

**MINUTES OF THE 55<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
SOUTHWESTERN BRANCH OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

**19-22 February 2007  
Corpus Christi, Texas – Omni Hotel Marina Tower**

The 55<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America (SWB-ESA) was held on 19-22 February 2007 in conjunction with the Society of Southwestern Entomologists at the Omni Hotel Marina Tower, Corpus Christi, Texas. A total of 158 people, including 52 students, registered for the meeting.

**PLENARY SESSION – Tuesday, 20 February 2007**

David Thompson, President of the Southwestern Branch, called the plenary session to order at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 20 February 2007. President Thompson welcomed attendees to the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America and the 31st Annual Meeting of the Society of Southwestern Entomologists.

Scott Hutchins, President of the Entomological Society of America, spoke about ESA and the changes in the structuring of the Society. Frank Gilstrap, ESA Past-President, gave a report for the Entomological Foundation. Chris Selzig, Director of Membership and Marketing for the Entomological Society of America, told what is going on at ESA Headquarters. Marvin Harris, representative for the Southwestern Branch, gave an ESA Governing Board report.

Grant Kinzer, Necrology Committee member, gave the necrology report. Southwestern Branch members Miles A. Karner, Dial F. Martin, Stanley J. Nemecek, and Don C. Peters died in 2006.

President Bonnie Pendleton gave greetings from the Society of Southwestern Entomologists. Bart Drees, representative for the Southwestern Branch, gave a report for Board Certified Entomologists. He stated that no one in the Southwestern Branch contacted him this year about taking the certification examination.

The following awards were announced for the Southwestern Branch for 2007: John Henry Comstock Graduate Student Award, Alejandro Calixto (Texas A&M University); Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension, Tom Royer (Oklahoma State University); Distinguished Achievement Award in Horticultural Entomology, Kevin Heinz (Texas A&M University); and Jeffrey P. LaFage Graduate Student Research Award, Robert Puckett (Texas A&M University).

General announcements were made by Scott Armstrong, Chair of the Southwestern Branch Program Planning Committee, and Charles Chilcutt, Co-chair of the Local Arrangements Committee. President David Thompson delayed his Presidential Address entitled “SWB: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?” until the Awards Banquet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday evening. The plenary session concluded at 9:30 a.m.

## **FINAL BUSINESS MEETING – Wednesday, 21 February 2007**

President David Thompson called the final business meeting of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America to order at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 21 February 2007, at the Omni Hotel in Corpus Christi, Texas.

### **Old Business**

Minutes from the 2006 Business Meeting of the Southwestern Branch of ESA were read. Bart Drees motioned and Jesus Esquivel seconded that the minutes from the 2006 meeting be approved as read. The minutes will be posted on the Branch Internet site. Committee Chairs were reminded to send their Committee reports to Bonnie Pendleton by 9 March.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Secretary/Treasurer Bonnie Pendleton reported that as of 21 February 2007, there was a total of \$21,340.26 in the treasury. This amount does not include expenses for the hotel or other expenses for the meeting. Contributions/donations to the Branch were by: Monsanto, \$750; DuPont Crop Protection, \$500; Trece and Bill and Donna Lingren, \$500; Bayer and Ann Thurston, \$400; Coastal Bend Pest Control Association, \$250; Bob Davis, \$40; David Pledger, \$25; and \$625 from the Society of Southwestern Entomologists for half of the student award money. ESA sent the Southwestern Branch a check for \$1,953.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Audit Committee**

#### **Preliminary Audit Report**

The Audit Committee of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America met with Bonnie Pendleton, Secretary/Treasurer, on February 21, 2007, in Corpus Christi, to conduct a preliminary audit of the financial records of the Society. Because this meeting occurred in association with the Branch meeting and at a time when most of the business of the Society was being conducted, only a preliminary audit was possible. The Audit Committee found the records in good condition and commended the current and former treasurer on the condition of the records. A complete audit will be conducted at the time the records are turned over to the next Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Carlos Blanco, later in 2007.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas W. Fuchs, Chair  
Grant Kinzer  
Jonathan Edelson

#### **Final Audit Report, 5 July 2007**

Dear Mr. Cronholm,

The financial records of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America were delivered to my office on or about May 15, 2007, by Dr. Bonnie Pendleton, Secretary/Treasurer, at which time she requested an audit. The books were transferred from you to Dr. Pendleton on September 26, 2006 at which time the Society had a bank balance of \$13,289.16. After the Society's business surrounding the Annual Meeting of the Society on February 19-22, 2007 in Corpus Christi was completed and the records were deposited to my office, a bank balance of \$13,390.40 was shown on the ledger and confirmed by a bank statement from the Wells Fargo Bank in Las Cruces, N.M. dated April 25, 2007.

The Audit Committee consisting of Drs. Jonathan Edelson, Grant Kinzer and myself examined the ledger, all receipts for income and expenditures and bank statements and found the records to be complete, accurate and correct. All income and expenditures were well documented. The Audit Committee would like to thank Dr. Pendleton for an outstanding job of keeping the financial records of the Society and for presenting the information in a clear and concise manner.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas W. Fuchs, Chair

#### **Awards Committee**

The Awards Committee for 2007 consisted of Norman Elliott (Chair), Carol Sutherland, Ron Byford, Brad Kard, Giles, Kris, Carlos Bogran, Chris Sansone, Darrell Bay, and Jesus Esquivel. Nomination packets were reviewed and voting was conducted. Results are as follows:

**John Henry Comstock Graduate Student Award:** Alejandro Calixto, Texas A&M University

**Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension:** Tom Royer, Oklahoma State University

**Distinguished Achievement Award in Horticultural Entomology:** Kevin Heinz, Texas A&M University

**Jeffrey P. LaFage Graduate Student Research Award:** Robert Puckett, Texas A&M University

#### **Branch Archive Committee**

The following is information submitted to the Governing Board related to the National Archive Committee this past year.

**Committee Charges:** The original charge from Dr. Frank Gilstrap, ESA President, was as follows:

1. What is the status of the Heritage Committee? Did the Committee file a report?
2. Who or what group is currently responsible for housing archived ESA material?
3. Where are our historical documents? Are ESA materials currently archived at Penn State University, or Iowa State University?
4. How many, if any, ESA archived materials have been "curated," or inventoried?

5. What is/will be needed to put some or all of these identifying records/listings up on the ESA website?
6. How might photos be handled, would they be handled differently than other records, and can some-most-all be posted anytime to ESA website?
7. Do we have thumbnail sketches for each ESA past President? On web, have names - should have a photo and short bio (less than a page) on who each was.
8. Is there any cross cataloging for Branch info? Where is Branch info? Should there be a catalogue of these documents listed on HQ website?
9. What of the archived materials should be on the HQ website? How often should archived materials on the website be reconsidered for currency and accuracy? Who should do this, and how would you recommend continuity in process?

**Committee Action:** The committee met by conference call on May 11, June 7, and September 14, 2006.

During discussion it was reported that the ESA Archives Committee has not functioned since the 1980's and that the Entomological Heritage Committee completed its term in 2003 and has not been in service since that time.

Currently Iowa State University houses the National ESA Archives. Communication with the Archives department at Iowa State University indicates that none of the materials has been cataloged for reference. The committee decided it would be important to have an inventory of the Iowa State materials and supplement documents where possible. It was also indicated that each Branch has an Archive site and that an inventory of these locations was also needed. Due to member time and fund limitations it was suggested that student workers at the Branch and National level could be employed to organize and catalog all ESA-related materials. It was decided that ESA needs someone to oversee these student workers/graduate students to assist them with inventory procedures.

The committee discussed what should be archived at National and Branch levels. Items initially suggested included Annual Meeting programs, photographs with proper labeling of award winners, governing board, special speakers and guests, executive committees, communications of the ESA President and Executive Director, membership list by year, annual financial reports, daily newsletters issued during Annual meetings, press releases and news articles related to ESA, copy of Presidential address and Founders Memorial address.

It was also decided that each Branch should develop a set of guidelines for items to be archived. This has already been done in the two Branches but needs to be addressed in others.

