

# **Minutes of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting February 23-26, 2004**

Lubbock, Texas - Holiday Inn Park Plaza  
Bastiaan M. Drees, Secretary-Treasurer

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America (SWB-ESA) was held at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza, Lubbock, Texas, 23-26 February 2004, in conjunction with the Society of Southwestern Entomologists and the High Plains Association of Crop Consultants (HPACC). There were 252 registrants at the meeting, with 152 registrants for the SWB-ESA and 100 registrants for the HPACC.

## **Pre-Meeting Activities - INSECT EXPOSITION - FEBRUARY 23, 2004** (See **Insect Exposition Committee** report)

INSECT EXPO was held at the South Plains Fairgrounds, Monday, 23 February 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A total of 1075 students from grades 3-5 attended. For the first time, teachers were asked to provide a donation of \$1.00 for each student. A total of \$1,098.91 was donated to the SW Branch as a result of this effort.

## **GENERAL SESSION - FEBRUARY 24, 2004**

Dr. John Burd, President of the Southwestern Branch, called the opening session to order shortly after 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, 24 February, 2004. President Burd welcomed attendees to 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual SWB ESA and 28<sup>th</sup> Annual SSWE meeting that is being held in conjunction with the High Plains Association of Crop Consultants. He stated that, "We have a great meeting planned," and thanked all of the SWB members responsible for putting together the 2004 meeting, especially the program committee, Bonnie Pendleton, Megha Parajulee, and Jim Leser, and the local arrangements committee, Pat Porter, Harlan Thorvilson, and Scott Armstrong. Also thanked were the members of the Executive Committee. Pres. Burd then welcomed the members of HPACC in attendance and hoped that the meeting would allow the two organizations to get acquainted and explore areas of "common ground" that would lead to further interaction. HPACC represents a segment of the entomological discipline that is under-represented in our SWB Society.

Pres. Burd then introduced our welcoming speaker, the Honorable James E. "Pete" Laney who asked the members to become involved in the political process in Texas. Pres. Burd then introduced ESA Pres. Kevin L. Steffey who summarized recent trends in ESA membership and provided updates on activities of the Society. The SWB membership declined from 615 in 1999 to 449, a 25% decline. He cited a decline in section participation as a major concern, and provided results of surveys of members that have left the society. The next meeting of ESA will be Nov. 14-17 in Salt Lake City. Symposium ideas are being directed to Rick Weinzierl. The next report was presented by Frank Gilstrap, ESA Vice-Pres. Elect, who gave a report for the

Entomological Foundation (see **Appendix 1**) and provided comments as outgoing Governing Board representative (see **Appendix 2**). Marvin Harris, the incoming Governing Board representative addressed the audience with a plea to bring issues concerning the members to him, along with potential or suggested solutions to issues identified. President Burd then recognized appointments of SWB members, Robert W. Davis, Director-Elect of Board Certified Entomologists (BCE), Gregory B. Cronholm, SWB-ESA representative to BCE, and Tom Royer, SWB representative to ESA's Membership Committee, Doug Jones, SWB representative to ESA's Student Affairs Committee, and S. Bradleigh Vinson, SWB representative to ESA's Fellows Committee.

President Burd then presented the following 2004 SWB-ESA Awards:

1. Kevin Heinz, ESA Award for Excellence in IPM, Branch and National
2. Phillip Mulder, ESA Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension, Branch
3. Michael Merchant, ESA Distinguished Achievement Award to the Certification Program, Branch and National
4. Bastiaan M. Drees, Raymond Frisbie, S. Bradleigh Vinson, Harlan G. Thorvilson, Lawrence Gilbert, David Kostrum, Mark Forganson, and Douglas N. VanGundy, IPM Team Award
5. Bryna E. Donnelly, John Henry Comstock Award, Branch
6. Mir Chen, Lillian and Alex Feir Graduate Student Travel Award

President Burd and the Executive Committee then presented Russell Wright with plaque for his distinguished service to the SWB-ESA:

IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY DEDICATED YEARS  
OF SERVICE TO THE  
Southwestern Branch Of  
The Entomological Society of America  
AS A PAST-PRESIDENT, LINNAEAN GAMES JUDGE, CHAIR  
OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND OVERALL SERVICE TO  
HIS PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY AND CHOSEN SCIENCE  
THE SOUTHWESTERN BRANCH-ESA RECOGNIZES THE  
DEDICATION, SERVICE AND COMMITMENT OF

Dr. Russell E. Wright

THANK YOU FOR THE MANY YEARS OF  
DEDICATED LOYALTY TO THE CONTINUED PRESERVATION  
AND GROWTH OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SCIENCES.

The Executive Committee then presented the "Big Chief Award" (TA-QUE-NE-WHAP) to Pat Morrison.

Dr. Don Rummel, Professor Emeritus, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station then provided

the Plenary Keynote Address with a presentation entitled, "Boll Weevil in the High and Rolling Plains of Texas: The beginning of the end." The Opening Session was concluded at 10:00 a.m.

## **FINAL BUSINESS MEETING - FEBRUARY 26, 2004**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Audit Committee:**

The balance in the secretary-treasurer's account at the end of the annual meeting in Oklahoma City, OK on February 26, 2003 was \$19,800.42.

An interim audit done for transactions between February 26, 2003 and May 9, 2003 when the books were transferred to the incoming secretary-treasurer, Bart Drees, included \$2,249.08 in deposits (credits) and \$13,498.54 in expenditures (debits) for a balance on May 9, 2004 of \$8,550.96. This audit was conducted by the Audit Committee, Russell Wright, Tom Fuchs and Grant Kinzer.

Transactions between May 9, 2003 and the close of the registration at 5:00pm on February 24, 2004 at the annual meeting of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America in Lubbock, TX included \$9367.11 in deposits (credits) and \$3803.58 in expenditures (debits) leaving a balance on February 25, 2004 of \$14,114.49. The audit committee has carefully examined the accounts and found them to be in good order. We commend Bart Drees on the detailed accounts he has maintained for each transaction.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Wright, Chair, Audit Committee

#### **Awards Committee:**

The following members were submitted for SWB/ESA for the following awards during the current year.

1. Award for Excellence in Integrated Pest Management: Dr. Kevin Heinz (TAMU)  
(Also received ESA National Award in this category).
2. ESA Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension: Dr. Phillip Mulder (OSU)
3. ESA Distinguished Achievement Award to the Certification Program: Dr. Michael Merchant.  
(Also received ESA National Award in this category).
4. Integrated Pest Management Team Award: Dr. Bastiaan M. Drees (Texas Cooperative Extension)  
(Also received ESA National Award)      Dr. Raymond Frisbie (Texas Cooperative Extension)  
  
Dr. S. Bradleigh Vinson (Texas A&M University)  
Dr. Harlan G. Thorvilson (Texas Tech University)  
Dr. Lawrence Gilbert (University of Texas)

Agriculture)

David Kostroun (Texas Department of

Growers

Mark Forgason (Texas and Southwest Cattle

Association)

Douglas N. VanGundy (Wellmark International)

5. John Henry Comstock Graduate Student Award: Bryna E. Donnelly (OSU)

6. Lillian And Alex Feir Graduate Student Travel Award: Mir Chen (TAMU)

(Also received ESA National Award in this category).

Respectfully submitted,

Darrell Bay, Chair of Committee

### **Necrology Committee:**

Dr. Roger W. Meola died on December 22, 2003 in Bryan, Texas. He was 69 years old. Roger was born on August 25, 1934 and is the son of Librador K. and Bessie Walker Meola of Columbus, Ohio. Roger graduated from Shaw High School in Cleveland, and was a member of the swimming team, and played softball both in high school and in intramural programs in college.

