

THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA - EASTERN BRANCH
BUSINESS AND PLANNING MEETING
Conference Call, Monday, June 23, 2008

Attending: Rod Youngman (presiding), Greg Krawczyk, Eric Day, Bill Lamp, Mark Taylor, Akito Kawahara, Loke Kok, George Hamilton, Jim Lashomb, Jim Steffel, Faith Kuehn, Dan Gilrein (minutes)

9:15 President Rod Youngman meeting called to order

President's Report (Rod Youngman)

Rod reviewed meeting agenda, noted that 2009 Meeting is Friday March 20 to Monday, March 23 in Harrisburg.

Syracuse had 10 symposia, 22 student competitions, 18 oral submitted and 16 poster competitions. Some staff are needed needed to fill Treasurer, Member-at-large and President-elect upcoming vacancies. Albrecht is working to fill those positions. Mark Taylor agreed to run for Treasurer, Brian Kunkel for Member-at-Large. Note on G. Hamilton's position: not usually voted on by branch. Albrecht will contact Harvey Reissig for possible President-Elect. Rod requests any nominees for positions can be sent to him.

Dr. Bernard Heinrich, Univ of Vermont/Burlington is tentative banquet speaker, specialist on bumblebee ecology/behavior. Tentative theme for this meeting is Celebrating 80 Years of Entomological Scientific Outreach and Discovery (Branch is now 80 yrs old).

Committee vacancies: For Program committee, Greg. K. agreed to chair, no co-chair yet but Doug Pfeiffer would consider serving. Brian Nault needs respite as chair for student paper competition, Nic Ellis's position (Membership Committee chair), Roy Van Driesche (Auditing) would like to step down. Anne Averill (ESA Awards Committee) needs co-chair – Art has stepped in to help for this past year. Brian Danforth agreed to help but was not available for this past spring.

Akito K. asked if student competition chair is an annual position: Rod clarified that for ad hoc committee positions the designee is allowed to continue indefinitely; positions can be hard to fill.

Pres Elect Report (Loke Kok)

Nothing to report

Member at Large Report (Bill Lamp)

Nothing to report, no complaints

Governing Board (George Hamilton)

Nothing much happened since last meeting. Governing board meeting scheduled for last Sunday in July thru Tues. & will meet jointly with Program Committee.

Treasurer's Report (Eric Day)

Three financial reports attached. ESA EB Category summary: Meeting sponsor numbers & registration way up. Outflows pretty standard, a few additional outflows still to come in. e.g. Banquet speaker airfare. Executive committee expenses were pretty standard, conference call will be less than travel to summer meeting. Outreach cost was low this year, hotel didn't charge for room. Banquet was pretty standard. Expect another \$1,500 to be spent in next week or month (Linnean games checks, uncashed check to May B., conference call and some misc. items like postage); income makes up for some past meetings where amounts were stagnant or there were losses.

Rod mentioned that we need a new Past Presidents' Plaque and also suggested an H. T. Streu plaque as we have for the LO Howard awards. Eric motioned to purchase new board for Streu. Faith seconded. All Executive Committee members voted in favor, motion passed unanimous.

Mark T. wondered if it was unusual to make money on even-year meetings. Eric explained the increase in registration numbers was part of it. Eric also noted that places like the Holiday Inn are relatively inexpensive compared with Hiltons or Hyatts. Dan noted Canadian participation. Rod asked if there was any financial assistance to Canadians; Eric not aware of any.

Eric reviewed the June 22, 2008 Financial Statement, including checking, savings and reserve funds. Loke asked how the balance compares historically; Eric noted that the balance has been about the same with slightly higher inflow this year.