In the discussion it was pointed out that not all Branches are storing their historical papers at a regional university. This needs to be addressed.

Discussions by Cronholm with Melissa Gottwald of the Archives Department at Iowa State University found that a small amount of funding (\$1,000) could be sent to the University earmarked for cataloging of materials at ISU. In committee discussions it was felt that funding

for the student worker at ISU should be budgeted by the Governing Board for 2007. The Committee indicated this would also be a need at the local Branch Archives and that the same amount should be considered for a student worker at each of the universities housing archives. Each Branch Archivist would investigate with the university on how to set up the funding process.

At the end of a cataloging period it would be desirable to have a listing of documents from the National and Branch levels on the ESA website, so members and historians would know what resources are available.

If the student workers for each Branch and National archives were funded, the cost would be \$5,000 to \$6,000. We ask that the Governing Board support the Archives by funding this request and to continue this Committee in the future until a manageable system has been put into place at the National and Branch levels.

Dr. Frank Gilstrap recently informed me that each Branch Archive site would have a \$1,000 grant for organization of material at the site. Also, \$2,000 will be available at Iowa State for the National Archive and the N. Central Branch. I greatly appreciate Dr. Frank Gilstrap's efforts to facilitate the Archive work at the Branch and National levels.

The following items from the Southwestern Branch will be deposited at the Cushing Library on the campus of TAMU on February 26, 2007.

1. Program of the 54th Annual Meeting of the SWB-ESA held February 27-March 3, 2006 in Austin, Texas.
2. Abstracts of the student presentations for 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SWB-ESA held in Austin, Texas.
3. Program of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of SWB-ESA held February 28-March 3, 2005 in Albuquerque, N.M.
4. Pre-Registration form for the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting.
5. Executive Committee minutes for May 17, 2005 in Austin.
6. Executive Committee minutes for December 5, 2005 in Austin.
7. Executive Board minutes for February 25, 2006 in Austin.
8. Executive Board Committee minutes for March 1, 2006 in Austin.
9. Executive Board Committee minutes from March 2, 2006 in Austin.
10. Final Business Meeting Agenda for March 2, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,  
Greg Cronholm  
Branch Archivist

### **Insect Detection, Evaluation, and Prediction Committee**

#### **Oklahoma**

As in 2005, the prolonged drought in Oklahoma has kept many insect problems at lower than

normal levels. We did however see a few problems this year, including several invasive species that made their first appearance in our state. The OSU Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Lab received 566 insect/arthropod ID requests in 2006.

European hornet (*Vespa crabro*) is a new invasive species record for Oklahoma. The wasp was identified in December from a beekeeper in the eastern Oklahoma (Delaware Co.) close to the Arkansas border. The wasps had invaded several unused hives in an apiary. This primarily eastern US pest is a large “yellow jacket” which can attain 1.5 inches in length. Distribution maps indicate this species is slowly moving westward.

White footed ant (*Technomyrmex albipes*) is a new invasive species record for OK. The ants were detected at the Myriad Gardens in Oklahoma City. This nuisance pest is primarily confined to Florida with a few other records in coastal areas. It is believed the ants arrived in a shipment of orchids from Florida several years ago but were never reported.

Africanized honey bees (*Apis mellifera scutellata*) continue to be a high priority pest for the state. Five new counties were added this past year in south central OK. We now have DNA confirmed cases in 30 counties (40% of the state) in southwest and south central Oklahoma. To date, 178 bee samples have been received for analysis, with 47 testing DNA positive for AHB. The PDIDL has developed a new AHB primer for duplex PCR. This has reduced the time for testing from 2 days to 6 hours.

Asian ambrosia beetle (*Xylosandrus crassiusculus*) continues to be found regularly in traps associated with the National Exotic Beetle Survey. This has the potential to become a very serious pest of the nursery industry in Oklahoma.

Japanese beetles (*Popillia japonica*) continue to be a very serious pest in northeast Oklahoma, particularly the major nursery region around Tahlequah. Trap numbers remain in the five figures. ODAFF is working closely with the nursery industry in this area to come up with a plan of action.

Sycamore caterpillar or drab prominent (*Misogada unicolor*) outbreaks occurred over much of our state. Sycamore is the only known host for this species which luckily attacks late in the year when leaves are just beginning to turn.

Western drywood termite (*Incisitermes minor*) cases have increased several fold over last year. Most reports were associated with furniture that had been shipped in from out of state. Although this termite produces small colonies, it can survive for extended periods (years) with no activity.

## **Texas**

Post oak grasshoppers, *Dendrotettix quercus* Packard (Orthoptera, Acrididae), were again reported over a wide area from Dallas south to Houston and eastward. High numbers were reported in local areas and caused oak defoliation in many areas. The grasshoppers crawl up on light-colored structures and defecate which is a nuisance for homeowners.

Cabbage palmetto moth, *Litoproscopus futilis* (Grote & Robinson) (Lepidoptera, Arctiidae) was sent in for identification from Nueces County by Roy Parker in September, 2006. The moths were found feeding on palm flower structures. Specimens were reared and deposited at the TAMU Insect Collection.

Small hive beetle, *Aethinia tumida* Murray (Coleoptera, Nitidulidae), was identified from an image submitted by Mike Merchant from the Dallas area on June 19, 2006.

Bed bugs, *Cimex lectularius* Linnaeus (Hemiptera, Cimicidae) were brought into the lab for identification by several private citizens. This insect has definitely made a resurgence as a pest.

## **New Mexico**

Probably our most exciting confirmation in 2006 was the discovery of *Xylella fastidiosa* in New Mexico grapes and another odd little landscape tree called “chitalpa,” a generic cross between the catalpa of the more northern U.S. states and a common tree-shrub of sandy Southwestern arroyos, *Chilopsis*, the desert willow. Our Extension plant pathologist, Natalie Goldberg, had noticed how pitiful looking these trees were in a variety of home landscapes and commercial settings around Las Cruces. After a few years, these vigorously growing, always flowering trees suffered severe canopy dieback and extensive suckering on the lower trunk; quite a few trees died. Upon collaborating with one of our local molecular biology specialists, Steve Hansen, *Xylella* was confirmed in tissues of these landscape trees as well as some grapevine tissues submitted for evaluation from southern New Mexico.

With the threat of Pierce’s disease in adjacent states, inspectors with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture were already surveying for glassy-winged sharpshooters for several years. When yellow sticky traps were set for a European corn borer survey on sorghum in Southwestern New Mexico in 2005, I found my first *Homalodisca* there. This was confirmed as *Homalodisca lacerta*, smoketree leafhopper, shortly thereafter by entomologists at the California Department of Agriculture. Two more smoketree leafhoppers were captured on GWSS traps set in the Albuquerque metro area in the spring/early summer of 2006; the trap location was supposed to be somewhere between a vineyard and a nursery.

In October, 2006, three specimens of a blue-green sharpshooter, *Graphocephala* sp., were recovered from a sticky trap set in Grant County, Southwestern New Mexico, again presumably between a vineyard and nursery location. These are the first *Graphocephala* ever recovered in New Mexico in conjunction with the GWSS survey or any other leafhopper survey to the best of my knowledge. More common sharpshooter leafhoppers from other collections in these areas include *Draeculacephala minerva* and *Cuerna* spp.

2006 seemed to be the “Year of the Tenebrionid” in southern New Mexico at least. Adults seemed to be everywhere, especially the larger, cylindrical *Eleodes* and several species of the smaller, flatter genera generally resembling smaller yellow mealworms like *Alphitobius*.

Desert willows planted in parks or along medians of roads in the Albuquerque area were infested with defoliating caterpillars in July. Upon maturing, these caterpillars would create a rather lacey receptacle for their ¾” long pupae. These insects were reared and determined to be members of the moth family, Geometridae, *Eucaterva variaria*. These are basically white moths with pepper spots on the forewings that vary greatly in density; some moths are nearly all white with few black spots while others have almost black forewings, with the remainder of the wings and body white.