Roger earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Ohio State University in 1954. It was during his undergraduate program that he met Shirlee Ann May of Carrollton, Ohio. Roger and Shirlee married for life in June of 1956. They married while Roger was studying for his Master's degree with Dr. D. M. DeLong at Ohio State University. Roger completed his Master's degree in 1958 and immediately went into a Ph.D. program that he completed in 1963 at Ohio State University. Dr. Meola's specific area of study was insect physiology with a primary interest in neuro-peptides. After completion of his Ph.D. degree, Dr. Meola began his professional career as a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at Ohio State University where he worked with Dr. Carl Vernard. One year later, in 1964, Roger and Shirlee Meola both accepted positions with the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory in Vero Beach, Florida. They were able to work together in the same program where Roger worked with the neuro-peptides, and Shirlee worked in histology. They were part of the team that identified the source and function of several hormones that regulate reproduction and behavior in mosquitoes.

After five years, Roger and Shirlee moved to the University of Georgia where they continued with their research until 1972, when they moved to College Station, Texas. Dr. Shirlee Meola had accepted a position with the USDA-Agricultural Research Service, and Roger set out to build their home that they lived in together for the next 30 years.

In 1973, Dr. Roger Meola accepted a Research Associate position with Dr. Perry Adkisson in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University to study the physiology of diapause in the cotton bollworm. Roger then joined the faculty of the Department of Entomology as a Lecturer in 1975, and was appointed as an Assistant Professor in 1978. He was later promoted to Associate Professor and then to Professor in the Department of Entomology.

During his 27 year tenure in Entomology at Texas A&M University, Dr. Meola taught a

diversity of courses including: Introductory Entomology, Veterinary Entomology, Insect Biology, and Insect Physiology. For several years, Dr. Meola served as the faculty advisor for the Master's of Agriculture degree program in Entomology. He was also a faculty advisor to the Department's Undergraduate Entomology Student Organization.

In recognition of his excellence in the classroom, Dr. Meola received the Texas A&M Association of Former Students Distinguished Teaching Award in 1985, and the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America Distinguished Award in Teaching in both 1987 and 1988.

At the same time that Dr. Meola was involved with the teaching programs of the Department of Entomology, he also maintained an active research program in insect physiology. He was very successful in securing grants and contracts that supported his work and provided assistantships and financial support for numerous graduate students, post-doctorate research associates and technicians. His former students are now employed in many professions, including those who own their own companies, those working in Universities throughout the world, and as entomologists working with federal, state and local agencies. They are the ones who carry on the traditions of excellence they learned from their association with Dr. Meola. He also served on numerous other graduate student advisory committees, where he was always encouraging and helpful. Dr. Meola is recognized for his research on cotton bollworm physiology, the regulation of biting behavior of mosquitoes, and the mode of action of insect growth regulators on fleas. Dr. Meola's research was recognized internationally, and in 1999 he was the invitational lecturer at the World Veterinary Congress in Lyon, France.

Roger was happiest when guiding young people in the science of Entomology, or when he was fishing. He gave a smile and encouragement to all he met, and never turned away a needy animal from his door. His life was blessed with pets, including dogs and many cats that brought him joy and happiness.

In the last few months of his life, Roger was truly an example of humility, courage and bravery. He fully recognized his condition and fate, and, yet, it was he who encouraged others to proceed forward with their lives.

In his new journey, he leaves behind his wife of 47 years, Dr. Shirlee Meola, a brother, Kenneth Meola, who lives in Oceanside, California, and his sister, Betty Lee Huffman, who resides in Richmond, Virginia, and numerous nieces and nephews. He will be missed by his many relatives, friends, colleagues, and students into whose life he has brought much joy. An undergraduate scholarship in the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University is being established to honor Dr. Roger Meola's accomplishments. It was his desire that the scholarship be specifically named "The Second Chance" to encourage students to stay in school or to return to finish their programs.

Roger E. Gold & Jimmy K. Olson  
Department of Entomology, Texas A&M University  
College Station, TX 77843-2475

#### **Branch Archive Committee:**

Spent time gathering information on a list of past presidents and locations of meetings of the

SWB-ESA for Dr. John Burd. Also gathered information on the Taquenewhapp past award recipients. To gather the information I contacted Dr. Horace Burke, Dr. Pat Morrison and Dr. Don Rummel and used notes from my files. The summary of this information is on page 45-47 of your program.

Met with Dr. Horace Burke in November of 2003 to interview him about his recollections on the history of the Department of Entomology at Texas A&M University and the Southwestern Branch. Also asked about how he became interested in entomology and his early years. This interview is currently being transcribed.

In January, I received a large volume of papers from Mark Trostle via Ed Gage. I sorted through this information and organized it by year. Years included 1993 to 2000. The following is a list of items delivered to Texas A&M University Library on February 19, 2004.

1998 Executive Director Search  
1998 Personnel Matters  
1998 Committee on International Affairs - Roster & Purpose  
1995 SW Branch Awards Com.- from Don Peters & others  
1994 SW Com. Business - from W.P. Morrison  
1994 Branch Nominees - ESA Awards - W.P. Morrison  
1994 Guidelines for Awards, Honors, Grants & Letters W.P. Morrison  
1993 SW Branch Award Nominees - W.P. Morrison & other letters  
2000 Joint Annual Meeting w/Ento Soc. of Canada & Quebec, Registration Packet  
2001 Letter on raising membership dues - L. Larson  
1998 Intern Affairs Com - Business Meeting  
1997 Sec. Eb & E minutes - ESA at Nashville  
1998 Resolutions  
1998 Strategic Planning Com. & Founders Memorial Award Com.  
1998 Sec E final Business Meeting Minutes  
1998 Proposed By Law Changes  
1995 Nom. of SW Branch for JH Comstock Award (Darlene Judd)  
2000 Governing Board Reception Agenda  
1999 Sec. E final Business Meeting  
1998 Time line for Evaluation of Executive Director  
2000 Membership list of all ESA Standing Com.  
2000 Student Affairs Com. Survey results  
2000 Sec. Eb minutes & Agenda  
2000 ESA Governing Board Minutes  
1999 ESA Financial Statement  
2000 Section & Branch Reports at Gov. Board  
2000 Town Hall Meeting  
2000 ESA Membership Breakdown  
2001 Proposed Program and Budget Plan  
2000 Winter Gov. Board Meeting  
1995 J.H. Comstock Award Nomination (Robin Smith)  
1999 Committee on International Affairs - Roster & Purpose

2000 SW Branch Meeting Announcement for 2001 meeting  
2000 Summer Governing Board - Workbook on Foundation Funding  
2000 Summer Governing Board - Workbook on Motions  
1999 Minutes of SW Branch ESA Meeting - Las Cruces  
1999 SW Branch Call for Papers & Registration Packet  
1999 SWB- ESA Planning Session Agenda - Dallas Res. Center  
1999 National Meeting Reg. Form - Atlanta, Ga  
2000 Summer Governing Board Manual  
1998 ESA Gov. Board Manual  
1997 ESA Draft Budget for 1998  
1997 ESA Gov. Board Manual  
1999 ESA Summer Gov. Board Meeting - Eugene, OR  
1999 ESA Winter Gov. Board Meeting Atlanta, Ga.  
1999 ESA Proposed Personnel Manual  
1999 ESA Draft 2000 Program & Budget Plan

Greg Cronholm  
February 26, 2004

### **Insect Detection, Evaluation, and Prediction Committee Report for 2003-04:**

New Mexico. As a consequence of various surveys going on in the state plus the usual supply of samples, Carol Sutherland alone completed over 1400 identifications this year for the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, County Cooperative Extension Agents, researchers, Master Gardeners, pest control operators and the general public.

Three highlights for the year occurred within days of each other in October.