Eric reviewed the 2009 budget spreadsheet, didn't recall whether we had approved. No major changes. Requested about \$500 for Outreach program. Rod said about \$1,000 might be better, Faith doesn't know if her agency will be able to contribute for next meeting; even if so available funding will be cut. It contributed around \$1,000 in the past. Eric proposed accepting budget with increased funding to Outreach to \$1,000. Loke asked if the \$18,450 budget will be OK given past costs at Harrisburg and possible increases. Eric thought it would, since table expenses are expected to be very low. Eric thought room costs might be \$114, which Faith mentioned were less than at Holiday Inn (\$120), but parking is extra at Harrisburg. Rod said he will be discussing possible increases in registration fees later in meeting. Rod moved to accept reports, Mark T seconded, all in favor. Motion passed unanimous, financial reports accepted. Rod moved to accept budget, Loke seconded, all in favor.

Meeting Site Selection Committee (Eric Day)

Likes to book meetings 2 yrs in advance. Recently booked 2010 meeting in Annapolis, good rate at hotel but a little pricey on rooms. Dates Sunday March 7th – Tuesday March 9th, Sheraton Annapolis Hotel, Annapolis, MD. Single room \$129. Not aware of parking fees. 2001 will be for next treasurer to select site. Suggests we might consider breaking away from Harrisburg location if it is getting ‘stale’. Choose a possible central location? Faith suggested Delaware. Eric said eastern West VA in Martinsburg (Holiday Inn) is another option. 2012 meeting might move to a northern site. Sometimes good to go back to same locations: hotel familiar with us, know the area, etc. We will have been in Harrisburg 6 times next year. Loke suggested new location might be good. Faith thought it helpful to have an airport nearby (Wilmington is not far from Philly). Loke noted concern about tolls on I-95 (Baltimore to DE section), Faith said they also charge to get into MD and there are charges within MD as well.

Past President’s Report (Jim L.)

Nothing to report. Rod asked if he has a committee or nominees from last year for L. O. Howard and H. T. Streu awards; Jim will work on it. Rod observed that the March meeting was successful. Jim thought location was fine, no problems with storms, good accessibility, strong Cornell assistance, great Outreach program.

Rod discussed issue of contributions to Entomological Foundation, issue raised by Alan Cameron: using part of Branch reserve funds to open an Entomological Foundation account. To start a Foundation account, need to initiate with a 1-time donation of \$10,000 or min. \$2,000/yr for 5 years. Pays 4.5 – 5% interest. Fee is 1.5%. Will generate about \$500/yr. Mission of Foundation is to support students. Jim S.: any advantage to using Foundation to do this? Discussion ensued on merits of Foundation donation – can request corporate or other contributions, tax-deductible but donations to EB ESA might also be tax-deductible since we are non-profit? But maybe special benefits if donated to Foundation? Currently there are about 15 accts within Foundation. Owner can specify use of proceeds. Eric noted that with fee, return is similar to current CD so we could instead set up something similar in-house, which also keeps reserve funds accessible in case of meeting failures or other emergency. ESA National does cover some meeting failures but not sure if covered entirely. It does look better on paper to have costs covered in case. Jim S.: was there any ‘sales pitch’ from Foundation to donate there? Rod didn’t perceive any. Eric needs more details on meeting insurance, although knows something is provided from the National office. Will look into what they can provide. Eric would prefer to keep funds in our account, can be used to cover costs for speakers, student travel, etc.

Rod checked with Susan: there is nothing in bylaws about funds for students. Executive Committee decides based on approval from Treasurer. Faith said we should probably clarify why we are not providing funds to Entomological Foundation. Among the expenses discussed: banquet speaker expenses (travel, honorarium), student travel (increased energy/travel costs

affecting all expenses in general), Linnean games, equipment to purchase (presentation remotes, projectors), new Past President and H. T. Streu plaques were mentioned.

