

"ROGUES GALLERY"



TO BE ESTABLISHED IN CANTON



Those who attended the RIA Meeting on January 8 were invited by guest speaker, Steve VanderMark to help him develop a "Rogues' Gallery" of the more common insects of the North Country. Steve showed us his insect collection, mostly captured outside of this area and suggested that it would be helpful and educational for many local people if such a collection were made containing our indigenous species.

Steve made known his interest in developing a working relationship with the RIA, starting with this new co-operative collecting effort. We are fortunate to have someone like Steve as an extension agent in our county. He is both knowledgeable and open-minded, and dedicated to making information available to local people.

The "Rogues' Gallery" is part of that information effort. The collection would be designed to be portable, could be set up at libraries, used by various groups for educational purposes, etc. People are needed to help collect and mount the specimens. So many times I've seen an insect, wondered what it was, then shrugged my shoulders and went back to what I was doing. Having a focused place and purpose for collection and identification should be a great stimulus to carry through with becoming familiar with the myriad species around us.

We have set up a tentative meeting at Co-operative Extension in Canton on Wednesday, April 11, at 7:30 P.M. to organize this project. Steve can help provide some collecting and mounting equipment and describe how you can make your own. Check with me a week or two before the meeting for final details. Let's help each other learn the natural history of our own habitat!

-- Doug Jones (386-4852)



Anne Vinyard called with some bad news about former RIA members, SUE SELEW and WAYNE DUNLOP. Apparently, they returned to the Massachusetts home after a rare vacation to find it burned to the ground. If you would like to send contributions or a note to them, contact Anne (386-2520) or Deanne McClain (578-2460).