

**The Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America  
Business and Planning Meeting, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania**

**Monday, June 12, 2006 Meeting Minutes (prepared by R. R. Youngman)**

**Members present: Art Agnello, Eric Day, George Hamilton, Jim Lashomb, Anne Nielsen, Pete Schultz, Paula Shrewsbury, Paul Weston, and Rod Youngman**

Art welcomed everyone to Harrisburg and thanked them for their service to The Branch. He called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. and then asked for everyone to introduce themselves.

**President's Report: Art Agnello**

Art said he had nothing to report at this time.

**Past President's Report: Pete Schultz**

Pete reminded us that as the most immediate Past President he is Chairman of the Awards Committee that handles the Herbert T. Streu Meritorious Service Award and the L. O. Howard Award. These honors are awarded annually and presented at the Eastern Branch annual meeting. He said he has some names for potential nominees, but would gladly welcome additional names for these awards. A brief discussion on possible nominees followed.

**President-Elect's Report: Jim Lashomb**

Jim said he had nothing to report at this time.

**Treasurer's Report: Eric Day**

Eric began by providing handouts of his financial statements. He addressed the June 8, 2006 Financial Statement for The Branch. As of July 1, 2005, the General Fund balance on hand totaled \$26,702.45. This figure is the combined balance of the checking (\$11,293.88) and savings (\$15,408.57) accounts as of July 1, 2005. He then pointed out that the June 8, 2006 combined checking (\$9,940.22) and savings (\$418.83) accounts total \$10,359.05. Combining this figure with the reserve funds of \$48,720.74 means the total funds available to The Branch as of June 8, 2006 are \$59,079.79.

George made a motion to change from a fiscal year to a calendar year. George said that since ESA is on a calendar year it makes sense that The Branch also be on a calendar year. Eric said that should not be a problem given that The Branch makes less than \$25,000.00 annually. George said the benefit to The Branch is that ESA will take over our taxes with the IRS.

Art called for a motion.

A motion was made that the Eastern Branch change its financial year from a fiscal year to a calendar year for the purpose of being in line with ESA.

The motion was seconded.

Discussion was requested. Rod asked if we should define what we mean by calendar year? A friendly amendment was made to define the new financial year for the Eastern Branch as occurring from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Voting members: Agnello, Day, Hamilton, Lashomb, Schultz, and Youngman

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's 2007 budget.

The motion was seconded.

Discussion was requested.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Voting members: Agnello, Day, Hamilton, Lashomb, Schultz, and Youngman

**Secretary's Report:** Rod Youngman

Rod said he had little to report at this time other than to say he is working with Susan and Art on several changes to The Branch Constitution and Bylaws. He added we would like to bring these changes up for a vote before the end of 2006.

**Member-at-Large Report:** Bill Lamp (not present)

No Report.

**Governing Board Representative's Report:** George Hamilton

George passed out handouts and said that as of February 2006 membership renewal was at 80% of its goal. Someone asked George about the attendance at the 2005 national meeting in Fort Lauderdale. He said attendance was better than expected given the problems from Hurricane Wilma, and added that attendance was down by only a few hundred from that of previous meetings.

Pete asked about how the restructuring of ESA was coming. George said the issue is going to be discussed at the ESA Summer Planning meeting next week in Indianapolis. He was not certain whether the meeting would result in a referendum on restructuring.

**Program Committee:** Paula Shrewsbury and Paul Weston

Paula began by thanking Paul for his service to the committee. She then asked Art if he had a theme for the 2007 meeting. Art replied he did not and then asked for suggestions from the committee. Paula suggested global warming and its impact on insect biodiversity or invasive insects. Someone else brought up the role of insects on homeland security as a possible theme area. Jim changed direction by suggesting we consider a more inclusive theme to attract members who do not normally attend the annual meetings. Art raised another topic area on the role of new molecular technologies in detecting insects. After further discussion, the committee reached a

consensus on 'Entomology in a Changing Environment' as the theme for the 2007 annual meeting. Someone added that this theme encompasses issues on global warming, homeland security, exotic species, regulatory matters, etc., and that the role of new molecular technologies in detecting insects would be a good symposium topic. Rick Hoebeke and David Pimentel were suggested for potential keynote speakers

Art moved to student competition and said he was approached by Mark Taylor about the possibility of serving on this committee. Paul said he has revised the judging form and submitted it on to national for approval. Anne commented that the revised form was much better than the previous form.

