R. Snetsinger moved to accept the minutes as corrected. H. Stout seconded. Motion passed.

R. Byers presented the treasurer's report. Income for April was from interest \$ 40.17 and from dues \$65.00. Expenses were \$119.73 to Office Depot and to U. S. Postal Service for \$29.58 for printing and mailing the newsletter. Total assets were \$13,718.87. The treasurer's report was accepted.

Pres. Runyon presented R. Byers with a gift certificate to Kelly's Steak House in appreciation of his volunteer work to the Friends. R. Byers thanked those who contributed to the gift card and said it was appreciated.

Pres Runyon called for Old Business. R. Snetsinger gave an update on the butterfly garden at Tudek Park and Penn State. He reported that the Master Gardeners Club has become interested in the Tudek Park Garden. They made a poster for the garden. Also, R. Snetsinger dug up some cup plants from the garden and sold them to the Master Gardeners. The proceeds will go towards supplies for the Tudek Park Garden.

Pres. Runyon called for a discussion of the Nanotechnology summer camp plan to visit the museum. H.

Stout asked who would be in charge of the children for two hours during each of several groups visiting the museum? She said no staff person is in charge and we have only one volunteer to do one day! Pres. Runyon thought we should contact Amy Brunner the camp coordinator and tell her to scale down the visits because we don't have enough volunteers to accommodate the camps.

Pres. Runyon called for a discussion of the Odonata database. He said Jill Crompton is in Georgia and probably would not be available to demonstrate how to use the specify database. R. Byers thought we should hire someone to put the data in an Access database as soon as possible. The data from access may be transferred to the specify format at a future time. He thought it was important to get the information on the world wide web so others could use the data. Pres. Runyon tabled the discussion until the next meeting.

Pres. Runyon called for New Business. He called for a discussion of the next Annual meeting. He proposed we hold the meeting at Millbrook Marsh on Sept. 1, 2007, a Saturday. R. Byers said that was Labor Day weekend and many members may be out of town or on vacation. Pres. Runyon then proposed we hold it the following Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007. He will try to rent a pavilion for \$35 from the State College Recreation and Parks Department.

Pres Runyon called for nominations of officers for next year to be elected at the Annual meeting. R. Byers said the most critical nomination is for Vice-President. Several names were suggested including Amanda Bachman, Maya Nehme, Raul Ruiz, Jerry Jackson, Denise Piechnik and Ralph Mumma. R. Byers said Denise is not yet a member but he will contact her anyway. He said we usually select

a vice-president from members-at-large because they have some experience with the society and are more willing to volunteer. However, this year's vice-president, H. Stout, was an exception because she was not previously a member-at-large. However, she has attended most of this year's executive committee meetings. R. Byers thought we should contact all the members-at-large and ask if they would be willing to be re-elected. He also thought we should add some new members-at-large to the executive committee to get new ideas and because the by-laws does not specify at set number of members-at-large.

This concluded the New Business. Pres. Runyon called for the next meeting to be held on July 9 at 10:00AM in the Frost Museum.

Pres Runyon called for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Frost Museum,
Penn State University
University Park, PA 16802
July 9, 2007

President Justin Runyon called the meeting to order at 10:15 10 AM. Also present were Beth and Don Brobst, Denise Piechnik, Bob Snetsinger, Hannah Stout, and Bob Byers.

President Runyon called for a reading of the minutes of the last executive committee meeting held on May 21, 2007 by secretary-treasurer, R. Byers. R. Snetsinger proposed that since we all read the minutes that we approve them as presented. D. Piechnik seconded. Motion passed.

R. Byers presented the treasurer's report. Income for June was from interest \$39.99 and from dues \$585 for the year to date. There were no expenses in June. Total assets were \$14,288.21 H. Stout moved to accept the treasurer's report. D. Brobst seconded. Motion passed..

Minutes of FFEM Executive Committee Meetings Continued

R. Byers reported that 25 members have not paid their dues. He contacted all of them by either e-mail or regular mail with a second notice. Two members decided to quit. There is one corporate member, and 13 Family, 16 Individual, 10 Lifetime, and 22 Student members.

Pres. Runyon called for Old Business. He began with a discussion of the time and date for the Annual Meeting. He said he has reserved a pavilion at Millbrook Marsh for Sept. 1, 2007. After some discussion it was decided to have the Annual meeting at Millbrook Marsh from 4PM until dark on Sept. 8, 2007. There will be a pot-luck supper.

R. Snetsinger asked if we have reserved a booth at the Great Insect Fair? R. Byers will e-mail S. Jacobs and arrange for a booth at the fair to sell bookmarks and extra text books from the Beatty collection.

