# Rochester Academy of Science BULLETIN

"An organization of people in the Natural Sciences"



October, 2012 - Vol. 67, #8

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

The sunny days and clear nights this summer certainly were a boon to the busy schedules of our various sections. I hope you enjoyed all the activities you participated in. To all you folks who organized outreach events, ran field trips, taught kids, or attended organizational meetings to plan ahead for the rest of the year, we thank you! Without the behind the scenes work of our leaders and the enthusiastic participation by the rest of us, none of this would be possible.

We welcome Gage Slade as the new editor of the Bulletin, starting with this issue. She will carry out the task of article layout and then send the BOD approved electronic copy to the printer at the University of Rochester. The updated mail merge information is sent to the printer by Treasurer Bill Hallahan while Karen Wolf, RAS Director, picks up the copies and gives them to Jennifer Owens who prepares the Bulletin for mailing to all the members. It's a team effort!

Now it's time to look forward to our annual Academy event, the Fall Paper Session. Please join us November 10 for a great morning of scientific discussion at St John Fisher College. Our featured lecturer is entomologist Dr. Nicholas Calderone who will tell us about the health problems of the honey bee and why we should care.

### LAST CALL FOR RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AT THE FALL PAPER SESSION

If you wish to present a poster or oral report you may send in an abstract by Friday, October 19. Information is at http://rasny.org/.

### **Fall Paper Session Schedule**

Saturday, November 10

St. John Fisher College Wegman's School of Pharmacy (WSOP, Building 34) Use Parking Lot A Map:

www.sjfc.edu/dotAsset/97269.pdf

**8:00 a.m.** Registration. Refreshments. (WSOP atrium)

**9:00 a.m.** Oral (WSOP) and Poster (Ward Hall, Building 32) sessions begin.

**12:00 p.m.** Lunch (Ward Hall), optional. Recommend reservation. Form on page 2 & online at www.rasny.org.

**1:30 p.m.** Free Lecture by Nick Calderone of Cornell University.

The Health of Honey Bees in the US – Why Should You Care?

Cleary Auditorium, Kearney Hall (Building 14)



Dr. Nicholas W. Calderone

### ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Dr. Nicholas W. Calderone received his MS degree in entomology from The Ohio State University focusing his study the behavioral genetics of honey bee foraging behavior. He continued his studies at the same university and received a PhD looking into the evolutionary genetics of division of labor in honey bees. After graduation, Dr. Calderone worked for seven years with the USDA-ARS Bee Research Lab in Beltsville, MD, concentrating on the biology of Varroa destructor and methods for the control of parasitic bee mites. Next he accepted a position with the Department of Entomology at Cornell University where he is now an Associate Professor and the Director of the Cornell University Dyce Laboratory for Honey Bee Studies. He has responsibilities in research, teaching and extension, and works on the effects of nutrition, pesticides and parasites on colony health. Dr. Calderone served as a member of the National Research Council of the National Academies Committee on the Status of Pollinators in North America. He offers a Master

Jutta Siefert Dudley

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Beekeeper Program that has trained nearly 1,000 beekeepers from around the country. He teaches two undergraduate courses about the biology of the honey bee and practical beekeeping.

### LARRY KING MEMORIAL LECTURE

### The Health of Honey Bees in the US – Why Should You Care?

by Nicholas Calderone

Honey bees are best known as the source of sweet, golden honey and pleasantly-scented, lemon-yellow beeswax.

But their most important contribution to US agriculture is the pollination services they provide to the thousands of growers of fruit, vegetable, seed and nut crops. Beekeeping is an indispensable part of modern agriculture, providing pollination services for many crops. The production of many crops requires or benefits directly from insect pollination (such as apples, almonds, cherries, oranges, squash, vegetable, and legume seeds). Insect pollination is also indirectly responsible for crops that do not themselves require pollination but that are grown from seeds that did require pollination (examples are legume hay, sugar beets, asparagus, broccoli, carrots and onions). The contribution of honey bees to this process is significant. They contribute billions of dollars of added value to all of these crops every year.

Significant losses of bees appeared in Florida the fall of 2006, quickly escalating and spreading to many more states. Many of these losses could not be attributed to any known cause, so the name Colony Collapse Disorder, or CCD, was given to bees with this condition. Possible causes have been suggested and studied such as pesticides, pathogens, genetically modified pollen, monoculture environments, and management practices, but no convincing factors have been implicated. Finding a way to mitigate the CCD problem is imperative. If the bee industry cannot keep up with the high demand for crop pollinators, the impact on our nation's food supply will be significant!



### Fall Paper Session Lunch Reservation Form

A buffet brunch (all you can eat deli, soup/salad bar, brunch items) will be available from 12:00 - 1:30 pm. You may pre-purchase your lunch voucher, which will be included with your registration program. Either cash (exact change please) or check will also be accepted the day of meeting.