In late summer, Banded elm bark beetle, *Scolytus schevyrewi* Semenov [Coleoptera: Scolytidae] was trapped in Albuquerque and Santa Fe for two new county records, Bernalillo and Santa Fe, respectively. However, a bigger surprise resulted from submission of bark beetle samples several of us collected in October, 1998 from Siberian elms in Clovis. At that time, the local parks and recreation director complained about losing quite a few large, old elms at a city golf course and park, citing Dutch elm disease as the cause. Since that disease still has not been confirmed in New Mexico, several of in Extension were interested in visiting the site to investigate any possible insect associates of these dead and dying elms. Bob Cain, Forest Entomologist, Natalie Goldberg, Extension Plant Pathologist and Sutherland visited the area in October, finding vast numbers of a small brownish-black *Scolytus* in twigs, branches, limbs and trunks of trees of varying ages. We failed to find any evidence of Dutch elm disease, presuming it was either really difficult to detect in the fall or the Siberian elms were resistant or tolerant to it. From what we have read, the latter is probably correct. Assuming the *Scolytus* to be another collection of the lesser European elm bark beetle, *S. multistriatus*, the specimens were put into the collection. Cain has since moved to Colorado with a job as Forest Entomologist for the U.S. Forest Service. His experience with *S. schevyrewi* there seemed familiar to what we had seen in Clovis. He asked if I could find the specimens and forward them for confirmation to James

LaBonte, an entomologist with the Oregon Department of Agriculture. I did, and they were. At present, we seem to have the earliest record for *S. schevyrewi* in the nation, but the source is still unknown. Current thinking on this beetle is that it was probably in our area for several years before the elms started dying, taking advantage of large old trees that had been stressed for years by drought.

Almost simultaneously, a report of brown, mushy apple fruit reached Sutherland. After tracking down the source (Los Alamos), she received two boxes of apple fruit, representing four different backyard growers. Three of the four had the tell-tail trails of apple maggots (*Rhagoletis pomonella* (Walsh), [Diptera: Tephritidae] in the apple flesh. Four intact larvae and one prepupa were collected. The identification was confirmed, pending verification of adult specimens, by Allan Norrbom, USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory in November. This is a new state and new county record. The New Mexico Department of Agriculture is planning a delimiting survey for Los Alamos in late spring, 2004 and a more general survey for this pest in other apple production regions of the state, as resources permit.

The third major discovery of the year was a new county record, Dona Ana, for white fringed beetle, identified as *Graphognathus* (prob.) *fecundus* Buchanan by Steven Lingafelter, USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory in November. This is assumed to be the same species caught in the early 1980s in Roswell (Chaves Co.), walking on a sidewalk; this was the first known collection of the species in the state. In the late 1980s, entomologists at Texas Tech discovered another infestation of *Graphognathus* in an alfalfa field in Lea County, NM. The farmer's son was a student at Tech, and when he needed specimens for his insect collection, he got them from home. Our third likely record came from alfalfa hay involved in a presumed blister beetle poisoning investigation in Texas. Beetle elytra had been recovered from the suspect hay, allegedly grown in Eddy County, NM. Instead of being blister beetle elytra, however, they were white fringed beetle elytra. No other specimens have been collected from that county at this time. The Dona Ana County record was the fourth for the state and the third associated with alfalfa. In this case, a lady noticed these large, unusual beetles on her back porch after an October wind and rain storm. When she submitted samples for identification, two NMDA inspectors went to the alfalfa field surrounding most of her yard, looking for more beetles. They found over a dozen, including 4 live ones crawling on the ground. They also found a large alfalfa root, about 1" in diameter, that sustained 4 mature WFB larvae which were also collected. A return visit to the site a week later generated another live adult, about 10 dead ones from the back porch and two larvae, one mature, the other a recent hatchling. These pests notch the foliage of host plants as adults and either mine the roots or feed on the outsides of smaller host roots, generally leading to weakness and loss of the plant and declining stand health. According to the literature, the species *Graphognathus* "*leucoloma*" is flightless as an adult; it also supposedly lacks males. As with many species that one has confirmed with USDA identifiers, they find great variability in the specimens submitted and limited assistance from available literature. They always tack on words to the effect that the "taxon needs revision," which it probably does. However, in this case, Lingafelter noted that "this is a member of a confusing complex of hybridizing species." We may never know.

Another piece of confusing information to pass along relates to the pecan phylloxera confirmed in 2002 in some urban pecan trees in Lovington (Lea County), NM. Manya Stoetzel, USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory had confirmed this unusual species to be *Phylloxera*

*texana* Stoetzel [Homoptera: Phylloxeridae] in 2002. She was aware of only scattered locations in central Texas where this species had been collected and all of those records were from the early 1980s when the species was described. This species is not especially damaging to the foliage, which seems to be the primary location for the phylloxeran on pecan. It was supposed to spend the summer on “oak,” although which oak was unknown for our area. Sutherland visited the infested neighborhood several times in 2002, attempting to track the insects to their summer oak hosts and then back to pecan where they were supposed to overwinter, possibly as eggs. In the summer we found minute golden phylloxera near the midribs on the undersides of red oak and (ornamental) Shumard oak; these phylloxera were totally lacking in waxy body coverings, adopting postures like pupae resting on their venters. Only a couple of winged phylloxera were captured from Shumard oak before the supply of phylloxera dwindled to nothing. No winged phylloxera were found on accessible pecan foliage in the fall or on twigs. In fact, by the spring of 2003, we couldn't find evidence of any phylloxera galls on the originally infested pecan trees. The owners maintained they had not treated their trees with pesticides; an abundance of a variety of insect and spider predators suggested they may have eaten enough of the pests that the population collapsed.

Bark beetles in the genus *Ips* continue to take a toll of pinyon and Ponderosa pine wherever they occur in the state. Some local areas have suffered near 100% death rates, particularly of pinyon growing in poor locations. This has caused considerable alarm to large landowners in north central New Mexico and also to other land managers in environmentally sensitive areas. Recommendations remain for early season protectant sprays for high value trees, thinning and prompt and thorough removal of dead and dying timber. Now some trees have been dead long enough to lose their red needles, giving the forest in some areas an olive green color.

Japanese beetle remains established in a relatively small area in northwest Albuquerque. So far, the only known population in the state is remaining in about the same area, within about a mile of its initial capture at an area nursery. We're assuming the pest hitch hiked into New Mexico in B&B or container stock brought into the nursery from the Midwest; alternatively, some individual(s) may have moved into the area, bringing infested possessions with him. At any rate, the first beetle was captured in a JB trap posted at the nursery in 1997. Trap captures in the area were fewer than 20/year for the first few years; more recently they have hovered around 200/season with flights beginning in late June, tapering off dramatically by late August. So far, the NMDA inspectors, the nurserymen or the general public have not found any JB larvae, although relatively few white grubs are submitted for identification anyway. This past year, adults were seen flying near a small pasture in the area. After suffering with some regulatory restrictions in shipping for the last few years, New Mexico nurserymen in the area held a general information meeting in late summer in Albuquerque to discuss potential eradication of the pest with NMDA and Extension staff. A small park and recreation area near the original detection site has been productive of flying JB in recent years. The sod was treated with assistance from local government staff. The area where JB is established consists of a mixture of small homes on small lots, small pastures (<10A/each for most), a number of small businesses and a large, generally barren gravel pit.

Boll weevil eradication projects are proceeding around the southern tier of counties. After 6 years of substantial efforts, the pest will be declared eradicated in the south-central project and protective quarantines are going into effect. Cotton acreage in the southwestern part of the state

has been substantially limited in recent years with no boll weevil captures there for some period of time. The east-central projects have experienced much of the same with dramatically decreasing captures last year. The south-eastern projects have been retooled to regain the advantage over boll weevil in the coming year.

Pink bollworm eradication was dovetailed into the waning boll weevil eradication program in the south central counties. Although the objective is the same, the means to this end is quite different, relying on substantial and increasing acreages of “Bt” cotton to diminish amounts of susceptible hosts. NMDA maintains a plowdown for cotton field residue in all cotton growing counties. Pheromone “ropes” and topical applications provide another management tool with “clean-up” practiced with labeled insecticides. In the south central counties, pinkie populations have been substantially reduced, although trapping results have indicated the resilience and resourcefulness of this insect. Thus far, funding has been inadequate for mass production and release of sterile pinkie moths.