With assistance of some caterpillar experts from Arizona and Connecticut, we got three mystery caterpillars from the Las Cruces area identified: A brown, caterpillar with rather long, curly “hair” on it was confirmed as an Arctiidae, *Ectypia clio* with a likely host of vine milkweed. Another caterpillar collected from a pencil cholla cactus was brick red with black and white spectacle markings on the dorsum of each segment; ornamented with white, tendril-like setae, this insect assumed a rattlesnake pose on its host where it was photographed. This specimen was identified as a noctuid, *Misa cosyra*, which, curiously, was captured as a series of adults at blacklight traps on several occasions over the summer. Two specimens of another unknown caterpillar were collected in late summer from dry soil or perched on a rock, also in the Las Cruces area. These specimens were light gray, nearly hairless and ornamented with partial bands of black, blue and orange. They were later identified as another noctuid, *Euscirrhopterus gloveri*. One possible host, according to the literature, is *Talinum* sp., presumably a native desert forb.

We cannot forget the Africanized honey bee records for New Mexico. In 2005, we added five new county records and in 2006, we added another county, making a total, so far, of 17 of our 33 counties “positive” for AHB. More counties are likely infested but specimens have not been submitted yet to confirm them. Our more recent AHB records have been processed by Richard Grantham, Oklahoma State University, using DNA analysis, which provides, we think, quick, clean and accurate identification results (thank you, Richard).

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard A. Grantham  
John A. Jackman  
Carol A. Sutherland, Chair

### **Insect Expo Committee**

The 2007 Insect Exposition was held February 22, at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History. With the museum serving as collaborator, we had no facility rental fee and no need for event insurance. Due to these savings we were able to hold the event with a free admission to all. The Coastal Bend Pest Control Association provided \$250.00 support toward the purchase of lunches for Expo volunteers and Dr. Roy Parker, Texas Cooperative Extension, provided eight copies of the Drees and Jackman, *Guide to Texas Insects* for Chitin Bowl Prizes.

The Region 2 Educational Service Center (Corpus Christi, Tx) provided collaboration in contacting school district superintendents and science curriculum specialists in the region. Mr.

Ray Huffman's assistance in this was invaluable in the planning of this event.

Fourteen different schools (or Districts) attended the event with 1,343 students and 176 adults participating in exhibits and games. There were approximately 24 exhibits, with more than 65 volunteers from the SWBESA and local organizations.

Exhibits included the following:

Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History

Bats in my World

West Texas A&M University

Insect/Arthropod Identification Key (floor game)

Insect Fear Factor (holding live insects)

Bug-Suckers (aspirators)

Origami Butterflies (paper folding)

Insect Mouthparts

Water Striders (making water bugs that float on water)

Insect Products (silk, food, honey, etc.)

Insects as Human Food

Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas A&M University Entomology

Insect Pests of Stored Grains – sifting and collecting actual insects

Native Texas and Exotic Insect

The Ant Detective Game – ant identification key

Chitin Bowl Quiz Game

Texas Department of Agriculture – Mr. Ed Gage

Mounted Insects and Texas Minerals

Texas Agricultural Experiment Station

Insect Locomotion – can you move like an insect, with 6 legs?

Hissing Cockroach Races

Texas A&M University

Wheel of Wonder

Live Insect Specimens

Life Stages of the Monarch Butterfly

USDA-ARS, Stoneville, MS

Life Cycle of the Tobacco Budworm

Coastal Bend Pest Control Association

Insect Identification, Household Pests

South Texas Botanical Gardens and Nature Center

## Flowers and Their Pollinators

Volunteers including university personnel, graduate and undergraduate students, Extension Specialists, Extension Agents and hobbyists came from the following organizations:

Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America  
Corpus Christi Museum of science and History  
Texas A&M University  
West Texas A&M University  
New Mexico State University  
Oklahoma State University  
Texas Cooperative Extension  
The Coastal Bend Pest Control Association  
South Texas Botanical Gardens and Nature Center  
Nueces County Master Gardeners Association  
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station  
Texas Department of Agriculture

Great appreciation is expressed to all the people who made this event possible.

This report is respectfully submitted by Scott A. Russell, on behalf of the 2007 Insect Exposition Committee:

Scott A. Russell, Chair  
Andrine Morrison  
Bonnie Pendleton  
Phil Mulder

### **Linnaean Games Committee**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Linnaean Games Competition for the Southwestern Branch of the ESA was held at the fifty-fifth annual meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas. Teams representing New Mexico State University, Oklahoma State University, Texas A&M University (2), West Texas A&M University and Tarleton State University participated in the games. In five well-played matches, Oklahoma State University won first place, whereas second place went to New Mexico State University. Members of all teams either received or will receive a Certificate of Outstanding Participation, and the teams from Oklahoma State and New Mexico State are eligible to represent the Southwestern Branch at the National competitions at the next Annual Meeting of the ESA in San Diego, California. Oklahoma State will receive financial (\$500) support for their travels to the meetings, a traveling trophy, a permanent trophy and \$50.00 per team member. The Linnaean Games committee would like to thank the Southwestern Branch of the ESA for their support of trophies and other awards provided to the winning teams.

Respectfully submitted:  
Phillip G. Mulder, Jr., Chair  
Scott Bundy  
Ann Thurston  
Richard Berberet

Richard Grantham  
Marvin Harris  
Mark Muegge  
Harlan Thorvilson  
Kevin Shufan

### **Local Arrangements Committee**

The meeting was held at the Omni Marina Tower Hotel Corpus Christi where room rates were \$87 for singles, \$107 for doubles, \$127 for triples, and \$137 for quads. We had a total of 262 room nights which exceeded our contracted number. We spent a total of \$10,553 on food (\$8,421) and AV equipment (\$2,132), including 150 meals at the banquet (\$3,750) with 137 people actually attending the banquet. The dinner banquet options were all more than \$25 per plate, so David Thompson increased the banquet cost to \$30 per plate for the Banquet Only option on the registration form. Later, we asked the Omni arrangements person to see if their chef could come up with menu options for \$25 per plate including service charges. The chef offered one menu for \$25 for a chicken plate, which we accepted. We had a room block problem again; once the room block that was contracted was filled, the hotel reservations people started charging members the hotel's normal rate even though this was before the room block cut-off date of 29 January. This was the same as the problem we had at the Omni in Austin in 2006 despite having explained this to the Corpus Christi Omni people and getting reassurances they would give the SWB-ESA rate to all members who made reservations before the cut-off date. The problem was eventually corrected by our hotel arrangements person, but she had to make changes for each person who applied after the room block was filled and told us that this was at their discretion since it was over our room block number. There was also a problem with the poster board holders which we were quoted as being \$85 per board total for the whole meeting, but then were charged a 20% service fee by the hotel for a total of \$102 per board, and they also wanted to charge this per day. But, eventually after a lot of discussions they agreed to charge us just \$102 per board which is what we had thought we had agreed on (for 10 boards this was \$1,020 total for the meeting). No tours were planned by the Local Arrangements Committee; instead, Ann Thurston of the Spouses/Guests/Retirees Committee made arrangements to meet with any members and take them to any of a number of local attractions.

Chuck Chilcutt

### **Membership Committee**

The Committee Chair would like to recognize and welcome Mr. Chris Stelzig to the Membership Committee meeting and the meeting of the Southwestern Branch. Mr. Stelzig is the Director of Membership and Marketing for the ESA but also serves as the ESA Staff Liaison for the Standing Committee on Membership.

As of December 31, 2006, the paid membership of the Southwestern Branch of the ESA was 476 members. The total paid membership for 2006 was similar to the total membership for 2005. There were 477 paid members during 2005.

As of February 21, 2007, the paid membership of the Southwestern Branch of the ESA totaled 374 individuals, representing:

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Membership Category</u>  |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 244           | Regular Member              |
| 84            | Student Member              |
| 2             | Student Transition 1 Member |
| 8             | Student Transition 2 Member |
| 20            | Emeritus                    |
| 4             | Emeritus Gold               |
| 7             | Honorary                    |
| 1             | Life Members                |
| 1             | President's Circle          |
| 3             | Family Member               |
| 0             | Youth                       |
| 374           | Total (as of Feb. 21, 2007) |

During February 2006, membership was 378 members in the Branch.