Pres. Runyon called for nominations for next year's officers. He said Amanda Bachman has agreed to serve either on the board or as Vice President. R. Snetsinger said he is going to recruit one member from the Master Gardeners to be on the board. Pres. Runyon tabled the discussion until the next meeting to allow for more names to be presented.

Pres Runyon called for a discussion of the Odonata database. He reported that J. Frazier has learned of new software from the Specify Program called Work Bench. Work Bench is spread sheet and is easy to use. J. Frazier wants to download workbench and start entering data. R. Snetsinger wants to know if observational data about butterfly sightings could be entered into workbench? J. Runyon said maybe this is possible because there are 100 fields in the Work Bench spread sheet. D. Piechnik asked if the program had drop down lists? Pres. Runyon said yes. R. Byers said we have \$6000 to spend to hire someone to

enter data. After some discussion Pres Runyon tabled the matter until next meeting.

Pres Runyon called for New Business. R. Snetsinger reported that there is a good population of butterflies along the rattlesnake pike. However, the gypsy moth population was very damaging this year prompting the county to appoint a specialist to develop BT spraying for next year. R. Snetsinger said BT also kills other Lepidoptera as well as gypsy moths. He proposed we object to the spraying or at least get the power lines where Monarchs breed as a non-spray area. H. Stout said we should write a letter to the editor of the Centre Daily Times stating our objections. R. Snetsinger said we should develop an exhibit at the museum to educate the public about BT spraying for gypsy moth. After some discussion, D. Piechnik volunteered to help H. Stout write a letter to the editor.

H. Stout reported for the insect zoo. She said we have two new millipedes. They are either a male and a female or females capable of giving birth. We should expect to start a colony of them. R. Byers asked if she still wanted to buy beetles? D. Piechnik cautioned buying tropical beetles may not be a good idea and may send a message we are contributing to the depletion of beetles in the wild. It is a big business selling tropical insects. R. Snetsinger thought we could collect metallic beetles or praying mantids locally. H. Stout said we had one female walking stick with some hatchlings. H. Stout said Wilma Ponte donated a fluorescent light for one of the displays and Dr. Kim bought some more spot lights for the tracks in the hallway. She asked what to do about the bee colony which died last fall? R. Byers said M. Frazier replaced the colony a few years ago. No action was taken.

This concluded the New Business. President Runyon called for the next meeting to be Aug. 6, 2007 at 10:00 AM in the museum. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 M.

Frost Entomological Museum,
Penn State University
University Park, PA 16802
August 6, 2007

President Justin Runyon called the meeting to order at 10:15 10 AM. Also present were Beth and Don Brobst, Pam Ford, K. C. Kim, Bob Snetsinger, Molly Sturniolo and Bob Byers.

President Runyon called for a reading of the minutes of the last executive committee meeting held on July 9, 2007 by secretary-treasurer, R. Byers. R. Byers summarized the minutes. R. Snetsinger moved to accept the minutes as presented. J. Runyon seconded. Motion passed.

R. Byers presented the treasurer's report. Income for July was from interest \$ 39.12 and from dues \$940 for the year to date. Expenses in July were for purchasing millipedes (\$60) and to rent a booth at the Great Insect Fair (\$50). R. Snetsinger presented \$58 from the sale of books to the treasury. This money will be deposited and will show in the next report. Total assets were \$14,572.33. R. Snetsinger moved to accept the treasurer's report. J. Runyon seconded. The treasurer's report was accepted.

Pres. Runyon called for Old Business. He began with a discussion of the time and date for the Annual Meeting. He said he has reserved a pavilion at Millbrook Marsh for Sept. 8, 2007. Since this is the Notre Dame football weekend he asked for discussion of another time. After some discussion the meeting was set for Sunday Sept. 2, 2007 at 3PM until dark.

Minutes of FFEM Executive Committee Meetings Continued

Pres. Runyon called for nominations for next year's officers. He said Amanda Bachman has agreed to serve as Vice President. R. Snetsinger suggested Molly Sturniolo for Member-at-Large. J. Runyon said N. Joshi also agreed to be considered for Member-at-Large.

Pres Runyon called for a discussion of the Odonata database. He tabled the discussion until the next meeting in the absence of J. Frazier. He asked about the bookmarks Jerry Jackson is making? No one knew what progress if any was made.

Pres Runyon called for New Business. K. C. Kim gave a report for the Frost Museum. He passed out an outline of the history of the Museum and his assessment of the future of the Frost Museum. He expressed deep concern that he will not be replaced as curator. He asked who will manage the museum? Who will manage loans? And finally who will keep up the outreach activities? He said the Department administration is not interested in the museum. The Friends of the Frost Museum is an important component for outreach activities. K. C. has written to the University President asking how we can keep the museum? He has had no response. There is a movement on campus to put all the museums in one building. These include the Anthropology Museum and Pasto Ag Museum among others. Also, the Borough of State College is planning a children's museum. We need the support of deans and department heads to save the Frost Museum. FFEM is the only positive support of the museum. Also, the graduate students need the museum as a resource for teaching and research.. He thought the Frost Museum is in a precarious situation. Considerable discussion followed K. C. Kim's report. P. Ford thought the University should have a degree program to interpret museum displays similar to one for Williamsburg Virginia's Historic area. She wanted to know who interpreted the displays at Frost? K. C. said we did ourselves. No action was taken to bolster efforts to save the museum. Pres. Runyon

tabled the discussion until the next meeting.