Submitted by: Carol Sutherland, New Mexico

Oklahoma. This year (2003) turned out to be rather uneventful insect-wise in Oklahoma with no major outbreaks of pests which were observed in the past few years. A few household pests (drugstore and dermestid beetles) as well as the spitting spider (*Scytodes thoracica*) were reported in slightly higher numbers. Several newspapers were also running articles indicating much higher than usual reports of bed bugs but no samples were submitted by extension offices or homeowners for positive identification. Not sure if this is a case of PCO misidentification or what but we saw no evidence of an infestation. We are continuing to work closely with Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry to map distribution of the red imported fire ant (RIFA) south of I-40 (southern 50% of Oklahoma). ODAFF sampling at large chain home and garden stores in some of the northern counties continues to find RIFA infestations possibly associated with infested landscape ornamentals. These appear to be isolated cases and continued monitoring will help determine if these new colonies become established.

Working closely with plant pathologists in our department we were able to solve a long standing riddle concerning tomato problems in the state. A large outbreak of what was thought to be psyllid yellows was instead positively identified as beet curly top virus. Both have symptoms that are very similar but we were never able to find psyllid immatures on any of the infested plants. Using PCR, the Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Lab was able to positively identify the virus from tomato isolates.

Submitted by: Richard Grantham

Texas. USDA-APHIS-PPQ has changed dramatically in the last few years. The Agricultural Quarantine Inspection personnel are now part of the Department of Homeland Security. This leaves only a few PPQ officers to handle domestic programs in the state. The PPQ regions were changed last year and now there are only two regions the Eastern Region and the Western Region. All of the states in the SW Branch of the ESA are in the USDA- PPQ Western Region. Consequently, the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program has changed dramatically. The state programs are now coordinated and funded through the state regulatory agencies and in our case the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). TDA has appointed a

State Survey Coordinator to oversee CAPS and distribute the request for proposals. All projects under CAPS are expected to be surveys specifically for pests of national, regional or state interest. There are target pest lists for the CAPS surveys and the lists were generated with homeland security concerns in mind.

In May, there were several reports of the post oak grasshopper, *Dendrotettix quercus* Packard [Acridiidae] defoliating post oaks in the central Texas area. This insect has not been reported for over 20 years so the numbers in 2003 are unusual. Other grasshoppers were lighter than in the last few years. However, there were some localized problems.

There was some concern over gypsy moth adults that were trapped in 2003 around Dallas. This concern triggered an egg mass survey coordinated by TDA early in 2004.

An *Agrilus* beetle (Buprestidae) that was apparently killing western soapberry, *Sapindus drummondi*, was reported by a landscape company near Austin during the summer. A few specimens were reviewed at Texas A&M and submitted to Henry Hespenheide who will confirm the species identification at the British Museum. This species has not been reported in the United States and it is expected to be an import from Mexico.

There was a report of a walkingstick, *Anisomorpha monstrosa*, from Belize that was supposed to be established along the Texas coast. This report circulated around email and the internet and claimed that the walkingstick “sprayed” a caustic substance. The story seemed to be generated by a mis-identification of the species based on images on the Web. There is a native walkingstick, *Anisomorpha buprestoides*, that produces a caustic substance. The interpretation of the term “spray” remains in question.

In the spring there were many reports of immatures of *Zelus longipes* (Linnaeus) [Reduviidae]. These bright red nymphs have white spots and long dark legs. They can be mistaken for immatures of *Leptoglossus* [Coreidae].

Submitted by: J. A. Jackman

### **Insect Exposition Committee:**

The Southwestern Branch Entomological Society of America Insect Expo was held Monday, February 23 at the Panhandle South Plains Fair Grounds in Lubbock, Texas. While the weather was misty and wet, it did not seem to keep any of the schools who had previously made reservations away.

- 23 School districts from around the South Plains participated
- some traveled up to two hours
- 1075 Students in Grades 3-5 attended
- 25 Eighth grade Pre-AP students from Hutchinson Jr. High assisted
- Approximately 55 volunteers from our branch assisted
- 17 Exhibits were provided
  - **The Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma:** Live Exotic Insects and Insect Petting Zoo.
  - **West Texas A&M University, Division of Agriculture, Canyon, Texas:** Insects as Human Food, and Bug Suckers, making your own collecting tools.

- **Texas Cooperative Extension - Integrated Pest Management:** Texas Insects and Exotic Insects, Kidz Ants Curriculum.
- **Department of Entomology, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas:** Origami (paper folding) Insects, Ant Detective Game.
- **Texas Tech University, College of Agriculture, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences:** How Insects View The World.
- **Texas Cooperative Extension, District 2, 4-H Program:** Something's Fishy.
- **Museum of Texas Tech, Lubbock, Tx**
- **Lubbock Lake Landmark, Lubbock, Tx**
- **The Science Spectrum, Lubbock, Tx**
- **Texas Cooperative Extension, Lubbock County 4-H Program,** Insect Id Contest.
- **The Zoo, Lubbock, Tx**
- **Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation,** Southern High Plains/Caprock Zone Office, Lubbock, Tx
- Other Exhibits Included: Who's afraid of a little 'ol bug?, Arts and Crafts- Creating Paper Insects,
- Lunch was provided for volunteers working the event through the support of generous sponsors:
  - Agriliance
  - AgTexas Farm Credit Services
  - Gafford Pest Control, Mr. Tim Gafford
  - Pest Management Services, Dr. Jay Stone
  - Terminex, Mr. Scott Turner
  - UAP Southwest
  - Wilbur-Ellis
- All expenses were funded by donations.

Attached are articles from the web site of KCBD NewsChannel 11, and the *Lubbock Avalanche Journal*.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Scott A. Russell, Insect Expo Coordinator  
 26 February, 2004

### **Linnaean Games Committee:**

The twentieth Linnaean Games Competition for the Southwestern Branch of the ESA was held at the fifty second annual meeting in Lubbock, Texas. Teams representing New Mexico State University (2), Oklahoma State University (2), Texas A&M University (3), and West Texas A&M University participated in the games. In six well-played matches, Oklahoma State won first place, whereas second place went to New Mexico State University. Members of all teams either have received or will receive a Certificate of Honor for Outstanding Participation, and the teams from Oklahoma State University and New Mexico State University are eligible to

represent the Southwestern Branch at the national competitions at the next National ESA meetings to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah. Oklahoma State University will receive financial (usually \$500.00) support for their travels to those meetings, a traveling trophy, a permanent trophy and \$50.00 per team member. The committee would like to thank the Southwestern Branch of the ESA and Dow AgroSciences (specifically Dr. Vernon Langston) for their support of trophies and other awards provided to the winning teams.

We would also like to thank Kansas State University for the opportunity of additional competition, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> challenge for the “Little Golden Bug Challenge Cup” competition. In two, well played matches the team from the Southwestern Branch won the trophy, commemorative gold medallions, and bragging rights for the upcoming year.

The committee and chair wish to publicly extend their heartfelt thanks to Dr. David Richman, who served this committee faithfully for the past 10 years or more as a team coach, committee member and question writer. His contributions to this Branch, and in particular this committee, will be sorely missed.

Respectfully submitted:

Phillip G. Mulder, Jr., Chair  
Harlan Thorvilson  
Carol Sutherland  
Russell Wright

Richard C. Berberet  
Richard Grantham  
Frank Gilstrap  
Scott Bundy

Mark Muegge  
Scott Armstrong

**Local Arrangement Committee:** P. Porter, H. Thorvilson, S. Armstrong, written by P. Porter)

The meeting was held at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza in Lubbock. Room rates were \$79.00 per night, and actually \$89.27 after taxes. We exceeded our minimum guaranteed number of rooms occupied, in part because the snow storm arrived on Tuesday rather than Monday. In total, we paid the hotel \$9,280.99 for catering, service, equipment rental, gratuity, etc. We exceeded the minimum charge of \$3,800 for food, and hence received free use of the meeting rooms. Members of the Albuquerque committee attended our final meeting with Lubbock hotel personnel in order to get some idea of how we interact with hotels.