Committee Chair, Jesus Esquivel, represented the Southwestern Branch at the meeting of the ESA Standing Committee on Membership on December 12, 2006, which was held during the Annual Meeting of the ESA in Indianapolis, IN. The Committee Chair reports the following items of interest to the Branch. Items 1 through 5 pertain to upcoming events and pending issues of discussion among the Standing Committee on Membership, while Item 6 demonstrates recruitment/outreach activities by members of the Southwestern Branch Membership Committee:

**1. 2007 Membership Committee Charges from 2007 ESA President Scott Hutchins.**

In concert with the “Making Connections: Innovation, Initiative, Influence” theme, Dr. Hutchins has charged the committee with proactively contacting appropriate personnel to increase membership and member activities, develop and refresh membership recruitment program(s), and, if the ESA wide-sweeping renewal is approved in early 2007, participate in assessment and planning for transition during the renewal process. A copy of Dr. Hutchins’ 2007 Charges to the ESA Standing Committee on Membership is attached to this report, and Southwestern Branch Membership Committee Chair asks for the support of the Southwestern Branch Membership Committee and General Membership in meeting these charges.

**2. 2007 Annual ESA Meeting, San Diego, CA , December 9-12, 2007.** The theme for the meeting is “Making Connections: Innovation, Initiative, Influence,” and call for symposia is well underway. Of particular note for this meeting is that childcare will be offered, although childcare rates have not been established.

**3. Gail Kampmeier is now serving as Membership Committee Liaison to the Governing Board.**

4. **International Congress of Entomology is scheduled for July 6-11, 2008, in Durban, South Africa.** Interested individuals can visit the website, [www.ice2008.org.za](http://www.ice2008.org.za), for more details.
5. **Issues of Discussion:**
  - a. **Meet Charges set forth by 2007 ESA President.** Take a proactive approach to recruit members and educate members about proposed changes to the ESA.
  - b. **Adjustments to renewal timeline.** Discussions to move initial mailing of renewal notices from November to October as well as moving the final cut-off for benefits for non-renewing members from March to February.
  - c. **Online CV/resumé clearinghouse options.** Discussions to establish this clearinghouse to be highlighted as an added benefit for current and incoming members.
  - d. **Extension of Student Transition II through Post-Doctoral phase(s).** Discussion to expand definition for this category to help retain those individuals who may be in multiple or extended Post-Doctoral positions.
  - e. **Recruitment and retention of members.** Motion was passed to establish a site where members could update contact information. The site would allow display of past members and request that members having valid contact data for past members communicate the information to ESA.
6. **Activities by Members of Southwestern Branch.**
  - a. On September 15, 2006, Membership Committee member, Pete Teel, and Committee Chair, Jesus Esquivel, presented recruitment materials to an undergraduate entomology class at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. This effort resulted in recruitment of several student members.
  - b. While attending the 2006 Annual Meeting of the ESA on December 12, 2006, Southwestern Branch Membership Committee Chair, Jesus Esquivel, volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair of the ESA Standing Committee on Membership during 2006-07. Nic Ellis is serving as the Chair of the ESA Standing Committee on Membership during 2006-07. Esquivel will serve as Chair of the ESA Standing Committee on Membership during 2007-08. Branch members are encouraged to contact Esquivel regarding membership ideas and/or concerns that can be presented before the ESA Standing Committee on Membership.
  - c. On January 24, 2007, Alejandro Calixto (Student Affairs Committee Chair) and Brad Hopkins (Student Representative on Membership Committee) visited with Texas A&M University Entomology Graduate Student Organization and undergraduate classes to encourage membership in ESA.
  - d. In concert with ESA Headquarters, on February 7, 2007, via electronic mail, Jesus Esquivel submitted a reminder to Southwestern Branch members of upcoming deadline for membership renewal on February 15, 2007. Chris Stelzig indicated 49 SWB members renewed between February 7 and February 15, 2007. A copy of the notice is attached to this report as a reference for future committee chairs.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jesus F. Esquivel, Chair

### **Necrology Committee**

We are saddened to report the passing of four of our distinguished colleagues who have contributed to the science and advancement of Entomology and to the success of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America.

#### **Miles Allen Karner**

**4 July 1953 – 1 March 2006**

Dr. Miles Karner died 1 March 2006 at the Comanche County Memorial Hospital in Lawton, OK from complications of heart surgery. He was born in Tulsa, OK to Albert and Lavern Karner. Miles grew up and graduated from high school in Broken Arrow.

Miles received his B.S. degree in Ecology/Zoology in 1975 and his M.S. degree in Entomology in 1976, both from Oklahoma State University. Miles returned to his studies and received his Ph.D. degree in Entomology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1981. He worked as Area Agent-Pest Management for the Louisiana State University, Northwest Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service office in Monroe, LA from 1977 until 1979. In 1982, he moved to Altus, OK to become the Area Extension Entomologist for Southwest Oklahoma for the Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension Service. In 1986, he also began serving as the Area Extension Cotton Entomologist at Altus. He specialized in cotton and wheat as well as IPM and pesticides as they relate to crops grown in Southwest Oklahoma.

Miles married Dawnelle Harmon on 4 June 1977 in Broken Arrow, OK. They were blessed with two children: a son, Courtney Michael, and a daughter, Whitney Renae. The family joined St. John Lutheran Church in Lawton, OK in 1997, where he served as a church elder. He was an avid bow hunter who enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening and of course, following OSU sports. Dr. Karner owned and operated Shortgrass Consulting.

Miles is survived by his wife, Dawnelle of Altus, OK; his son, Courtney of Dallas, TX; his daughter Whitney of Topeka, KS; and his mother of Dallas, TX. He was preceded in death by his father.

Funeral services were held on 4 March at St. John's Lutheran Church in Lawton, OK, and interment was on 6 March at the Park Grove Cemetery in Broken Arrow, OK. Donations may be made to the Miles A. Karner Scholarship Fund and sent to Mid-First Bank, 2511 North Main Street, Altus, Oklahoma 73521.

#### **Dial Franklin Martin**

**30 April 1915 - 2 April 2006**

Dr. Dial Martin was 90 years old when he died Sunday, 2 April 2006, in Bryan, TX. He was a native of Gilmer in East Texas and the oldest of 11 children in his family. He began his research

career with Texas A&M University when he joined the faculty in 1939 after receipt of his B.S. degree at Texas A&M. He immediately began working on his Master's degree and he taught entomology and conducted research on pecan insects. However, his studies were interrupted by World War II. Despite being exempted, Dr. Martin enlisted and served most of his three and a half years in Burma and India in the Medical Service Corps of the U.S. Army to control mosquitoes and other arthropod pests of troops. He was awarded the Victory Medal.

After WW II, Dr. Martin completed his Ph.D. degree in Entomology at Iowa State University. He returned to Texas A&M University as a Professor of Entomology and conducted research on the biology and control of cotton pests. In 1959, Dial joined the USDA-ARS at Brownsville, TX, as Director of the Pink Bollworm Laboratory. He relocated to Washington, D.C. as the Assistant Branch Chief for Cotton Insect Research and completed his 21-year career with ARS in 1980 as Director of the Bioenvironmental Insect Control Laboratory at Stoneville, MS. He had relocated from Washington D.C. to Stoneville in 1969, after the Jamie Whitten Delta States Research Center at Stoneville was constructed.

Dr. Martin was an expert in cotton insect pest management, fervently believing in total population management. His many scientific publications reflect extensive research on the pink bollworm, boll weevil, and the cotton bollworm and tobacco budworm. He was a leader in developing the rise of the new synthetic organic insecticides for controlling the major insect pests of cotton, pecans and peaches. He played a lead role in the use of the sterile insect release technology as a means of control for these pests and was an expert and strong advocate for mass insect rearing capabilities to carry out sterile insect release.