R. Snetsinger reported that he led a tour group of senior citizens to butterfly habitats in Centre County. He also said that parents visit the museum and bring their children. He suggested we have a one page handout for children on how to become an entomologist. He also thought we could give away old microscopes to amateurs. K. C. Kim said this was a good idea but the Friends can not give away university property without prior approval. R. Snetsinger said Mr. Darlington donated books and thought FFEM could sell these books. K.C. Kim saw no problem with that since the books were donated to FFEM not the museum. M. Sturniolo asked how we recruit new members to FFEM? R. Byers said mostly by our brochure and most members were friends and former students of board members. He also said we tried an open house and a fly fishing workshop with not very good results. R. Snetsinger said the butterfly outreach activities have gained FFEM some members. There was a discussion of recruitment. P. Ford said there was considerable interest in butterfly gardening and this would be a good way to recruit new members. She suggested a joint mailing list with the Master Gardeners. M. Sturniolo asked for a copy of the brochure computer file so she could print copies to distribute to Master Gardeners in her district. R. Byers said he will send her the file and also a file of the latest Newsletter.

This concluded the New Business. President Runyon called for adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Minutes of FFEM Sixth Annual Meeting

Minutes of the Sixth Annual Business Meeting of the Friends of the Frost Entomological Museum held at Millbrook Marsh State College, Pa
September 2, 2007

President Justin Runyon called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. President Runyon welcomed members and their distinguished guests to the meeting. Pres Runyon called for the Secretary's report. R. Byers summarized the minutes of the Fifth Annual Business Meeting of the Friends of the Frost Entomological Museum (FFEM) held at Greenwood Furnace State Park, McAlevy's Fort, Pa on Aug. 25, 2006. H. Stout moved to accept the minutes as presented. M. Frazier seconded. Motion passed.

President Runyon called for a Treasurer's report. R. Byers presented two reports, one for fiscal year 2006 and a partial report for 2007. The year 2006 had a beginning balance of \$12,559.91 and had total income of \$2029.03 and expenses of \$779.26 for a balance of \$13,809.68. The year 2007 as of Aug. 10 had an income of \$1449.68. Total expenses were \$1162.11 for a balance of \$14,097.25. J. Frazier moved to accept the treasurer's report. R. Mumma seconded. Motion passed.

Pres. Runyon called for Old Business. M. Frazier reported on the bookmarks made by Jerry Jackson for the Friends to sell at the Great Insect Fair (GIF) to raise funds. M. Frazier and J. Runyon met with Jerry and decided on a caterpillar bookmark that would appeal to both boys and girls. She passed around a sample. The back of the bookmark can be engraved with either the Friends of the Frost Museum or the GIF. However, no date will be engraved. Jerry suggested we sell them for \$7.00 apiece. We are paying \$2.50 apiece to have them made. J. Frazier

Minutes of FFEM Annual Meeting Continued

J. Frazier suggested we use the bookmarks as a membership recruitment tool. J. Runyon suggested we cut membership in ½ on the day of the GIF and include a free bookmark with a one year membership. Considerable discussion of these ideas followed. J. Frazier then moved to offer any membership category at the discount rate of \$10/for the first year plus a free bookmark on the day of the GIF. For those wishing a bookmark without joining the society, we would solicit a \$7.00 donation. Casey Delphia seconded the motion. Some discussion followed to include a one day handout sheet for the day of the GIF. Motion passed.

R. Snetsinger suggested we also offer excess books from the Beatty Collection as an incentive for gaining new members. M. Frazier moved we develop a follow up membership drive and use the books then. Motion passed.

Pres Runyon called for additional Old Business. J. Frazier said he is putting the bookcases together and starting to apply finish coats. He has the doors to make yet.

Pres. Runyon called for New Business. M. Sturniolo reported she had requested that the Master Gardeners and Friends of the Frost Tables at the GIF be adjoining. R. Byers said S. Jacobs, GIF leader, had placed us on the main floor in the middle of all the action side by side as requested. H. Stout reported that the Frost Museum will conduct bus tours again this year at the GIF. B. Brobst asked who would man the Friends booth? M. Frazier said she would call for volunteers from the volunteer pool and sign up two or three people to man the booth in shifts of two-four hours each. R. Snetsinger said he would be at the table all day giving talks on Monarch Butterfly migration.