Someone suggested we consider rescheduling the Sunday afternoon Executive Committee meeting to Sunday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This would allow committee members to attend the student competition presentations and 'It's a Bug's World' outreach event. Everyone agreed this change was a good idea, and Art asked the program committee to make the change.

Someone suggested combining the IDEP workshop with the meeting posters and vendors in the same location and at the same time as a way to improve attendance. George added there probably will be no strategic planning session for the 2007 meeting.

Art next asked for suggestions for the 2007 program. The outreach program and its expenses were brought up. Eric said the expenses for the 2006 outreach program were \$751.00 and added we have budgeted \$300.00 in the past. He noted that the Whitaker Science Center has never charged us for anything before. Art said he would like to offer Faith \$500.00 for her 2007 outreach expenses. Eric said that should not be a problem. Art then remarked that Jim Steffel told him J. C. Erlich Pest Control puts on a nice outreach program, and suggested we consider contacting them sometime about presenting their program at our meeting.

Art mentioned that Greg Krawczyk has agreed to serve as local arrangements for the 2007 meeting. Paula said she will let him know that Paul Semtner has the poster boards and timers. Paula then went through the standing symposia. There was some discussion about who the current organizers and chairs were for the symposia. Paul Weston said he and Dan Gilrein chaired the Ornamentals symposium last year.

A question was raised about what time the Monday afternoon symposia should begin. After some discussion, it was agreed that it should begin at 1:15 p.m.

For Tuesday, Art suggested combining tree and small fruits into one symposium.

Eric added the hotel expects we will have no more than four breakout sections at any one time.

At 10:10 a.m. Art called for a break and requested we reconvene at 10:20 a.m. to continue with Standing Committees.

### **Standing Committees**

#### **IDEP Committee:** Vacant

Art said he will contact Dick Bean about his service on this committee.

#### **Meeting Site Selection Committee:** Eric Day

Eric began by saying our 2007 annual meeting will take place from 18-20 March in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The 2008 annual meeting has been confirmed for 9-11 March in Syracuse, New York at the Holiday Inn and Conference Center. Room rates will cost \$109.00 per night. He said he has not confirmed anything for the 2009 meeting. He is considering either returning to Harrisburg or going to the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Art said he was asked by Jim Steffel, who was contacted by Renee Keese of the Northeast Weed Science Society, about the possibility of holding a joint meeting. After some discussion, it was agreed that a joint meeting of our societies was not likely given that the Northeast Weed Science Society is set on January as the month when they usually hold their annual meeting.

Eric asked for suggestions for the 2010 for meeting site.

#### **Membership Committee:** Nic Ellis (not present)

Art said that Nic asked him about being appointed to this committee. Art agreed with his request and subsequently appointed Nic to the Membership Committee for 2006-07. George pointed out that Nic automatically becomes a member on the Membership Committee at the national level.

#### **Nominations Committee:** Tom Kuhar (not present)

Art said he will contact Tom about his willingness to serve again for another year.

George turned the discussion to filling committee vacancies at the national level. To fill vacancies at the national level, the branches submit names and the Governing Board approves. At present, Anne Nielsen is the Eastern Branch representative on the Student Affairs Committee, and Nic Ellis is our member on the Membership Committee. George brought up Don Webber for the Awards Committee and said the Eastern Branch President needs to contact Don about serving. George then said we have no one serving on the Fellows Committee for 2006, and added we will definitely need someone for 2007. George moved on to the Education and Youth Committee, and said Betty Faber is not active. He suggested we ask Faith Kuehn to serve on this committee. George wrapped up his comments with the Strategic Planning Committee and said Tim Mack needs to be replaced in 2007. George requested he be provided the names of individuals who have agreed to serve on these committees by the end of September, 2006.

**Public Information Committee:** Vacant

Art said he will contact Faith Kuehn about serving on this committee.

**Rules Committee:** Susan Whitney King

Art commented that he was pleased Susan has agreed to serve on this committee.

**Screening for ESA Awards Committee:** Barbara Abraham (not present)

No report.

**Student Affairs Committee:** Anne Nielsen

Anne said Ezra Schwartzberg from Penn State has agreed to serve as co-chair on this committee. Anne asked about how many student volunteers are needed for the annual meeting. After a brief period of discussion, the general consensus was that twelve volunteers ought to be enough.

**Ad Hoc Committees**

**Auditing Committee:** Brian Nault (not present)

Art said Brian had nothing to report, and added he was going to contact him about serving for another year.