The use of the sterile insect release technology has been a standard practice for managing the pink bollworm in California and the boll weevil has been eradicated throughout the U.S. Cotton Belt except in deep Southern Texas. Dr. Martin had a major impact in leading and conducting research relative to both of these programs. He also played a major role in the development of a novel tobacco budworm sterile hybrid by crossing the tobacco budworm with another closely related *Heliothis* species followed by a succession of backcrosses.

Dr. Martin maintained a positive, can-do attitude throughout his life. For his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, he was presented a plaque by the Association of Former Students of Texas A&M University citing his indomitable Aggie spirit. In 1988, he was inducted into the Texas A&M Hall of Honor. He served as president of both the Southeastern and Southwestern branches of the Entomological Society of America, as well as the Mississippi Entomological Society. Many of you may remember Dr. Martin as our medical emergency during the 2002 annual meeting of the Southwestern Branch ESA in Guanajuato, Gto., Mexico when we visited the Monarch Sanctuary.

Dr. Martin is survived by his wife of 67 years, Eva Jones Martin of Bryan, TX and three sisters and brothers-in-law, Billie and Jimmie Hill of Plano, TX, Alice Ruth and Bobby Murphy of Emery, TX, and Sarah Lou and Bill Barnes of Mesquite, TX.

**Stanley J. Nemeč**  
**9 March 1939 – 9 December 2006**

Dr. Stanley Nemeč was 67 when he passed away at his home Saturday, 9 December 2006. He was born in Bryan, TX where he was raised and later graduated from Texas A&M University with his B.S. degree in Entomology in 1965. Stan continued his studies and received his M.S. in 1967 and earned his Ph.D. in 1972 also in Entomology. He then served as a faculty member in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University, College Station for several years. Dr. Nemeč then became self-employed as an Ag Consultant. From 1972 to 1998 he was the owner and director of Nemeč Agriservices, Inc. in Snook, TX. By 1999 he expanded his company and became the owner and director of Integrated Pest Management in Australia. He was a member of the Texas Association of Agricultural Consultants and held CPCC-1 and CCA certificates for consulting on crop/land damage investigations – cotton, sorghum, corn, wheat and sunflowers in Texas and Australia. Dr. Nemeč received the Association of Registered Professional Entomologists (ARPE) Special Outstanding Entomologist Awards in 1991. This association later became ESA's Board Certified Entomologist Program.

Dr. Nemeč was preceded by his first wife and mother of his children, Patricia M. Nemeč. He is now survived by his wife, Nancy Nemeč of Snook, TX; one son and his wife, Mark and Carol Nemeč of Waco, TX; daughters and sons-in-law, Rachel Brimblecombe of Gunnedah, New South Wales, Australia; Lori Nemeč of Walgett, New South Wales, Australia; Erica and Stephen Cox of Dumas, TX; and Jennifer and Jeff Maca of Randolph, NJ; and the love of his life, six grandchildren, Cassidy Nemeč of Waco, TX; Tyler Brimblecombe of Australia; Samuel Cox and Allison Cox, both of Dumas, TX; Matthew Maca and Nathan Maca, both of Randolph, NJ; one brother and his wife, Frankie and Pat A. Nemeč of Bryan, TX; and one sister, Rosemary Gesford of Tyler, TX. Among all of his accomplishments, his real love was for his grandchildren and fishing.

In his memory, a memorial, the Nemeč Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established at the TAMU Foundation, College Station, TX.

### **Don Clayton Peters**

**1 September 1931 - 19 May 2006**

Dr. Don Peters, former Department Head and Professor of Entomology at Oklahoma State University, died Friday, 19 May 2006, at his home in Stillwater, OK. A memorial service celebrating his life was held at the First United Methodist Church in Stillwater on June 3.

Dr. Peters was born near Corn, OK on 1 September 1931, the youngest of six children of David C. and Lena (Bartel) Peters. He began his education at Pleasant View rural school and graduated from Corn Bible Academy in 1949. He received his B.A. degree in Biology from Tabor College, Hillsboro, KS in 1953.

He met Frieda Dick of Ferndale, WA at Tabor College, and they were married on 14 July 1953. They lived in Manhattan, KS, from 1953 to 1957, where he received his M.S. (1955) and Ph.D. (1957) degrees in Entomology from Kansas State University. His mentor was Dr. Reginald H. Painter, a world authority on insect resistance in crop plants. After teaching at Tabor College in the spring of 1957, he became an Assistant Professor of Entomology at the University of

Missouri. In 1959, they moved to Iowa State University, where Dr. Peters worked in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. On 1 January 1971, he joined the faculty at Oklahoma State University as Professor and Head of the Department of Entomology. He left administration in the spring of 1984 and focused on greenbug research, specializing in plant resistance to insects as influenced by insect genetics, behavior and population diversity (biotypes), until his retirement in March 1997. He also taught classes in Insect Pests of Stored Products and Host Plant Resistance to Insects.

Don and Frieda were members of the First United Methodist Church of Stillwater. He was a part of the teaching cycle for the Richardson Sunday school class and had served on a number of the church's boards and committees. He served on the Oklahoma Conference Board of Higher Education and the Board of Global Missions. He also served as Dean of the Conference School of Christian Missions.

Dr. Peters loved to tell people about how, just after becoming a full professor at Iowa State University, his mother asked him, "When are you going to get a job?" She knew he had grown up playing with and enjoying insects and therefore entomologists did not really work. He joined the Entomological Society of America and was active in a variety of its activities at the branch and national levels including his service on the ESA governing board from 1973 to 1976. The ESA honored his service by electing him an honorary member in 1999. The Southwestern Branch of ESA recognized his lifetime contribution to entomology with the Ta-que-ne-whap Award for Distinguished Leadership and Service in 2002. He also served as President of the Central States Entomological Society and the Rocky Mountain Conference of Entomologists. He authored, often together with his students, almost 100 papers and book chapters, and presented professional papers at regional, national and international entomological and plant protection meetings.

He joined the Stillwater Rotary Club in 1972 and served as Treasurer (1980-1983) and President (1983-84). He was District Governor from 1999-2000. He and Frieda attended International Rotary Conventions in Toronto, Indianapolis, Buenos Aires and Singapore.

Don was preceded in death by Frieda in January 2005. He is survived by three children and their spouses and grandchildren: David and Sara Peters and Rachel of Stillwater, OK; Kathryn and Barry Dagestino and Nicholas of Anaheim Hills, CA; and John and Susan Peters and Kathryn and Joshua of Plano, TX; one brother, two sisters, four sisters-in-law and two brothers-in-law.

Please join me as we remember these entomologists who have served our science and society.

Respectively submitted:

Grant Kinzer (NM)

Phil Mulder (OK)

James A. Reinert (TX), Chair (j-reinert@tamu.edu)

### **Nominations Committee**

The Nominations Committee (current and three past Presidents: David Thompson, Bastiaan 'Bart' M. Drees, Phil Mulder, and John Burd) provided the brief resume below for the nominee, Dr. Tom Royer, at the Final Business meeting at the SWB-ESA meeting on February 21, 2007:

Tom A. Royer is an associate professor and IPM coordinator at Oklahoma State University with extension responsibilities in small grains and turf. He received a B.S. in fisheries and wildlife biology at Iowa State University (1978), an M.S. in entomology from South Dakota State University (1983), and a Ph.D. in entomology from Texas A&M University (1991). He joined the Entomology and Plant Pathology Department at Oklahoma State in 1997. His research interests include: aphid-plant interactions; cereal aphid management strategies for wheat and the development of economical, ecologically robust integrated pest management systems in his commodity responsibilities. His extension efforts revolve around providing insect management information to county-based extension professionals, crop consultants, agricultural professionals and producers and coordinating the state-wide IPM program. Dr. Royer has been a member of the ESA since 1981 and served two “tours” with the Southwestern Branch (1983-1991 and 1998-present). He has served on the Student Affairs Committee (1988-1990), Membership Committee (1998-2005), and ad-hoc committee for publications (1999) for the Southwestern Branch. At the national level, he served on the Resolution Committee (1994), Chair of subsection E<sub>a</sub> (2000) and Section E (2003), Co-chair of the student competition (2005), Editorial Board for the American Entomologist (2006) and the ESA Scientific Program Co-chair (2006). Royer has authored or co-authored 24 refereed publications, 6 book chapters, and more than 80 technical and Extension publications. He was a recipient of certificates of excellence for outstanding agronomic educational materials from the Agronomy Society of America (1998, 2000, and 2006) and a Communication Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (2002). He has been a member of Sigma Xi, Gamma Sigma Delta, and Phi Kappa Phi.