Loke suggested putting aside funds now, e.g. \$12,000, to a CD, and earmark for student support. This will make funds available now. Faith noted that Alan was especially interested in supporting students and the Society, so would probably agree with the use of funds for student support. Loke noted that some bonds are paying higher rates (10 -12%?). Eric suggested maintaining a base amount in reserve, e.g. \$50K. Eric said may want to wait until existing CDs mature (Blue Ridge/Carter funds mature in Oct). Eric needs to look into setting up a bond. Eric suggests taking \$12K from reserve funds, set aside for student travel, equipment, banquet speaker, plaque/awards. Dan suggested applying interest towards student travel support, with principal remaining for emergency needs. Eric wondered if branch finance committee needs to weigh in on this matter. Rod clarified Executive Committee can decide on unusual transfers on approval of Treasurer. Rod calls for motion on applying funds to ESA Entomological Foundation. Bill L. said we may need more info on benefits of this to judge. Motion from Eric to not open Entomological Foundation account at this time using part of ESA EB reserve funds but obtain more information for future, and instead pursue our own in-house funding mechanism, starting with interest earned from \$12,000 investment used to support student participation and attendance. Faith seconded motion. All in favor, motion carried. Eric noted that we will need to find some way to notify students of availability of funds. Loke also suggested we use interest generated from \$12K in existing CDs (about \$400) for student support of students for 2009 meeting, to encourage student participation and attendance. Rod felt that some oversight needed on how funding is distributed.

Secretary's report (Dan Gilrein)

Need to move listserv to something easier to manage. Rod commented that we want to retain een non-Branch members. Dan also said some clarification needed on Eastern Branch awards vs Branch nominations to national awards (e.g. national awards: ESA Achievement Awards in Teaching and Extension, ESA Award for Excellence in IPM). We could use several presentation remotes, perhaps four, est. about \$40 each? Eric advised Dan to purchase or contact him about obtaining. Loke moved to accept Secretary's report, Jim S. second. All in favor.

Hospitality (Mark Taylor)

Things went well this year despite weather, lots of press coverage.

Corporate Sponsorship Report (Jim Steffel)

Jim asked about getting sponsors to support specific items at meeting. Should think about now, especially for Linnaean Games. Trécé expressed interest in past to sponsor something specific, Linnaean Games would be good for that. Travel costs are getting high. How about funding to support their travel to Reno? Could also support symposia (Rod: Student symposium?). Rod: how do we go about this? Jim S. said guidelines would be helpful, most

sponsorships are around \$500, which is high considering number of persons attending. Eric: will sponsors pay for one year at a time or can we set up a fund for longer term commitment? Jim S. said will be hard to get those funds – short-term exposure is preferred. Also noted we can get more than one sponsor for L. Games. Eric mentioned the team gets \$500, sent to respective depts., used to defray travel expenses, but just for the one team. Jim S. would like to get up that towards \$2,000 (George noted that recent Reno RT air travel is around \$400 – 800 depending on when air ticket purchased). Eric: perhaps plaque at banquet to recognize L. Games donor might be in order. Jim S. suggested thinking similarly in terms of other sponsors too. Faith suggested asking sponsors for what would provide them the best bang for buck, best recognition. What about a plaque outside meeting room indicating sponsorship for symposium? Can add logo into program e.g. on heading for a sponsored symposium. Dan asked about sponsorship for Outreach, but Faith mentioned a few concerns. Jim S. suggested a couple of companies might be appropriate, e.g. Erlich (local), or Bayer Advanced. Jim S. noted that Bayer had their termite group in the Outreach and were quite good. Dan mentioned Bonide and Monterey as consumer product companies (sell consumer pesticide products; Bonide is in southeast NY, Monterey in Calif, but sells here). Faith mentioned that Erlich might include a mention of the Outreach in a flyer left at clients. Jim S. knows Erlich contacts, Faith suggested bringing along her portfolio for a visit to their office. Jim S. thought this a good idea; noted they are active in the PCO as well as mushroom industry. Rod: how should we proceed? Jim said everyone is overloaded now, but should explore opportunities, make some personal contacts soon. Dan reviewed three discussed sponsorship opportunities: Linnean Games, symposia, and Outreach. Jim S. will get together with Faith on Outreach sponsorships.

