**Minutes from the 545th Meeting of the Connecticut**

**Entomological Society**

**October 19th 2018**

University of Connecticut

Members met for dinner at Willington Pizza House prior to the meeting at 6:00 PM

**Business meeting:** Vice President Diler Haji called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00 PM

**Reports:** Minutes from the 542ndmeeting were presented by Vice President Diler Haji and approved as read.

Minutes from the 544nd business meeting were read by Treasurer Mike Montgomery and approved as read.

The treasurer’s report was read by Treasurer Mike Montgomery and approved.

The society’s budget for this year was presented. There remains unsold t-shirt inventory from last year. The society is overall in good financial shape.

**Old Business**:

**New Business:**

* The April meeting was moved to the 19th of April.
* The entire slate of new officers was approved as presented by the nominating committee. They are as follows:

President- Raymond Simpson

Vice President- Diler Haji

Secretary- Katie Taylor

Treasurer-Mike Montgomery

**Announcements:**

* Twenty members and four guests attended the meeting
* The next meting will be November 16th at Yale. The speaker is yet to be decided.

**Exhibits:**

* Sam Remillard brought a fungus beetle display
* Chris Maier brought two new books on Coleoptera:
  + Cerambycidae of Canada and Alaska
  + Deetlse: The natural history and diversity of Coleoptera

**Evening Presentation:**

Dr. Christina Baer a current Postdoctoral research associate at the University of Connecticut presented on her work with shelter-building caterpillars of the tropical-dry-forest in Palo Verde National Park. She discussed the natural history of the shelter building caterpillars found on acacia in the *Aristotelia corallina* species complex*,* and the process of identification of these caterpillars with DNA barcodes and host plant records. *A. corallina* caterpillars not only eat acacia leaves but also the ant rewards (extrafloral nectar and Beltian bodies) and incorporate domatia into their shelters. Next she talked about experiments with shelter-switching experiment with two skipper caterpillar species.

Christina next described her study investigating defensive functions of caterpillar shelters. She performed a field shelter-switching experiment with two skipper caterpillar species found on the same host plant that produce different shelter types (*Urbanus dorantes* and *U. proteus*). She found that shriveled-leaf shelters built by *U. dorantes*had significantly lower risk of predation than leaf folds built by either species

**Note: corrections and additions to the minutes are welcomed. Please email** [**ctentsoc@gmail.com**](mailto:ctentsoc@gmail.com)**.**