President Thompson called for a vote and Dr. Royer was nominated as Secretary/Treasurer-Elect by majority vote of SWB members participating in the Final Business meeting.

Submitted by Nominations Committee Chair, Bastiaan "Bart" M. Drees

### **Program Committee**

The 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Branch, Entomological Society of America and the Annual Meeting of the Society of Southwestern Entomologist were held on 19-22 February 2007 at the Omni Marina Hotel in Corpus Christi, Texas. In addition to the meeting was a well-attended Insect Expo, held at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History. A highly competitive student competition was held with oral presentations and posters, followed by four symposia, and submitted posters and oral presentations:

#### Student Competition

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Oral presentations:   | 13 submitted, 6 M.S. and 7 Ph.D. students         |
| Poster Presentations: | 14 submitted, 4 B.S., 8 M.S. and 2 Ph.D. students |

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Submitted Oral presentations  | 25 submitted |
| Submitted Poster presentation | 27 submitted |

Symposia:

Cross-commodity Resistance Management Research and Implementation

6 oral presentations

Mexican Fruit Fly Quarantine: Using IPM and Technology to Keep It Out of the USA

7 oral presentations

Pierce's disease: Impacts on Texas Agriculture

8 oral presentations

Urban Entomology and Outreach Program

8 oral presentations

All submitted presentations were sent to the program chair via e-mail on the formatted submission form provided with the announcement of the meeting, or by accessing it from the meeting Internet site (<http://swbesa.tamu.edu/>), with the exception of one facsimile, and one hand delivered. Symposium presentations were gathered by each symposia leader or downloaded at the meeting. Dr. Pat Porter coordinated the collection of presentations at the meeting site.

A 51-page program booklet of Proceedings was printed from New Mexico State University at a cost of \$170.00. Students were required to submit abstracts (27 total) for publication in the Proceedings. An additional 21 abstracts were submitted from submitted oral, poster, or symposium presentations.

Scott Armstrong, Chair

Pat Porter

John Adamczyk

John Goolsby

### **Public Information Committee**

Members of the committee and other members of our Branch worked in various ways to provide information to the public and to promote an awareness of entomology.

Edmond Bonjour photographed many aspects of the 2006 meeting in Austin, Texas. A total of 115 images was taken during the meeting for inclusion in the Branch Archives.

Many faculty, students, and staff at Texas A&M helped to educate the public on insects. Wizzie Brown gave five Master Gardner presentations covering topics such as Entomology & IPM, Fire Ant Biology & Management and Good Bugs vs. Bad Bugs. She also gave 12 presentations on venomous arthropods to a variety of audiences including Pest Management Professionals, Lifetime Learning classes, Travis County Employees, and members of the Texas Pest Control Association. Presentations were also provided to area gardening groups on IPM and landscape pests. Fifteen school groups were taught about insects and other arthropods by using display cases of insects along with live specimens such as tarantulas, scorpions and cockroaches. The Food and Fiber Expo exposed 524 urban youth in the third and fourth grades to life on the farm through sessions on water, entomology, dairy, swine, poultry, sheep and goats, beef, corn, cotton and horticulture. A community-wide fire ant management effort has been ongoing since 2005 in

WoodGlen, a 224-acre subdivision containing 525 homes in Round Rock, Texas. Initially, bait was blown into front yards using a Herd GT-77 with a blower attachment mounted on a truck. Bait was spread through greenbelt and common areas using Herd GT-77 spreaders mounted on ATVs. A booth was set up in the common area of the neighborhood to provide information about fire ants and the community-wide management efforts to anyone who chose to participate. After completing a short survey, residents were provided with pre-measured bait in a hand spreader that they took to their backyards, baited and then returned the spreader to the booth.

Mike Merchant had 12 children from a Wylie, Texas home school coop visit the entomology labs at the TAMU Research and Extension Center in Dallas to learn about spiders, scorpions and other insects. Margie Barton of Mike's lab gave a presentation on general entomology to 40 sixth graders participating in a summer school science enrichment program at Plano ISD. Mike also led an Insect Safari at the Texas Discovery Gardens in Dallas, Texas last August. Approximately 100 kids and parents participated in the garden walk-through, discovering butterflies, ant-tending aphids, cockroaches, and other outdoor insects. Roy Parker served as a judge for the Regional Science and Engineering Fair at TAMU Corpus Christi for grades K to 8 where approximately 500 projects were displayed. For each grade, entomology projects were selected for an award of a framed certificate and a copy of the book "A Field Guide for Common Texas Insects." These were presented on behalf of the Southwestern Branch ESA and The Society of Southwestern Entomologists. He also met with 125 students in grades 1-5, giving four presentations of about one hour each on careers in entomology, utilizing live insects. Roy also conducted a field tour for 9 fourth-grade students. Bill Ree spoke on entomology to 40 fourth-grade students at Caldwell Intermediate School, giving them hands-on experience with insect collections, insect traps, books, and beekeeping equipment. One of the teachers even put comments and pictures from the talk on her blog.

Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas Tech University personnel developed a series of short, Internet-based videos that demonstrate how to collect, prepare, and preserve insects. These videos are intended for use in the classroom, and for graduate students and amateur entomologists. While incomplete, the series currently has 16 videos available. Contributors include Nancy McIntyre (TTU), Noel Troxclair, Greg Cronholm, Kim Schofield, Mark Muegge, Ed Riley, Jeff Tomberlin, and Patrick Porter. The videos are currently available at <http://elementaryinsects.tamu.edu/videos/collecting/index.html>

James Lasswell from Forrest Mitchell's lab at the TAMU Research Center at Stephenville, Texas gave a number of presentations on odonates to groups including both the Rio Brazos and Hill Country Chapters of Texas Master Naturalists. He gave presentations on odonates and book signings to the Texhoma Garden Society Spring Garden Show and River Bend Nature works in Wichita Falls, the Texas Association of Pond Societies State Convention in Fort Worth, the Tarrant County Pond Society in McKinney, Texas, and the Dragonfly Festival at the Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Roswell, New Mexico. He also discussed odonates and solitary bees at Tarleton Outdoors for the Tarleton State University Wildlife Society.

At West Texas A&M University, Bonnie Pendleton and Michal Roberts judged 44 exhibits by junior high students at St. Mary's Catholic Science Fair in Amarillo, Texas. They also prepared

insect specimens and administered and graded examinations for 66 high school students at the Future Farmers of America entomology contest during the West Texas A&M University Career Development Day at Canyon, Texas. They had hands-on activities using aquatic insects for “What’s in the Pond” for 260 fourth graders at the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District Water Wonders Festival in Dumas, Texas. A bi-monthly Entomology club for 70 children at Maverick Boys and Girls Club in inner-city Amarillo was started during the summer of 2006. Bonnie and Michal developed and presented a workshop on arthropods for 52 teachers at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Panhandle Area Mathematics and Science Conference at West Texas A&M University.

Roxanne Bowling and Bonnie Pendleton had hands-on activities using beneficial insects for 350 fourth graders at the Farm Bureau Moore County Ag Fair in Dumas, Texas. Roxanne and Robert Bowling hosted 15 children aged 5-16 years at Bug Out, an insect appreciation event on pests and arthropods that control pests in Dumas, Texas.

At New Mexico State University, Carol Sutherland and David Richman hosted more than 25 elementary, middle, and high school classes from southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas at the NMSU Arthropod Museum in 2006. At least 3,145 students were given presentations on arthropods and had the opportunity to view some of the extensive “oh my” collection during their visits. The American Indian Program with 32 students visited the collection on the NMSU campus. More than 100 FFA students attended a one-day insect identification workshop preceding their annual competition in April. In July, nearly 30 4-H students competed in an insect identification contest at NMSU. Dave was recruited to take an arthropod collection to a local health fair which served approximately 600 people.

