



Summer 2010 Newsletter, Volume 7, Issue 2

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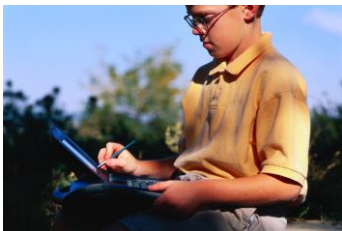
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ENTOMOLOGICAL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES COMPETITION FOR SCIENCE PROJECT IDEAS

The Entomological Foundation is conducting a contest to identify “top 10” science project ideas for students, teachers, and families. Elementary, middle, and high school teachers, students, and parents are always looking for exciting ideas for science projects. In response to this growing need, Dr. Nan-Yao Su and Dr. Nancy Beckage are co-sponsoring a contest which will culminate with a creation of a web site containing a collection of science project ideas, based on grade level, the majority of which will involve insects or be built around an entomological question. Contest winners will receive a check for \$100 per project idea for each submission making the “top 10” list. The Entomological Foundation is especially looking for project ideas submitted by entomology student clubs.

The Entomological Foundation is requesting that projects be designed to be doable and exciting for students as well as interesting and exciting for teachers and families. The goal is to develop an interest and understanding of scientific laws and principles that underlay the natural world. Authorship credit will be cited for submitted science project published on the Entomological Foundation’s web site.

Any project ideas that relate to insects, spiders, or related arthropods are welcome. Contest entries will be accepted beginning August 2 and will close on October 18, 2010. Winners will be announced at the ESA annual meeting this December in San Diego, California. Submission guidelines can be found on the Entomological Foundation web site: <http://www.entfdn.org>. Submit your project to April at april@entfdn.org. You may submit as many projects as you wish. (continued on back page of newsletter)



INTERACTIVE YOUTH WEBSITE RECEIVES FUNDING TO REACH NEW AUDIENCE

The Entomological Foundation is happy to announce that funding has been received to expand our interactive youth website, currently for children in grades 3 and 4, to include grade 5. The website teaches children about primary areas of entomology relating to the characteristics of organisms, life cycles, and the relationship of organisms to their environment. The site also contains a section for educators addressing the national science standards and entomology benchmarks encompassed by each activity. Site development will be initiated in August. It is anticipated that pilot testing will commence in the winter of 2011. Many thanks go to BASF, Dow AgroSciences, Pioneer Hi-Bred, and Syngenta Crop Protection for their support of this program. If you know an educator or homeschool parent who would be interested in pilot testing the grade 5 activities, please contact April at the Entomological Foundation, (301) 459-9083 or april@entfdn.org



ENTOMOLOGICAL FOUNDATION TO HONOR PAST AWARDS DINNER AND DANCE HONOREES

The Entomological Foundation recognizes individuals who have attained preeminence in entomology through outstanding contributions to the science. The award is the highest presented by the Entomological Foundation. Recipient selection is administered through the Entomological Foundation's Honoree Committee of the Board of Directors and Board of Counselors. The award consists of a gold medal and is presented during the Entomological Foundation's Awards Dinner.

A *Medal of Honor* was created in 2007 to present to awardees. This year, the *Medal of Honor* will be presented to previous Entomological Foundation Honorees, 1992-2006, during the 18th Annual Dinner and Dance in San Diego, California. Past Honorees that will be recognized are Drs. Stan Beck, Fred Knapp, Larry Larson, James Oliver, Eldon Ortman, Bobby Pass, Lynn Riddiford, Robert Riley, Manya Stoetzel, and Charles Triplehorn.

The Entomological Foundation will also present its professional awards at this time. This offers an opportunity to celebrate our 2010 awardees and former Honorees' distinguished accomplishments in entomology. It is through our awards that the Entomological Foundation recognizes the special educators and entomologists who have advanced the field of entomology, the science, and the quality of entomological education for our nation's youth.

We hope you will join us on December 13, 2010, to celebrate our past Honorees as they receive the Entomological Foundation's *Medal of Honor*. More information concerning the event will be forthcoming on the Entomological Foundation's web site <http://www.entfdn.org>

Change to Awards Dinner and Dance

Proceeds from the Awards Dinner provide educational materials and outreach programs designed to stimulate and sustain interest in insects and science among young people in grades K-12. The price of a ticket not only covers the cost of the Event, but assists the Entomological Foundation in providing funding for educational programs for young people to promote our next generation of entomologists. Many recipients of the Entomological Foundation's work are students who might not otherwise experience the excitement of learning about insects and their integral role in our everyday lives.

During the past 18 years, the Entomological Foundation has striven to present a quality Event while keeping costs as low as possible. However, during the past 7 years, the cost for the event (e.g., food, AV equipment, and associated hotel fees) has steadily increased by 50%. As a result of increased costs, the cost per ticket must be increased by \$50 to \$150. However, to encourage student participation, the student ticket price will remain at \$60 per ticket. This is only the second increase in ticket price since 1992. The Board of Directors and staff of the Entomological Foundation look forward to continuing this Event for many years to come; however, we request your help and understanding as we address today's financial realities in order to continue the Event.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

(Periodically, we will report to you on the work of our former student award winners. Below is an article written by former scholarship winner Seth Bybee)



By Seth Bybee

Fellowships offered to undergraduate students by the Entomological Foundation are essential for students to push their studies forward. As an undergraduate student I received both the Stan Beck fellowship and the BioQuip undergraduate scholarship. Both of these awards were excellent in that they provided me an opportunity to conduct research at a very high level that lead to several publications. Because the research I had conducted as an undergraduate lead to a first authored publication, I was much more competitive for graduate school. Not only was I more competitive but the research I conducted as a graduate student was hatched and formulated while an undergrad. Through the help and advice of advisors and other mentors I was able to focus my dissertation studies and push through graduate school in four years and jump directly into a post-doc. Without the help and support of these fellowships, I would not only have been held back as an undergraduate but my graduate experience would have been much more limited.

The fellowship and scholarship were also a blessing because as an undergraduate I had a young family. Because of the support I received through the Entomological Foundation I was better able to balance the finances of a growing family and the demands of preparing myself to become an entomologist. I was able to attend more conferences, get more training, and perform more hands on research then I would have ever been able to do on my own. I am sincerely grateful for all that the Entomological Foundation has contributed to my chosen career and indirectly to my family.

LETTERS FROM RECIPIENTS

June 9, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to thank the Entomological Foundation for donating posters, bookmarks, and stickers to our school for our Mad Scientist Night. The event took place on May 25th, at Hollywood Elementary School in College Park, Maryland. Your donation of the materials helped make our night a success! The students were excited to receive the materials, which aided in motivating students to want to come to the event and do some science experiments. The students received the butterfly posters which helped remind them about what they learned at the insect station that evening. Thank you once again for donating the materials. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Jennifer Gerrity
3rd Grade Teacher/Science Chair
Hollywood Elementary School

When submitting your project ideas, please indicate if you would be willing to be identified as a contact for further questions by the users of the site. Our plans are to identify and include on the web site a “mentor” or resource for each listed project.

To see an example of a project, provided by Dr. Su, please go to: <http://www.entfdn.org/sciencefairexperiments.htm> . The project contains a question that catches a student’s imagination and contains an experiment that is very simple and can be done by using common household items.

If you have any questions, please contact April Gower at the Entomological Foundation, 301-459-9083 or april@entfdn.org



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Entomological Foundation (EIN 52-1756169)
9332 Annapolis Rd., Suite 210
Lanham, MD 20706