We paid \$517 to Lone Star Decorating for rental of seven double-sided and two single-sided poster boards for the duration of the meeting. We also paid \$400 for a very good daughter and father band that played traditional western songs at the banquet. Alas, the acoustics in the banquet room were poor, and the music did not sound as good as it really was.

Incidental expenses totaled \$306 for six re-usable, high quality signs to acknowledge major sponsors, and small presentation items like laser pointers, CDs, CD label pens, and an ink cartridge for the printer.

Jim Leser asked for \$700 donations from major agricultural chemical companies. He received contributions from Bayer Crop Science, Dow AgroSciences, Dupont Crop Protection, FMC Corporation, Monsanto, and Syngenta. These contributions totaled \$4,250, and Jim has written letters of appreciation to these companies. We shall pass on our sponsor acknowledgement signs to the Albuquerque meeting if so desired. It was our intent to create an atmosphere where corporate sponsors would be pleased with their acknowledgement and hence

be more inclined to contribute in the future. As she has done in the past, Ada Rummel also contributed \$500 to the meeting. This committee is unable to report contributions to the Spouse/Guest/Retiree committee, if any.

All presentations were submitted on CD at the meeting, and we did provide web-based submission of backup copies of presentations. Presentations were collected from presenters and initially moved to a Macintosh computer so as to isolate any viruses that may have been present. Virus-free presentations were then moved to a Windows computer. One CD was created for each session. There were no problems with presentation collection or projection. Pat Porter did not allow students to correct or modify presentations destined for competition once the student handed him a CD. Any formatting problems in student presentations were corrected by Pat Porter with the student in attendance, but only corrections for projection-dependent formatting were allowed. Presenters were able to retrieve their original CDs only after the completion of the session wherein they presented. Pat Porter has copies of all presentations given at the meeting.

Registration could have gone better. Unfortunately, the student pool of volunteers on the first day of registration included no native English speakers and no reasonably skilled computer users to make name badges. These circumstances lead to the only complaints the Local Arrangements Committee heard verbalized at the meeting. Mention of this situation is included not as criticism, but as a help to future planning.

Spouse/Guest/Retiree events were not held. The Local Arrangements Committee strongly recommends that future registration forms ask for specific identification and contact information for spouses, guests, and retirees.

The meeting informational website was created and maintained at Lubbock. We offered online (only) submission of topics for presentations and posters, and mail-in registration for physical attendance at the meeting. This seemed to work well, and we hope to improve the online tools before the next meeting. As discussed in Executive session, such improvements may include a place to list an ESA membership number on the meeting and presentation registration forms, a pull-down menu of speaker/presenter organizations, collection of presenter e-mail addresses for a notification list, adaptation of the software to order presentations into ranks and sessions and create symposia, and to electronic presentation submission. We would also like to enable presenters and attendees to view information they have already submitted electronically. We need to include a "location" field in poster/presentation submissions. Pat Porter and Craig Carpenter will submit a budget estimate for these improvements.

Submitted 11 March 2004

Patrick Porter

**Membership Committee:** Report to the 2004 SWB-ESA Annual Meeting, Lubbock, TX  
February 26, 2004

The Southwestern Branch of the ESA, as of February 12, 2004 has 341 members, 107 student members, 11 Student Transition 1 members, 5 Student Transition 2 members, 34 Emeritus members, 1 Life member, 8 Honorary members, 5 Family (M1) members, 4 Family (M2) members, and 1 President's Circle. This includes current and members who had not yet renewed

their membership from 2002. Of that total, 442 had paid through 2003, and 75 had not yet renewed from 2002. When the paid and unpaid memberships for 2004 are added, the result is 517 total members. The Southwestern Branch has seen a 27% decline in membership since 1999.

I remind all members of the SW Branch that we will be tackling some of the charges outlined by President Steffey in a memo on February 11, 2004 with regard to addressing the declining membership in the Society:

- Reinvigorate the activity of the committee on membership in the Southwestern Branch
- Work with Chris Stelzig, ESA Director of Membership and Marketing to address recruitment, retention and reclamation of members
- Implement Chair Riley's proposal for a 2004 membership drive
- Forward internal committee operating procedures to ESA's Executive Director, Paula Lettuce.
- Work to develop tactical plans to carry out strategic goals in ESA's new strategic plan.
- Provide recommendations to the Governing Board about the future of current standing committees.

President Burd discovered a standing need to be able to consistently identify a designated representative from the Southwestern Branch to the Standing Committee on Membership of the ESA. In the past, a representative was not always identified in a timely manner. This year, there is a proposed change to the bylaws that will designate the chair of the SWB Membership Committee to serve a 2-year term on the National Membership Committee. The chair of the Southwestern Branch Membership Committee will be appointed by the President.

Respectfully submitted  
Tom A. Royer, Chair

### **Nominations Committee:**

The SWB ESA 2004 Nominations Committee convened a meeting on February 24, 2004 at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza Hotel, site of the 2004 SWB ESA Annual Meeting to consider and discuss nominees for Secretary-Treasurer Elect, SWB ESA, for 2005. Committee members present were: Dr. Terry Mize, Past-President, Dr. John Burd, 2004 SWB ESA President, Dr. Pat Morrison, Dr. James Reinert, and Dr. Marvin Harris, SWB ESA Governing Board Representative.

Several potential candidates were discussed from Industry, Federal and State Government, and Private Consulting backgrounds, considering availability, service to the Society, membership in the Society, and potential interest in serving.

In a unanimous decision, the Committee voted to nominate Gregory Cronholm, IPM-EA with the Texas Cooperative Extension Service in Plainview, TX as the 2005 nominee from the Nominations Committee for Secretary-Treasurer Elect.

Respectfully submitted to the membership at the Final Business Meeting of the 2004 SWB ESA Annual Meeting, Lubbock, TX on February 26, 2004.

Terry W. Mize, Chair  
John Burd  
Pat Morrison  
James Reinert  
Marvin Harris

### **Program Committee:**

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America and the Annual Meeting of the Society of Southwestern Entomologists were held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the High Plains Association of Crop Consultants. The meetings were 23-26 February 2004 at the Holiday Inn Park Plaza Hotel in Lubbock, Texas. Excluding presentations for the Annual Meeting of the High Plains Association of Crop Consultants, a total of 94 presentations was made at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Branch of the Entomological Society of America. The two symposia were sorghum entomology (Tuesday morning) and cotton entomology (Wednesday afternoon). Presentations were:

Student Competition – total of 35 presentations submitted, 1 cancelled, 1 “no show”

Oral Presentations:	12 submitted, 0 cancelled 7 Master’s and 5 Ph.D. students
Poster Presentations:	23 submitted, 1 cancelled, 1 “no show” 18 Master’s and undergraduate and 3 Ph.D. students
Submitted Oral Presentations:	22 submitted, 0 cancelled
Submitted Poster Presentations:	25 submitted, 0 cancelled, 1 “no show”
Symposia:	total of 12 presentations
Cotton Entomology:	6 oral presentations
Sorghum Entomology:	6 oral presentations

Pat Porter was in charge of setting up an on-line presentation registration site. The site worked well, except several people submitted their information twice and many did not know their affiliations.

A 32-page booklet of Proceedings also was printed this year. Students were required to submit abstracts for publication in the Proceedings. A total of 47 abstracts was submitted. Of those, students submitted 34 abstracts and 13 were by authors of submitted oral or poster presentations.

Bonnie Pendleton – Co-Chair  
Megha Parajulee – Co-Chair  
James Leser  
Patrick Porter

### **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 2003 meeting in Oklahoma City, including activities at Our Kids World. A total of 86 digital slides were taken for inclusion in the Branch Archives.

Entomological presentations and displays were given in the NMSU Arthropod Museum to visitors from 15+ elementary, middle and high schools. Displays and brief presentations on entomology were given as part of a (college) student recruitment activity called Aggie Experience in both fall and spring for approximately 1,142 students. Presentations and displays were also made to smaller visitor groups (home schooled students, guests, administrators and various others) for an additional 159 children and adults.