In association with the Chihuahuan Desert Expo, Dave hosted 700 students in Grades 1-3 at the Arthropod Collection while Carol worked at a downtown mall where nearly 2,000 students, teachers, and chaperones were instructed on various arthropods found in the desert ecosystem. These same students were also exercised by Carol’s Insect Olympics – flapping, jumping, and running like insects. Another 6,200 students and adults experienced arthropod displays at the Southern New Mexico Fair and 1,000 people at the Southwestern New Mexico Fair. Dave hosted 500 adults and children at a Halloween Party for NMSU faculty and staff.

Carol also exhibits 12-15 drawers of various arthropods at the state’s Master Gardener classes on Entomology at 13 locations around the state, with an audience of approximately 225 adults. She also takes these drawers to six different Ornamental and Turf Workshops for 500 pesticide applicators.

At Oklahoma State University, Andrine Morrison, the Outreach Program Coordinator, reached 625 students and 85 adults by giving presentations at nine schools and 20 children at the OSU Child Development Lab. She also hosted five family groups totaling 30 people and a Rotary meeting for 40 adults. Morrison, along with assistance from other students and faculty, gave programs to the Audubon Society Nature Day Camp and Nature Day, Ag Round Up, 4-H group, OSU Grandparent University, River Bend Nature Park Bugfest!, Wolf Den Cub Scouts, Ag Ambassadors, and Extension Educators that reached nearly 1,500 students and adults.

Several OSU personnel helped host Kids on Kampus, Outdoor Classroom on two days at Frontier City, and two nights at Frontier City's Fight Night. These events attracted 300 students, 12,000 persons, and 1,200 students, respectively. Morrison and Matthew Rawlings hosted the Insect Zoo at the Oklahoma City State Fair for 350,000 visitors.

Don Arnold, Richard Grantham, and Phil Mulder judged entomology entries at the Oklahoma City and Tulsa State Fairs. Arnold and Grantham helped conduct the regional and state Insect Identification Contests for FFA and 4-H at Okmulgee, Cushing, Stillwater, and Oklahoma City. Arnold also hosted several elementary classes in tours of the K.C. Emerson Entomology Museum on campus.

During 2006, nearly 500 students completed the Insects and Society class which was taught by Pat Bolin in the spring and Carmen Greenwood in the fall.

All of these activities and events help promote entomology in a very positive way to students and the general public.

Respectfully submitted,  
Edmond Bonjour, Chair  
Charles Chilcutt  
Forest Mitchell  
Bonnie Pendleton  
Carol Sutherland

### **Resolutions Committee**

Resolution No. 1. – **Whereas**, the 55th Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America has been very productive, highly informative and enjoyable for the members and guests, and **Whereas**, the success of the meeting has been due in large part to the efforts of the executive officers: David Thompson, Bastiaan "Bart" Drees, Greg Cronholm, Bonnie Pendleton, Carlos Blanco and Marvin Harris, **Be it resolved**, that the members of the Branch recognize and express their gratitude to all those involved in this pleasurable meeting.

Resolution No. 2. – **Whereas**, the Program Committee Chaired by Scott Armstrong, the Local Arrangements Committee co-chaired by Charles Chilcutt and Roy Parker have organized a highly informative and interesting program in a most enjoyable setting, and **Whereas**, all of the other committee chairpersons and members along with the program moderators and numerous volunteers added significantly to the success of the meeting; **Be it resolved** that the members of the Branch recognize and thank all those involved in the planning and conduct of the meeting.

Resolution No. 3. – **Whereas**, ESA President Scott Hutchins and Southwestern Branch Governing Board Representative Marvin Harris have contributed to the success of this meeting

through their perspectives of the status, health and goals of the ESA; **Be it resolved**, that the members of the Branch recognize and express their gratitude to these individuals for their participation in and contributions to this meeting.

Resolution No. 4. – **Whereas**, the organizers, moderator and participants of the Linnaean Games provided an outstanding program of entertainment and education; **Be it resolved** that the Branch membership extend their appreciation and thanks for the efforts of these individuals; and **Be it further resolved** that the membership extend congratulations and best wishes of success to the winning team of the Linnaean Games.

Resolution No. 5. – **Whereas**, BASF Inc., Bayer Environmental Services, DuPont Crop Protection, Trece Inc., Coastal Bend Pest Control Association, Dr. Ann Thurston and Dr. David Pledger provided funds for Branch Functions; **Be it resolved** that the Branch membership express thanks and appreciation to the sponsors.

Resolution No. 6. – **Whereas**, the accommodations, service, and hospitality for this meeting contributed to the success of the meeting; **Be it resolved** that President David Thompson express written appreciation to the management and staff of the Omni Corpus Christi Marina Tower

Resolution No. 7. – **Whereas**, the Invitational Speakers provided informative and enjoyable messages; **Be it resolved** that the Branch membership express their thanks to all Invitational Speakers for their participation in this meeting.

Resolution No. 8. – **Whereas**, Miles Karner, former member of the Student Oral/Poster Competition Awards Committee, who provided long-time support as a judge for this competition and with his untimely death, **Be it resolved** that the Student Oral/Poster Award be dedicated and presented in his name.

Resolution No. 9. – **Whereas** the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History provided an excellent setting and opportunity for the Insect Expo for the youth of Corpus Christi learn about entomology and the Coastal Bend Pest Control Association who provided financial support, **Be it resolved** that the Society express their appreciation.

Resolution No. 10. – **Whereas** the Southwestern Branch has a strong commitment to routine use of the web to transact Branch business and whereas the ESA headquarters office is revising the ESA website and **Whereas** the ESA Governing Board at the SLC meeting inquired of ESA Branch leadership regarding Branch needs that might be met by headquarters, **Be it resolved** that the Southwestern Branch request the Southwestern Branch representative to the ESA governing board to pursue use of the ESA website for the SW Branch meeting in 2007.

Committee Members:  
Bill Ree, Chair  
Robert Miller

Stan Carroll  
Allen Knutson

### **Site Selection Committee**

This meeting was held at the Omni Hotel of Corpus Christi on Monday, 19 February 2007. There was unanimous decision on the possibility of having the SWB-ESA meeting of 2010 in conjunction with the Sociedad Mexicana de Entomología (SME) in Mexico between February and May of that year. Preliminary communications with the President of the Mexican Entomological Society indicate their interest in having this joint meeting, but no city has been selected yet.

Members of the SWB-ESA proposed the following sites for this event:

- Saltillo (City), Coahuila (State), presented by Sergio Sánchez
- Querétaro (City), Querétaro (State) by Carlos Blanco
- Mérida (City), Yucatán (State) by Megha Parajulee
- Puerto Vallarta (City), Jalisco (State) by John Burd

All these sites present advantages and potential difficulties for SWB-ESA and SME members due to flight and hotel costs, dates availability as well as travel distance. It was suggested that during the 2008 SWB-ESA meeting these sites (and perhaps others suggested by the SME) will be presented to participating members in a PowerPoint format and obtain a 'hands-count' vote on the most popular option(s) and begin to explore its feasibility in more detail.

Because this will be a joint meeting with our Mexican colleagues, decisions to be made by this committee are subjected to the input and collaboration of our SME counterparts.

I appreciate the participation and enthusiasm of all the members involved in this committee.

Respectfully,  
*Carlos A. Blanco*

Committee members:  
Carlos A. Blanco, Chair  
Bonnie Pendleton  
Charles Bundy  
James Reinert  
Scott Ludwig  
Tom Royer

Invited members:  
Megha Parajulee (Local Arrangements Chair for the 2010 meeting)  
David Thompson  
Greg Cronholm  
Bart Drees

Allen Knutson  
Sergio Sánchez

CC: Dr. Cándido Luna-León (Sociedad Mexicana de Entomología, President)  
Dr. Jorge Padilla-Ramírez (Sociedad Mexicana de Entomología, President-Elect)

### **Student Affairs Committee**

#### **ESA Students Affairs Committee meeting – ESA Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, 2006**

Student representatives, Sarah L. Donelson (OSU), Beth Petersen (NMSU) and Alejandro Calixto (TAMU), represented the Southwestern Branch at the meeting of the ESA Student Affairs Committee on Monday, December 11, 2006, which was held during the course of the Annual Meeting of the ESA in Indianapolis, IN. The Committee Chair reports the following items covered during this meeting.