Pres Runyon asked for any more new business? Since there was none he called for nominations of officers for 2008. Pres. Runyon nominated Amanda Bachman for Vice President. R. Byers nominated Pam Ford and Molly Sturniolo for

Members-at-large. J. Runyon nominated Neelendra Joshi and M. Frazier for members-at-large. J. Runyon nominated R. Byers for Secretary-Treasurer. This closed the nominations. Pres. Runyon asked for R. Byers to read the slate of candidates for 2008. The slate of officers were as follows:

President: Hannah Stout

Vice President: Amanda Bachman

Past President: Justin Runyon

Secretary-Treasurer: R. Byers

Members at Large: Beth Brobst, Don Brobst, Pam Ford, Jim Frazier, Maryann Frazier, Neelendra Joshi, Ralph Mumma, Bob Snetsinger, and Molly Sturniolo.

Pres Runyon called for a voice vote on the slate. All voted in favor of the candidates.

Pres Runyon yielded the floor to new Pres Hannah Stout. R. Snetsinger called for a round of applause for Past President J. Runyon's efforts the past year. H. Stout called for any comments from the group. D. Ford asked if there could be sign on the Frost Museum? There was considerable discussion of the Friends efforts to get a new sign and sculpture to call attention to the museum. We put aside our efforts to try to get the University to put up a new sign of our choosing because the site was to be changed with new landscaping. Since the landscaping has been completed it was decided to renew efforts for a new sign.

R. Snetsinger brought up the Duke Scholarship fund. He thought we should send an invitation to the Duke family to visit Penn State. J. Frazier thought the Department Awards committee should handle this.

D. Ford asked if we had an endowment? R. Byers said we investigated this and was told by the University we would need ten- and later twenty thousand dollars to start an endowment. We solicited funds from corporations for an endowment but re-

ceived practically no money! R. Snetsinger had written to Bill Gates and the Pepsi corporation but received no funds. Pepsi sent us coupons for Pepsi six packs instead. G. Sokol said he will write a letter to Bill Gates since Bill bought one of his sculptures. Beth Brobst said Lunesta should be contacted for money since they use an insect for their company.

R. Snetsinger thought we should ask again about using the old shop in Headhouse III for a library for the Frost Museum. It is not being utilized by graduate students as an office. No action was taken.

H. Stout was asked what her priorities were for next year. She said to involve more volunteers in the business of running the tours of the museum. Also, to increase the displays in the insect zoo. W. Snetsinger wondered if a project involving the Master Gardeners could be put in the display area? M. Sturniolo agreed it was good idea. M. Frazier promised to set up the beehive with a new colony soon.

J. Runyon asked when the next years executive committee meetings will be held? After some discussion it was decided the meetings will be the first Wednesday of each month at 10 PM in the Museum. M. Frazier moved that first Wednesdays of the month be the meeting date. J. Runyon seconded. Motion passed. The next executive committee meeting will be Oct. 3, 2007.

H. Stout moved to adjourn. C. Delphi seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.





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We are on the web
<http://www.ento.psu.edu/Frost/index.html>

Officers of FFEM 2007

Pres. : Hannah Stout
Vice Pres. : Amanda Bachman
Past President: Justin Runyon
Sec.-Treasurer: Robert Byers
Members-at-Large:
Beth Brobst
Don Brobst
James Frazier
Ralph Mumma
Robert Snetsinger
Pam Ford
Molly Sturniolo
Neelendra Joshi
Newsletter Editor:
Robert Byers

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of the
Friends of the Frost Entomological Museum

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____ (home)
 _____ (work)
 _____ (FAX)
 _____ (e-mail)

Membership Category

Yearly

Student (Ladybug) \$10.00
 Individual (Firefly) \$20.00
 Family (Honeybees) \$25.00

Sponsorship Category

Lifetime (over five years)

Silver Skippers \$500
 Golden Scarabs \$1000
 Monarchs (Corporate) (\$ variable)

Please send completed application and check payable to: **Friends of the Frost Entomological Museum**
 c/o Dept. Entomology, 501 ASI Bldg., Penn State Univ., Univ. Park, PA 16802

Welcome New Members !

Pam Ford	Molly Sturniolo
Kitty Katz	Kate Harris
Gretchen Smith	Tammy A. Miller
Joe Fox	Ryan & Judy Conklin
Cynthia Swanson	Alice & Bob Jackson
Fay Ferguson	Robert Anderson
Eric Bohnenblust	Seung Ho Chung
Beth Irwin	Daniel Schmehl
Jordan Smith	Katherine Szulewski

Upcoming Events

Entomological Society of Pa Annual Meeting, Parker Dam State Park
Nov. 9-10, 2007