The Insect Expo in Las Cruces in May 2003 drew at least 2,693 Elementary School Students plus teachers, aides, and parents. Another Insect Expo-type event was held in conjunction with the SW Branch ESA meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma that attracted at least 2000 students in a 2-day event. Several NMSU faculty and student volunteers assisted with this Oklahoma event. In April, a collection of various insects was taken to the Catron County Ranch Days, another 2-day event, attracting approximately 400 elementary students guided by high school FFA docents. The activities listed above exposed about 6400 students from preschool- grade 12 to the wonders of arthropods.

In addition, Carol Sutherland, Andrine Morrison, Scott Bundy, David Thompson and others used materials from the museum to give presentations to hundreds of other students locally and around the state.

Carol Sutherland, in particular, took "bugs on the road" to at least 10 presentations on entomology for Master Gardeners (ca. 380 adults), 3 presentation/displays for agricultural producers and field scouts (ca. 300 adults), all elementary students in 3 different local grade schools (ca. 550 students) and the annual "School to World" workshop for middle and high school students in Albuquerque (ca. 2000 students). This generated another 3,230 audience members for presentations and/or displays on entomology. She also created another display on butterflies and moths for the Southern New Mexico State Fair in Las Cruces in September, winning a "first place" ribbon for an Educational Exhibit. Carol also took over 20 drawers of arthropod specimens, posters, models and other "buggy paraphernalia" to "Ag-tober-Fest" in Deming in October. Approximately 600 students, teachers, parents and members of the general public viewed this exhibit alone.

Other NMSU recruitment activities on behalf of entomology included the FFA Dona Ana Invitational Contest (29 contestants); FFA State contest (152 contestants), the preparation of four 4-H District contests, and the 4-H State contest (115 contestants).

Using just the named events and audience counts listed above, Carol Sutherland and David Richman presented entomology information and viewing opportunities to over 10,000 individuals in the past year. The numbers grow every year!

Faculty and staff at Texas A&M University were involved in giving presentations on entomology to grade school students, judging local and regional science fairs, 4-H related activities, and training Master Gardener Entomologists. Mo Way gave entomology presentations to SE Texas middle school students at Lamar University's Jason Project, cooked mealworms and crickets and answered questions about entomology for SE Texas Art Museum, and gave

presentations to grade school students at several events in East Texas. Kerry Siders participated in Job Shadow Day and South Plains College Career Day to recruit scouts and entomology students. Kerry also participated in Hockley Co. Ag Awareness Day and Petting Zoo, presenting IPM and crops to 1300 students. He also participated in Early Settlers Day to promote IPM and provide information on West Nile Virus to 2000 people. Chris Sansone discussed the role of insects in the environment with 400 grade school students in West Texas.

Forrest Mitchell and staff at Stephenville gave presentations and field tours on entomology-related topics at the Rockport Hummer/Bird Festival, Bitter Lake Dragonfly Festival, Texas Master Naturalists training session, Kingsville Wildlife and Birding Festival, Mesquite Water Gardening Society, and Friends of Fredericksburg Nature Center.

Tanya Pankiw gave a honey bee observation hive demonstration at the AgDay Fair in Brenham. She also gave lectures to Beekeeper Associations across Texas on various topics related to honey bee research at Texas A&M including: diseases, effects of transgenic plant protease inhibitors on pollinators, foraging behaviors in tropical and temperate evolved honey bees, pheromone regulated brood rearing, and genetic technologies for apiculture.

Mo Way, Noel Troxclair, Roy Parker, and others Judged Regional Science and Engineering Fairs on behalf of SWBESA. Mo Way prepared and administered the Youth Rice Contest for SE Texas FFA chapters. Carlos Bográn, John Jackman, Scott Armstrong, Kerry Siders, Bonnie Pendleton and others were involved in regional and state 4H Entomology contests and leader training. John Jackman also supplied the written contest materials and specimens for contests across the state. Carlos, John, and Mike Merchant developed and delivered the first Master Gardener Specialist-Entomology program. Nathan Riggs, Wizzie Brown, and Paul Nester debuted KIDzANTS, the new TCE/Texas 4-H curriculum about red imported fire ants for kids in grades 3 through 5. Paul piloted the new KIDzANTS Texas to over 600 students at elementary schools in the Houston area.

At Oklahoma State University, Andrine Morrison is the new Outreach Program Coordinator who oversees the Insectary, and serves as a liaison for fairs and classroom visits with insects. She has served in this capacity since July 2003. Andrine has reached nearly 700 students and adults by giving presentations at a Church School Open House, a Church Halloween party, Church pre-school and kindergarten classes, a first grade elementary class, and an Audubon Nature Day in Stillwater. She also coordinated the transport of OSU insects for the Insect Expo in Lubbock and arranged for graduate students to host the booth.

Several OSU personnel helped host the Insect Zoo during the State Fair in Oklahoma City, at the Payne County Fair in Stillwater, and at the Oklahoma City Garden Festival. These events attracted 300,000 persons, 1200 persons, and 15,000 persons, respectively. OSU personnel also helped with "Our Kids World" prior to the SWB meeting in Oklahoma City last year. Don Arnold, Phil Mulder, and Richard Grantham judged entomology entries at the Oklahoma City and Tulsa State Fairs. Don Arnold and Kevin Shelton shared our Insect Zoo with 36 4-H students in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Stephen Garvin and Edmond Bonjour each gave programs to elementary students at the Stillwater YMCA.

Pat Bolin was actively involved with the Master Gardener program in nine Oklahoma counties plus the state conference as well as talked about horticultural insect pests and their control with the Ambassador Program (Master Gardeners) for the Oklahoma Botanical Garden and Arboretum. She also conducted a "YardSmart" educational event for homeowners which

taught people about protecting the environment. Pat hosted an entomology booth at the “Garden Festival” in Oklahoma City where she had extensive educational material about insects and their role in society. She presented the ABCs of IPM at the Grove Home and Garden Show and talked about pest management and pesticide safety to 4400 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders at ScienceFest. Pat also participated in HOTCamp (Horticultural and Other Technologies Camp) a summer camp focused on environmental protection where she interacted with 8-10<sup>th</sup> graders and discussed aquatic macro-invertebrates and their use in assessing water quality.

During 2003, nearly 500 students completed the Insects and Society class which is taught by retired extension entomologist Ken Pinkston. These students continue to adorn the OSU Department hallways with their artwork.

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

Respectfully submitted: Edmond Bonjour - Chair, Charles Chilcutt, Jim Criswell, Forrest Mitchell, and Nathan Riggs.

#### **Resolutions Committee:**

Committee Members: Bill Ree - Chair

John George, Stan Carroll, Allen Knutson

Resolution No. 1.- **Whereas**, the 52<sup>nd</sup> 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: **John Burd, Phillip Mulder, Bastiaan Drees, David Thompson and Frank Gilstrap**. **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, co-chaired by **Megha Parajulee** and **Bonnie Pendelton** the Local Arrangements Committee co-chaired by **Patrick Porter and Harlan Thorvilson** 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 **Kevin L. Steffey**, and Southwestern Branch Governing Board Representative **Frank Gilstrap** 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 and 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;** Ag Texas Farm Credit Services, Agriliance, Bayer Crop Science, Dow AgroSciences, DuPont Crop Protection, FMC Corporation, Gafford Pest Control, Mr. Tim Gafford, Monsanto Pest Management Services, Dr. Jay Stone, Ada Rummel Syngenta, Terminex, Mr. Scott Turner, U.A.P. Southwest, Dr. Ann Wiese and Wilbur-Ellis 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 **John Burd** express written appreciation to the management and staff of the Holiday Inn Plaza.

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** the Insect Expo committee Chaired by **Scott Russell** and supported by Texas A&M Entomology Department, West Texas A&M, Texas Tech University, New Mexico State University and Oklahoma State University along with Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Museum of Texas Tech provided an outstanding educational event for 22 schools and over 1,200 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and the general public of Lubbock, TX , **Be it Resolved** that the Branch membership express their appreciation for this educational event.