- 1) During this meeting we decided we would have two sections at the 2007 meeting, a symposium and debate. We have worked together on recruiting speakers (from the different branches) for the student symposium and to find people to participate in the debate.
- 2) It was expressed by Alejandro Calixto and Anne Nielson during the Student Affairs Committee meeting that entomological connections and rising stars are two themes to cover in the symposium. There was a general approval that we recruit speakers who had shown major contribution to science and had some relation to insects either to do their science in other disciplines or Entomology.
- 3) The title for the 2007 Student Symposium is: “Entomological connections to science, innovation and application: How well are we doing?” The debate theme this year will be on “Biosecurity”.
- 4) Alejandro Calixto nominated for the Southwestern Branch Dr. Michael L. Morrison, Professor & Caesar Kleberg Chair of Wildlife, Texas A&M University. Dr. Morrison has been deeply interested on “re-educating” people about the concept of “wildlife” as he is concerned about the division between wildlife and other sciences and in particular with entomology. He wrote in one of his recent editorials (Journal of Wildlife Management) - "Bugs paper wanted: What is wildlife?" – This gave us a good opportunity to bring a speaker who had shown a major contribution to science and is willing to “connect” with entomologists.

#### **Southwestern Branch Meeting (Volunteers and miscellaneous)**

Electronic communications were sent out at least once every week beginning in December 2006 through February 2007 to encourage students to participate in the annual Branch meeting and to become ESA members. The significance of becoming an ESA member was stressed in these communications. The Committee Chair felt the number of students remaining as members dropped from last year, so actions were taken; on January 24, 2007, Committee Chair and

Student Representative on the Membership Committee (Brad Hopkins (TAMU)) visited with Texas A&M University undergraduate and graduate organizations to encourage membership in ESA and participation in the Branch meeting.

Electronic communications were also sent to Department Heads (Entomology and related) from Texas A&M University, Oklahoma State University, New Mexico State University, University of Texas (Austin), and University of Texas (Tyler) encouraging Department heads and faculty members to invite both undergraduate and graduate students to become members and to participate in the society. As a result, we received good response from all students. Thirty-four students registered for the Branch meeting volunteered and represented a mix of undergraduate and graduate students. We suspect others who did not volunteer renewed or became ESA members.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all students who participated in the Branch meeting (volunteers and attendants) and for showing their support to the society by providing important comments and suggestions for the improvement of our society. I also would like to thank the entire Executive Committee and Committee Chairs for encouraging students to actively participate in the society and especially during this important period when significant changes are being made for the growth of our society.

Sincerely,



Alejandro Calixto, Chair

### **Student Research Paper and Poster Awards Committee**

The Committee communicated by e-mail several times during the year.

A total of 27 presentations was entered in the competition:

Oral Presentations – 6 Master’s and 7 Ph.D. students

Poster Presentations – 12 Master’s including 4 undergraduates; 2 Ph.D. students

Each student was required to write an abstract of his research, which was printed.

Judging forms completed by the judges were given to the students.

Student award winners for 2007 were:

Master’s Oral Presentation First Place – Stacey Bealmear, New Mexico State University

Master’s Oral Presentation Second Place – Joy Newton, West Texas A&M University

Master’s Oral Presentation Third Place – Shivakumara Bheemappa, West Texas A&M University

Ph.D. Oral Presentation First Place – Andrea Joyce, Texas A&M University  
Ph.D. Oral Presentation Second Place – Alejandro Calixto, Texas A&M University  
Ph.D. Oral Presentation Third Place – Michelle Sanford, Texas A&M University

Master's Poster Presentation First Place – Danielle Tufts, University of Texas at Tyler  
Master's Poster Presentation Second Place – Madani Telly, West Texas A&M University  
Master's Poster Presentation Third Place – Natalie Vitovsky, University of Texas at Tyler

Ph.D. Poster Presentation First Place – Mukti Ghimire, Oklahoma State University  
Ph.D. Poster Presentation Second Place – not given  
Ph.D. Poster Presentation Third Place – not given

Committee members for 2007 were:

Scott Armstrong  
Richard Berberet  
Roxanne Bowling  
Scott Bundy  
Jack Dillwith  
Natalie Hummel  
Jerry Michels  
Megha Parajulee  
Jane Breen Pierce  
Jeff Tomberlin  
Bonnie Pendleton, Chair

### **Spouse, Guest, and Retiree Committee**

**No report was submitted by the Committee.**

Ann Wiese Thurston with Bayer provided goody bags for each spouse, maps of sites in Corpus Christi, and a financial donation to the Branch.

Committee members:  
Ann Wiese Thurston, Chair  
W. Pat Morrison  
Russell Wright

### **Youth Science Development Committee**

The following is a summary of activities conducted by or through efforts of the members of the SWB/ESA Youth Science Development Committee, during 2006:

Dr. Scott Bundy is the state coordinator for science fair judging in New Mexico and he reported that he sent letters to several science fairs. However, only two science fairs, with one winner each, were judged in New Mexico during 2006.

Dr. Phil Mulder is the state coordinator for science fair judging in Oklahoma and he reported that only one science fair was able to be scheduled for judging during 2006. There was one winner at that science fair.

Noel Troxclair is the state coordinator for science fair judging in Texas. Dr. M.O. Way judged the senior division of the Houston Science and Engineering Fair and awarded three top prizes since he thought all three projects were equal. Each contestant received a \$100.00 cash prize and an insect book from Dr. Way, and a certificate from SWB-ESA. He also is trying to arrange a trip to College station for the winners to tour the Entomology Department at Texas A&M. One science fair was judged in Texas, with one winner, in 2006.

In New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas, a total of four science fairs with four divisions was judged and six awards were presented through the Youth Science Development Committee of the SWB-ESA program.

While not falling under the purview of the Youth Science Development Committee's regular activities, Dr. Roy Parker reported that he judged the Coastal Bend Science and Engineering Fair, with nine classes, in his Extension District and gave a book, a plaque and certificate to the winners of six classes.

I want to recognize and thank Dr. Vernon Langston and Dow AgroSciences for generously providing the books for the 2006 awards. Additionally, Dow AgroSciences is recognized and thanked as the sponsor for the books for the last six years.

Finally, but not least, I want to thank each and every member of the committee, the state coordinators and the judges for each of the fairs judged. Only with everyone's help and involvement is it possible for the science fair judging program to continue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Noel Troxclair, Chair

### **New Business**

Greg Cronholm motioned and Carol Sutherland seconded the motion to accept the Nominations Committee recommendation of Tom Royer for Secretary/Treasurer-Elect of the Branch. The membership unanimously approved the nomination.

Marvin Harris asked about resolutions. Allen Knutson read all the resolutions. Recognition of the meeting sponsors was added to the final resolutions. Marvin moved and Jesus Esquivel seconded that the resolutions be accepted as amended.

Pat Porter asked about printing sponsorships in the program for the meeting. Bart said a final list of sponsors is posted on the Internet site after the meeting.

Bart Drees said the Branch should check with ESA about allowing the Branch to accept payments by credit card.

The gavel was passed to incoming President Greg Cronholm, who acknowledged Dr. Thompson's efforts during the past year(s). Greg announced next year's meeting will be in Fort Worth, Texas (February 2008). Local arrangements for 2008 will be made by Allen Knutson. Pat Porter will be Chair of the Program Committee for 2008. Scott Russell asked about meeting jointly with the Texas Pest Management Association. Scott Russell will work Insect Expo around testing days at the schools in the Fort Worth area.

Edmond Bonjour moved and Bart Drees seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The final business meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bonnie B. Pendleton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bonnie B. Pendleton  
2007 Secretary/Treasurer, Southwestern Branch, ESA