Student Affairs (Akito Kawahara)

Spent last couple of months working with Ezra, updated university representatives (contact) and has 17 universities/ reps, had to change 5 or 6. Rod noted representatives are listed on website, and need to be updated there (send revisions to Rod). Dan suggested looking into Canadian contacts, will provide one (Naomi Cappuccino). Akito is looking for co-chair position: has sent out some solicitations to reps, expect to have that figured out this week. Rod: what about limiting to one rep per university. Akito said that it is good idea to avoid multiple reps. Rod: self-nomination is OK, but subject to approval by chair. No major changes to process. Rod: key is getting word out to students about award deadlines, etc. Also get message out that 2009 be a weekend meeting, so students won't miss classes, etc.

Outreach Committee (Faith Kuehn)

Advantage of H'burg is we have been there, has local contacts. Need to get idea of room/space size, (Ballroom) number of tables available. Some new participants who couldn't attend last time. Some things worked real well, e.g. build-a-bug. Timing: suggest Saturday afternoon as good for families, and some time not concurrent with student competition since we usu have student help at outreach. Greg: changes in dates will require changes in programs. Faith will continue public information, thinking of coordinating with Whitaker Center even though we

won't be located there due to cost. Faith asks if anyone has observations, ideas, suggestions, to send her way.

Meeting broke for lunch at 12 noon.

Rod resumed meeting at 1 pm.

Program Discussion

Rod noted that the symposia enriched 2008 program, had 10 at last meeting, with 22 competition student oral presentations, 11 posters, 18/16 regularly submitted oral presentations/posters. Symposia included IDEP workshop, Hot Topics, Industry, Ornamentals, Student sponsored, Vegetable, Insect Imaging. No field crops this year. Tom Kuhar emailed idea of having field crops and veg symposium coordinated similar to ornamentals/IDEP. Rod acknowledged Greg K. who is taking over for Peter Shearer's position as program co-chair. Rod is asking for nominees for co-chair. Rod reiterated to send note to membership about meetings, also we need to think about where to place student competition in order to present awards by Sunday night banquet (tentatively scheduled for Sunday evening). Greg said he was still new at this, hoping to work with someone with more experience.

Dan commented that IDEP and ornamentals symposia were coordinated again this year, to make for an all-day program (encourage non-member attendance, e.g. depts. of agriculture, landscape/nursery professionals). Rod suggested having a turf symposium in 2009. He clarified that meeting reception is slated for Friday afternoon, program is all day on Saturday and Sunday, with a half day on Monday. Outreach is suggested for Saturday afternoon. Loke asked if meeting time was being extended? Last meeting was two full days of meeting, next meeting will be two-and-a-half or three full days? Friday is only reception, but not thinking of starting actual meeting on Friday. Could have executive committee meeting on Friday after the mixer. Loke is concerned that we should fix duration of meeting.

Faith suggested a native bee symposium – many are working in region on native bees. Listed many persons in area as possible speakers. Will try to find someone to coordinate/organize the symposium.

Dan mentioned it is good to take advantage of local schools and talent. Faith mentioned a new Muhlenberg College project in Allentown, collaborating with other states to map distribution of periodical cicada in PA. Many small colleges in area involved with entomology expertise and activities, could make for a 'Small College' symposium. E-mail Akito with topics/persons/activities that might be relevant to a symposium.

Hot topics and biocontrol working group: Hot topics was well attended but biocontrol was not held and not attended well in prior year.

Rod: can we schedule Outreach for Sunday afternoon? Faith said her first choice is Saturday afternoon with Student symposium NOT at same time (uses student helpers). Student posters would be good on Saturday morning or afternoon, have competition done by Sunday. Parking is free on Sunday, so outreach on Sunday may work well.

NE Regional Field Crops: Rod will check with Kuhar; new field crops person at Penn State took over from Dennis Calvin may be someone to contact.