Lubbock, TX  
February 26, 2004

#### **Retirees, Spouses and Guests Committee:**

No report submitted. Events were scheduled, however, no one participated in spouses programs or the retirees luncheon. Efforts should be made in future meetings to assure success of these efforts. Ada Rummel with AG Edwards donated \$500 to support future spouses program functions.

#### **Site Selection Committee:**

Attending:

David Thompson, Chair (2004)  
James Reinert (2005)  
Kris Giles (2006)  
Bart Drees (2004 - Secretary/Treasurer for current year)

Absent:

Scott Ludwig (2007)

The SOP was accepted as written:

The site selection committee is responsible for identifying the locations for the annual meetings. The committee is composed of five members. One each from Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico and one additional member (location not considered). The current Secretary/Treasurer for the Branch serves a one-year term to provide input in choosing the meeting site that he/she will preside as President of the Branch. Selected members commit to a 4-year term, serving as chair in the 4<sup>th</sup> year. If a member resigns during his/her term, a replacement from the same institution will be appointed by the President to complete the term of membership. The chair of the committee will identify volunteers to serve as new members.

The committee met to discuss the site for the 2006 annual meeting. It was decided that the meeting should be in central Texas. San Antonio, Austin, and College Station were presented as possibilities. Austin was chosen due to ease of access, amenities, and cost.

Submitted by David Thompson  
March 15, 2004

### **Student Affairs Committee:**

Those in Attendance:

Doug Jones (chair)	Oklahoma State University	<a href="mailto:dbj@okstate.edu">dbj@okstate.edu</a>
Jake Duskocil	Texas A&M University	<a href="mailto:jduskocil@hotmail.com">jduskocil@hotmail.com</a>
Paul Smith	New Mexico State University	<a href="mailto:foghorn_nm@hotmail.com">foghorn_nm@hotmail.com</a>

Students to represent West Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University declined to attend this meeting.

Michal Roberts	Kansas State University	<a href="mailto:michal@oznet.ksu.edu">michal@oznet.ksu.edu</a>
----------------	-------------------------	--

The meeting was convened from 12:15 to 1:30 PM on Tuesday February 24, 2004 at a local steak house in Lubbock TX.

General Discussion. We wish to commend the SWBESA for publishing proceedings for the annual meeting. We are in strong support for this endeavor and pray that it continues for future meetings.

A possible improvement would be to invite both abstracts and short papers to the proceedings. We are also in support for the publication of a national meeting proceedings as well. Possibly as a web page in pdf format.

We continue to support having the student mixer on the first night of the annual meeting. Possible improvements for the mixer:

1. Have a “formal” introduction of students at the mixer.
2. Invite faculty and industry representatives to the mixer.
3. Have a “referral” page on the SWBESA web site that matches a photograph of each member to their name and affiliation.

We continue to support having student participation in lieu of registration fees.

We discussed the creation of a SOP for the Student affairs committee. Michal Roberts

suggested that we could look at the SOP for the Student affairs committee for the North Central Branch of the ESA. We agreed that this would be a good starting place and plan to examine this document and discuss its merit via e-mail at a later date.

Because of our problems finding student representatives for this meeting, it was suggested that in order to field a Linnaean games team, each university must submit a student representative as well.

Because the 2005 annual meeting of the SWBESA is to be held in Albuquerque, NM, Paul Smith was nominated to serve as chair of the Student affairs committee for the next year. Mr. Smith was unanimously elected to serve in this position and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2004  
Doug Jones (chair) SAC SWBESA 2002-2004

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

The Committee met on Monday evening, 23 February 2004 and were sent e-mails by the committee Chair at other times during the year.

Operating procedures for the Student Research Paper and Poster Awards Committee were written this year (see attached).

The same judging forms were used for the Southwestern Branch as are used at the Annual Meeting of ESA (see attached). Students entered in the competition were sent e-mails with copies of the judging forms and guidelines for preparing oral or poster presentations. Forms completed by the judges will be given to the students.

A total of 33 presentations was entered in the competition:

Oral Presentations – 7 Master's and 5 Ph.D. students

Poster Presentations – 18 Master's and undergraduate and 3 Ph.D. students

Each student was required to write an abstract of his research. The abstracts were printed in the booklet of Proceedings for the meeting.

Student award winners for 2004 were:

Master's Oral Presentation First Place – Jilla HaghiPour, Texas Tech University

Master's Oral Presentation Second Place – Jeremiah Dye, Texas A&M University

Master's Oral Presentation Third Place – Padma Latha Bommireddy, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and Texas Tech University

Ph.D. Oral Presentation First Place – Marc Nascarella, Texas Tech University

Ph.D. Oral Presentation Second Place – David Melvin, Texas Tech University

Ph.D. Oral Presentation Third Place – not given

Master's Poster Presentation First Place – Alana Jacobson, New Mexico State University

Master's Poster Presentation Second Place – Terutaka Niide, West Texas A&M University

Master's Poster Presentation Third Place – Stephanie Redman, New Mexico State University

Ph.D. Poster Presentation First Place – Michal Roberts, Kansas State University

Ph.D. Poster Presentation Second Place – not given

Ph.D. Poster Presentation Third Place – not given

Committee members for 2004 were:

Bonnie Pendleton, Chair  
Richard Berberet  
Robert Bowling  
Roxanne Bowling  
Scott Bundy  
Jack Dillwith  
Miles Karner  
Jerry Michels  
Megha Parajulee  
Jane Pierce  
Jeff Tomberlin

### **Youth Science Committee:**

The following report is a synopsis of activities conducted by or through efforts of the members of Youth Science Development Committee, during 2003:

Dr. Scott Bundy is the state coordinator for science fair judging in New Mexico and he reported that three science fairs, with one winner at each, was judged during 2003.

Dr. Phil Mulder is the state coordinator for science fair judging in Oklahoma and he also reported that three science fairs, with one winner at each, was judged during 2003.

Noel Troxclair is the state Coordinator for science fair judging in Texas and he reports that seven fairs and thirteen divisions were judged, with a total of fourteen winners, in 2003.

Each student winner received a certificate and an entomology book as an award. Students in Oklahoma and New Mexico each received the Peterson Field Guide to Insects. In Texas, eight winners received the Peterson Field Guide to Insects and six received the Field Guide to Common Texas Insects. Dr. Mo Way generously awarded each of the two winners of the science fair he judged a monetary award of \$150.00,

In New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas, a total of thirteen science fairs with nineteen divisions were judged and twenty awards were presented through the Youth Science Development Committee of the SWB/ESA program. efforts of the

I want to recognize and thank Dr. Vernon Langston and Dow AgroSciences who have provided the I want to thank each and every member of the committee.

Submitted by Noel Troxclair

**Old Business:** The draft constitution and bylaws will be posted on <http://swe.tamu.edu> and members will be contacted to review them and provide comments during a period prescribed by incoming President Phil Mulder before voting. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for committees will be developed thereafter.

The society's web site will evolve over the next 3 to 4 years. The module developed in 2003 under the direction of Dr. Pat Porter to acquire electronic submissions of paper and poster titles,

generate the program and proceedings, will require further development and refinement at a cost to the Branch (pull down menu for organization; e-mail feature for wen site update announcements; links to sponsors' web sites; award winner page; student bulletin board; no credit card utilization anticipated next year). The main Branch web page will continue to be developed through a contract with Neal Lee and be hosted by the TAMU Department of Entomology, who is to receive a letter complementing her for her contributions. Dr. Burd recommended establishing a special web site committee.

Grant Kinser has been requested to order additional "Chief Awards" for future use.

Mulder suggested the SWB-ESA nominate Scott Hutchins as ESA vice-president elect (section F, E North Central Branch). Members will be polled by e-mail when incoming President Mulder so orders (motion by Drees passed).

President Burd's summary statements included; 1) there needs to be more members attending annual meetings; 2) student volunteers should be better organized, assigned and accountable for participation (and should not be the sole occupants of the registration desk at least on the first day of the conference); 3) involve more industry personnel; and 4) urged members to nominate people for honorary ESA Fellows. M. Parajulee suggested to President Burd to write Jim Leser a letter thanking him for acquiring industry sponsors and contributions.