**Archivist-Historian:** George Hamilton

George said he will continue to serve for another year. The Branch archive is currently housed at Penn State; however, it should be housed at Rutgers. He said, we need to check The Branch Constitution and Bylaws about storing the archive at Penn State.

**Board Certified Entomologist:** Vacant

Art said he will contact Henry Hogmire about serving as The Branch BCE.

**Corporate Support Coordinator:** Jim Steffel (not present)

Art said Jim will continue serving in this capacity, and added he will talk with Jim about contacting our current sponsors.

**Entotoons Committee:** Gary Miller (not present)

Art said he will check with Gary about serving for another year.

**Linnaean Games Committee:** Doug Pfeiffer (not present)

Art said he will check with Doug about serving for another year.

**Local Arrangements Committee:** Greg Krawczyk (not present)

Art said Greg has agreed to serve in this position.

**Outreach Program Committee:** Faith Kuehn (not present)

Art said Faith will continue to serve for another year.

**Parliamentarian:** Susan Whitney King (not present)

Art said that Susan sent her report to him in an email attachment dated May 15, 2006. In it were six proposed changes to the Eastern Branch Constitution and Bylaws she wanted brought before the Executive Committee. Art then read off each of the proposed changes and noted that the specific Sections and Articles of The Branch Constitution and Bylaws affected by these proposed changes can be found in Susan's full report.

**First proposed change:** 45 day deadline for return of ballot reduced to 30 day.

**Second proposed change:** Allowance for ballot results to be announced by listserv.

**Third proposed change:** Provision of electronic ballot to establish or terminate a standing committee.

**Fourth proposed change:** Elimination of requirement for Nominating Committee to obtain a specific number of candidates for ballots.

**Fifth proposed change:** Syntax change – the sentences are rearranged to state the committee purpose first and membership second.

**Sixth proposed change:** Grammar change – “the” to “this”.

Art asked for a motion to accept these changes.

A motion was made to accept the six proposed changes to the Eastern Branch Constitution and Bylaws

The motion was seconded.

Discussion was requested.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Voting members: Agnello, Day, Hamilton, Lashomb, Schultz, Youngman

Rod said he will check with Paula Lettice about letting us use their electronic voting system again.

**Registration and Hospitality Committee:** Vacant

Art said he will check with Dean Polk about his replacement for this committee. Eric said that emeriti registration for the 2006 annual meeting will be \$35.00 for pre-registration and on-site registration. This compares to the 2005 meeting where emeriti pre-registration and on-site registration was \$50.00 and \$65.00, respectively. He added that the \$35.00 fee includes the banquet meal.

**Resolutions Committee:** Vacant

There was no discussion on this committee.

**Student Paper Competition Committee:** Vacant

Someone suggested Art approach Mark Taylor or Brian Nault to serve on this committee.

**Listserv Manager and Webmaster:** Rod Youngman

Rod said the website has been updated in regard to awards and corporate sponsorship; however, the 'Officers and Committees' page needs updating.

**5K Walk/Run Committee:** Vacant

There was no discussion on this committee.

Art asked if there was any old business. Pete said Tom Kuhar asked him to raise the issue of bringing extra copies of the annual program to the meeting. Paula said we do bring a few for the registration desk, but it is expected that attendees print out and bring their own copies to the meeting. Someone suggested Rod send out a listserv reminder the week before the meeting to remind all meeting attendees to bring their own copies.

Art then asked for any new business. Paula asked about deadlines for submission of oral and poster presentations. After some discussion, the committee agreed that 1 October 2006 will be the first call for submissions and 31 October 2006 the deadline.

Anne asked about the application deadline for receiving nomination packages for the Asa Fitch and J. H. Comstock awards. After brief discussion, 10 November 2006 was selected as the deadline for these awards.

Rod suggested we might get more participation in the student oral and poster competitions if we doubled the cash prize money for first, second, and third place to \$200.00, \$150.00, and \$100.00, respectively.

Art asked for a motion to double the student competition cash prize money.

A motion was made to raise the cash prize money for both the student oral and poster competitions to \$200.00 for first place, \$150.00 for second place, and \$100.00 for third place.

The motion was seconded.

Discussion was requested.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Voting members: Agnello, Day, Hamilton, Lashomb, Schultz, Youngman

Art asked Paula and Paul to provide him with additional information on the theme: 'Entomology in a Changing Environment'.

Art called for any further business. Paul said Mark Taylor was interested in coordinating an ornamentals symposium.

Art called again for any further business. No new business was raised. Art thanked everyone for their hard work and service to The Branch and adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.