The Helminthological Society of Washington
2016 Spring Meeting

Registration – general information:

Due to increased security at George Washington University Medical Center, you MUST register for the meeting in order to attend. No one will be admitted unless their name is on the list of registered guests at the security desk. The last day to register is April 15th, 2016.

Registration fees are $30 ($40 after April 1) for members, $50 for non-members ($60 after April 1) and $15 for students and accompanying persons ($30 after April 1), and include refreshments at the Reception Friday night and during the Plenary Session on Saturday morning.

Online Registration:

To register for the meeting online, please complete the Registration Form and email it to Dr. Ashleigh Smythe at smytheab@vmi.edu no later than April 15. The registration fee can be paid with a credit card at Eventbrite (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/715th-meeting-of-the-helminthological-society-of-washington-tickets-21558320517). Just click on “Get tickets” to begin the process. You can also join HelmSoc at the same time to receive the member discount for the meeting. If you are already a member, scroll down to the registration only options.

Register by mail:

To register by mail, print the completed Registration Form and mail it, together with a check payable to “The Helminthological Society of Washington” for the fees, to Major Ashleigh Smythe, Department of Biology, 301B Maury-Brooke Hall, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA 24450.

Abstract Submission

To submit an abstract for the Plenary Session on Saturday, complete the Abstract Submission form and email it to Dr. Ashleigh Smythe (smytheab@vmi.edu) no later than March 25, 2016. Check the box if you are a student, and include a Student Certification form. There are only oral presentations.

Student Competition:

Once again we are holding the Stirewalt-Lincicome Best Student Presentation Competition at the Spring meeting. The recipient of the best student presentation will receive $200 and the runner-up will receive $100. Two honorable mention awards of one year’s membership to the Helminthological Society of Washington will also be given. Students who wish to be considered for the awards must so indicate during
registration and on the Abstract Submission form. The student need not be a Society member, but the student’s mentor must be a member of the Helminthological Society at the time of meeting. To enter the competition, the student must pre-register and include the Student Certification form with the Abstract Submission form.

Completing the Forms:

The Registration, Abstract Submission and Student Certification forms can be filled in on the computer. Open the file and enter the information. In the case of the abstract, type or copy and paste the information in the space. Check the appropriate boxes by clicking on them. Save the completed file to your computer, then attach it an email to Dr. Ashleigh Smythe (smytheab@vmi.edu). The electronic copy will simplify program production. Complete the registration online at Eventbrite. Remember, you must pre-register for the meeting.

Abstract Format:

Please follow the examples below for the format of your abstract. Please limit the abstract to 300 words.

A New Genus and Species of Cestode (Cestoda: Paruterinidae) from the Squirrel cuckoo, *Piaya cayana* Lesson, 1830 (Aves: Cuculiformes), from Paraguay

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Abstract: A new genus and species of cyclophyllidean cestode is described from 18 specimens (five scolices, 13 fragments of strobilae only) collected from the intestines of three Squirrel Cuckoos, *Piaya cayana* Lesson, 1830 (Aves: Cuculiformes: Cuculidae), taken from two localities in Paraguay in 1984 and 1985. The new genus appears to belong to the Paruterinidae and is most similar to *Francobona similis* (Ransom, 1909) Georgiev and Kornyushin, 1994, but differs in its possession of a fan-shaped, lobed ovary rather than an irregular ovary, an atrial pore that opens dorsally to the cirrus sac rather than an atrial pore that opens posterioventrally to the cirrus sac, and a uterus that is symmetrical rather than asymmetrical and irregularly-shaped. In addition to *F. similis*, only a few other paruterinids have been found parasitizing members of Cuculidae, as most parasitize other bird families. Cestodes of other families (i.e., Dilepididae and Davaineidae) also parasitize cuckoos; the majority of the records come from three cuckoo subfamilies that are predominately arboreal. Interestingly, the two cuckoo subfamilies that have not yet been found to host cestodes consist primarily of ground-dwelling cuckoos. Thus, host habitat may be a contributing factor to the lack of cestode records from the latter two subfamilies, but incomplete sampling cannot be ruled out as a factor for the 24 species in these subfamilies are particularly poorly sampled. Broader and deeper sampling of cuckoos is required for these host associations to be more clearly understood.