### **New Business:**

The gavel was passed to incoming President Mulder, who acknowledged Dr. Burd to his efforts over the past year(s), and announced next year's meeting to be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico (Feb. 2005). Local arrangements will be made by Scott Bundy and Mark English, and Carol Sutherland will serve as program chair. The theme will be "Ski ABQ!".

Respectfully submitted,

Bastiaan M. Drees  
2004 Secretary/Treasurer, Southwestern Branch, ESA

---

### **Appendix 1. 2003 Entomological Foundation Report, Frank Gilstrap**

- WHAT IS THE ENTOMOLOGICAL FOUNDATION?

The Entomological Foundation is a sister organization to the Entomological Society of America (ESA or Society) – in fact it was created in 1991 by the leaders of ESA. However, it is not a part of ESA. This is because the Foundation has to have some legal distance between its funds and those it gives funds to. Though not formally related, both ESA and the Foundation rely on the same members – you – and the Foundation uses some of its funds earnings to finance awards to ESA members.

- HOW IS THE FOUNDATION FINANCED?

The Foundation does not collect dues, and gets no financing from the Society. The Foundation is a resource development organization for ESA, a 501(c)(3) organization that houses tax exempt

funds given by ESA members and others. The Foundation must collect and earn all of the resources it uses in its awards and grants programs. Cash, property and other instruments of value given to the Foundation are ultimately converted to cash and invested in stocks, bonds and other interest earning and value-increasing instruments.

- THE FOUNDATION BOARD OF COUNSELORS?

In 2004, the Foundation will be rebuilding its Board of Counselors, and thus will be coming to some of you for both participation as Counselors, and to help raising funds for the Foundation. Fred Knapp is currently Chair of the Board of Counselors, and he is currently working with Dennis Kopp and others to revitalize and energize the Counselors over this fiscal year. Please give serious consideration to any request you might get from your Foundation – it needs your contributions whether they are cash or time. To assure legality and continuity, all Foundation business actions and processes are overseen by an elected 12-member Board of Directors. The Board works with the ESA Executive Committee (i.e., Foundation Members), a committee that serves as a check on Foundation decisions and as an oversight group for Foundation operations. Essentially, the Foundation Members help to assure that Foundation resources are used to benefit entomology, the goals of our Society, and the youth of the U.S.A.

- WHAT DOES THE FOUNDATION DO WITH ITS FUNDS?

Many awards, scholarships and ESA programs are funded by the Foundation. For example, among other programs, the Foundation has helped finance:

- Involving 20,000+ youth in hands-on learning thru the Insect Expo.
- Educating students in grades K-12 about the science of entomology through Educational Grants for curriculum and professional development using insects as the focus.
- Support for numerous ESA awards.

Some Foundation funds are allocated every year, and others are allocated on the basis of funds availability. The Foundation priority is educating youth about entomology, its vision is “a generation of action-oriented youth applying science-based solutions that incorporate the critical role of insects in sustaining healthy environments,” and its mission is “exciting youth about insect science.”

- HOW CAN YOU HELP?

My purpose this morning is to encourage you to think about ways you can give to the Foundation, and by giving you will to give back to the discipline we all share and are devoted to. There are many ways we can give back, and all gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible. I give every year, and I urge you to consider doing the same.

In summary, the Entomological Foundation is in its 12th year of operation, and it needs your contributions now to continue helping and benefitting entomology, and to continue helping to interest youth in entomology. The Entomological Foundation belongs to you – it belongs to all of us who are members of the ESA. We should all take special pride in giving some of our earnings back to our discipline to help build a bright future for our science. Please give, or give me a call, or write me an email, if you would like more information on how to give. Thanks.

## Appendix 2. ESA Governing Board Report, 2004 Report on 2003 Business, Frank Gilstrap

- The Entomological Society of America (ESA, or Society) Headquarters continues working with the Governing Board and Executive Committee to implement Motion 5 from the 2001 San Diego ESA meetings.
  - Motion 5 was the Governing Board decision to exert real control over the Society's fiscal and planning future, and has been the guide we have used in all budgetary and programming decisions over the last 2 years.
  - Motion 5 initiated a major reduction in Headquarters Staff, from about 26 persons employed by ESA to about 8 plus our Executive Director.
  - As we implemented Motion 5, we outsourced management of ESA membership, the Board Certified Entomologist program, and ESA financial services – these were outsourced to Drohan Management Group, or DMG. We also outsourced the ESA publications process to Cadmus Professional Services, though Alan Kahan still handles key internal aspects of ESA publishing.
  - Also as an outgrowth of Motion 5, we began a major restructuring of the ESA awards process. Scott Hutchins has been a key to progress in this area, and the modified process is still the focus of fine tuning.
  - The Governing Board considered outsourcing the Annual ESA annual National Meeting, but for numerous reasons opted to not pursue outsourcing this critical ESA function. A key reason for not outsourcing the annual meeting is that Judy Miller of the Headquarters office is very good at getting this done for us, and we did not want to jeopardize this key element of the ESA program and budget.
  - Finally, as an outgrowth of Motion 5, the Governing Board committed to rebuilding the ESA Reserve Account, with the goal of accumulating in this account an amount equivalent to one year of operating funds (i.e., about \$2.3 million).
- ESA has finally sold its building on Annapolis Road. The actual sale was committed on November 17, 2003. Our purchase price for the building in 1986 was about \$1.23 million, and our sale price will be about \$1.1 million. Though we had numerous expenses and liabilities with the building, we usually had some annual income and ESA used a considerable portion of the building space “rent free” for about 17 years.
  - ESA has now moved (as of early February, 2004) to a nearby property at 10000 Derekwood Court, Suite 100, Lanham MD. The phone number there is (703) 234-4052.
  - A critical result of this move is that ESA now has a new cost; the lease for the Derekwood property is about \$72,000 per annum, or about \$16.75/sq ft for nearly 4,300 square feet.
  - Our new lease permits ESA the option of moving to some other location after 3 years of tenancy, though we would pay a penalty of \$12,004 (2 months rent) if we exercised that option.
  - To save expenses, ESA kept most of its existing furniture and equipment though the Governing Board authorized purchase of some new computer equipment.
- Annual meetings continue to be a major source of income to ESA; however, the Governing Board is very concerned about the continuing decline in ESA member participation in this meeting.
  - The Board budgeted for 2,201 members participating in the Cincinnati meeting, and actual was 2,215 (down from 2,383 in Fort Lauderdale, FL).

- A key variable to financing the meetings (unknown before end of meeting) is the block of sleeping rooms needed for a given meeting. This number is currently estimated in July by Headquarters, and soon after is committed to in the contract between ESA and the meeting property. These rooms are critical to financing the cost of space ESA uses for meeting rooms, and is complicated by meeting participants seeking out less expensive rooms outside of hotel properties dedicated to the ESA meetings. In Cincinnati, the billing from one hotel property initially included a \$90,000 cost for blocked rooms they believed were not used during the meetings (this was eventually worked out to a far smaller billing, but it serves as a good example of how important it is to ESA finances for meeting participants to stay in (rent) rooms formally associated with the ESA meeting.
- ESA membership continues to decline. In 2002, membership was 5,756; in 2003, (the most current complete data) membership was 5,527 or a loss of 229 members. A similar decline is occurring in the Southwestern Branch: in 2000, SWB membership was 563; in 2001, was 531; in 2002, was 459; and in 2003, was 449 (as of June 30, 2003).

In closing, I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you in the ESA Southwestern Branch for allowing me to serve you and the Branch as your representative to the ESA Governing Board during these last 3 years. I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the Board, learned a lot about our Society, and I trust that I effectively represented you and our Branch. You have elected Marvin Harris to follow me, and I am certain that Marvin will be very effective in representing the Branch and you to the Board's business. Finally, I am truly looking forward to my next 2 years as I lead up to my serving you and our Society as ESA President. I sincerely thank you for allowing me to serve you and ESA in this capacity.