Loke: Biocontrol working group has been regularly offered in past, check with Dick Casagrande on whether they want to organize or plan for coming year. Rod will contact Dick C. and let Greg know.

Rod mentioned that a Call for Symposia goes out to members fairly soon.

Symposia under discussion for upcoming meeting (summary):

IDEP: Mark Taylor will continue (separate IDEP workshop will continue too)

Hot Topics: Rod will consider whether to continue

Industry: definitely continue, also verify with Jim Steffel

Ornamentals: Brian Kunkel will continue

Student-sponsored symposium: will continue, Akito chairing

Vegetable: check with Tom Kuhar to see if continuing.

Field Crops: Rod will decide

Fruit Entomology: Greg will check with Art Agnello on whether continuing

Insect Imaging? Canadian contact person, Dan thought likely not continuing

Biocontrol: Rod will check with Dick Casagrande

Turfgrass: Rod will consider, coordinate with Paul Heller/Penn State

Small colleges: Akito will consider, send ideas on speakers etc. to him

Native bees: Faith will look into.

Other meeting discussion: Banquet being planned for Sunday evening. Bill suggested having reception on Saturday rather than Friday, some will be tired after drive in on Friday afternoon. Loke suggests wrapping things up by Sunday evening might be best, expects Monday to be poorly attended. Loke also suggested maybe some symposia ideas can be joined. Rod suggested perhaps a shortened symposium (2 hrs) might be OK as well. Jim Lashomb said that the response to call for symposia was more suggestions than offers to organize.

Student competition: suggest holding now Saturday afternoon, with outreach on Sunday afternoon. What about having banquet as Sunday lunch? Concern about conflict with Outreach, although could schedule earlier (brunch). Banquet Saturday evening might be possible too.

Greg asked about student oral presentation competition. Rod mentioned they stand alone. Loke suggested holding on Sunday morning. Jim L. felt the student papers are a highlight of the meeting, Rod agreed. Rod will work with Greg on the final scheduling, with banquet currently scheduled for Sunday evening tentatively, but to be decided; brunch idea being considered. In this case especially important to limit time for invited speaker! Rod will contact Faith on Outreach starting time/date.

Raising fees: Rod proposed raising registration \$10 – 20. Bill Lamp thought if we're making money may not need to raise registration fees. Akito: any info on whether registrations declined with increased registration? Eric: been a couple of years since raised; cost of living is 5%/yr. Rod: students spoken to had no problem with \$15 student fee. Akito doesn't have problem with \$15, although \$5 was great and the raise is relatively large. Suggest regular members: \$110/130, emeritus unchanged, honorary member unchanged, student fee to \$10/35. Introduce half-day rate, Rod suggests \$40/half day, \$60 full day. Extra banquet tix \$35 OK as is. Nonmembers \$130/150. Spouse/guest unchanged. Bill Lamp mentioned that after making money in Syracuse some members will want to know why prices being raised. Eric says there is a trend to make money some years, lose in others, but overall breaking even. Syracuse income brought us up to where we were two years ago. Eric noted that banquet prices quoted for 2009 are same, budget is same but room rates have risen. Rod moved to accept rate increases, Loke second. Vote all in favor. Motion passed.

Note on Deadlines: Regarding regularly submitted presentations and poster presentations, set deadlines before Thanksgiving, e.g. early Nov (2nd week). Rod will work with Dan and Akito on sending out messages on deadlines. Rod suggests deadline of Oct 31? Akito thought that would be OK for students, can see how it works as time approaches. Conflict with National meeting? Dan said same presentations might be used for both meetings, so perhaps less of an issue. Dan noted that it would be good to have final symposia and topics, etc. by late Nov/early Dec. for compilation and printing purposes.

Rod mentioned to Akito that he can alert students to awards coming up, with Oct. deadline.

Motion to adjourn at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Gilrein
Secretary