To prepay, fill out this form and mail with a check payable to Lackmann Culinary Services to:

Maryann Herman St. John Fisher College 3690 East Avenue Rochester, NY 14618-3597

Name\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Total number of meals: \_\_\_\_\_

If affiliated with a college/university (ie. student, faculty, post doc, staff) cost = \$8/person

Number of meals: \_\_\_\_\_

Not affiliated with college/university cost =\$10.80/person

Number of meals: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Events for October, 2012

For updates to events, check the Academy website, http://www.rasny.org, and Section websites.

#### **ONGOING EVENT**

# ASTRONOMY- Observing at the Strasenburgh Planetarium

Join us for observing every Saturday night at the Strasenburgh Planetarium Observatory. See the ASRAS website for time as it changes with the seasons. The moon and the brighter deep sky objects will be the main targets each night. If not mostly clear, we may not be observing. If in doubt, call the planetarium box office at 697-1945. Contact – Jim Seidewand

### **OCTOBER EVENTS**

FRI 5 – ASTRONOMY-GENERAL MEETING, 7:30 p.m. RIT, Gosnell Hall, Room A300. General meetings move back to Rochester Institute of Technology, for the fall/winter months. The main speaker for the evening will be Jeff Paradis, JPL Solar System Ambassador for our region, presenting a talk on "Physics, Cosmology, and Dark Matter", based on his recent visit to CERN. Social time before the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Join us after the meeting for more social time at Applebee's on West Henrietta Road.

Contact – Lori Englund

MON 8 – ASTRONOMY-BOARD MEETING, 7:00 p.m. UR, Bausch and Lomb Building, 4<sup>th</sup> floor Chart Room. All ASRAS members welcome. Contact – Lor Englund

WED 17 – RAS BOD MEETING, 7:00 p.m. Brighton Town Hall Staging Room.

### FRI 19 – ASTRONOMY-PUBLIC STAR PARTY

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.. Northampton Park. ASRAS members will be available for conversations about equipment and astronomy while the skies darken. If it's clear, why not stop out and have a peek? The main targets of the party will be dimmer, deep sky objects like star clusters, nebulae, and galaxies. Contact Jim Seidewand, 703-9876.

### SAT 20- LIFE SCIENCES

**SECTION** 10 am - 2 pm – Life Sciences section will hold a workshop at the RAS Herbarium, located in the basement of the **Rochester Museum and Science** Center (RMSC). No experience needed. Plan to come and help with this valuable collection and see some interesting plants! Lunch is served in the RMSC Cafe until 2 pm, or you can bring your lunch. At RMSC, go to the front desk and ask a staff person to call ext. 368, the phone in the Herbarium. If you plan to attend, please send an RSVP to Elizabeth Pixley, herbarium curator, 334-0977 or

epixley@rochester.rr.com.

SAT 20- ANTHROPOLOGY SECTION 11 am-3 pm. We will join in the activities at the Rochester Museum and Science Center for National Archaeology Day as the Archaeological Institute of America Rochester Society hosts a table. Please call Karen Wolf at 670-9709 for more details and to volunteer a block of time to help.

SAT 20/SUN 21 43rd Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show. Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.. Minett Hall, 2695 East Henrietta Rd., Henrietta, NY. Displays, demonstrations, dealers & children's activities! Annual fundraiser for MINERAL **SECTION & Rochester Lapidary** Society. For more info: www.rasny.org/show or show@rasny.org. Volunteers are needed! To help, please contact mineralpres@rasny.org or 585-395-1713.

SUN 28-ASTRONOMY

**SECTION** 4 p.m- 8p.m.- Annual Halloween Party at the Farash Center. Our resident ghoul-master, Bob McGovern, will once again turn the observing grounds into a spooky graveyard. The entire family is invited to show off their best costumes (optional) with a prize for the best children's and adult's costume. Pizza, beverages, and other goodies will be provided, but feel free to bring a treat to share from home if you wish. Contact - Lori Englund

### **NOVEMBER EVENTS**

**FRI 2 – ASTRONOMY, GENERAL MEETING,** 7:30 p.m. RIT, Gosnell Hall, Room A300.

Save the date – it's election night for ASRAS. See the ASRAS website for speaker details. Social time before the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Join us after the meeting for more social time at Applebee's on West Henrietta Road. Contact – Lori Englund

### Rochester Academy of Science P.O. Box 92642 Rochester, NY 14692-0642

**Return Service Requested** 

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ABOUT THE **ACADEMY** - The Rochester Academy Of Science, Inc. is an organization that has been promoting interest in the natural sciences since 1881, with special focus on the western New York state region. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in science. Dues are minimal for the Academy and are listed in the membership application. Each Section also sets dues to cover Section-related publications and mailings.

For applications and/or more information, contact Jutta Dudley, 140 Railroad Mills Road, Pittsford, NY 14534; by telephone (585) 385-2368; or by e-mail <pres@rasny.org>.

The Academy Internet website is http://www.rasny.org

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