



NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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January 1998

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joe Funderburk

Being President of the Florida Entomological Society is turning out to be a tremendous experience. I knew it would be, but it exceeds all expectation. The Society is loaded with very capable, energetic members, and there are many important, exciting things happening. I really am having great fun, and am proud of the Society.

At the last Board meeting, we approved a plan from the Computer Resources Committee chaired by Pat Greany for a new website. We also approved a contract with a private company to develop the new website, and I would not be surprised if it is up and operational by the time you read this Newsletter. The Society will be able to conduct business more efficiently and provide better service to the members. The website was designed so that volunteer members can manage it, and many new ideas are being discussed to improve education efforts and public relations.

Tom Walker attended the last Board meeting and presented a proposal to get all issues of Florida Entomologist online, with the cost shared equally by the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, the Department of Entomology and Nematology at the University of Florida, and the Society. Since the Board meeting, a sponsor has been found to pay the Society's share. Florida Entomologist was the first entomology journal to be online and it may be that we will be the first to have past issues on the internet. Also, authors will have the opportunity for the first time during the spring issue for an author link when publishing a paper.

Online publication is creating uneasy times for professional societies, because most rely on money from institutional and member journal subscriptions. The Board of Florida Entomological Society is focused on serving members, and not just raising

revenue. Of course, online publication was inevitable anyway! In addition to the Florida Entomologist, you will have the opportunity in the future to receive the Newsletter, meeting information, and program on the internet. The Board is hoping that members with access will prefer receiving information rapidly over the internet, rather than "snail" mail. By the way, the Membership Committee chaired by Phil Koehler and Clay Scherer has been actively recruiting new members. Clay attended the last Board meeting and has challenged all members to recruit at least one new member. I know there are many new potential members, so please tell others about our great Society.

Sanibel Island already is shaping up to be an outstanding meeting. Program Committee Chair John Sivinski has symposia on behavioral ecology, insects in education, insect systematics, technical transfer, and area wide pest management. There will also be a workshop on pest ant identification. The Pioneer Lecture Committee selected the late Wilmon Newell for the Pioneer Award presented at this year's meeting. Of course the purpose of the Award is to learn some history of entomology and honor the achievements of notable entomologists. Wilmon Newell had a broad interest in many aspects of the science of entomology and is well known for his fine research on the cotton boll weevil, the Argentine ant, and the eradication of American foul brood. Among his many achievements was the first eradication of the medfly in Florida.

Laurence Mound has accepted an invitation to be the Pioneer Lecturer. He will speak on the Thysanoptera, his area of interest to the various aspects of thrips biology to opportunism, and the relevance of this information to pest management strategies. He has vast experience researching the systematics, phylogeny, and ecology of thrips and other insects, and has held many positions over his career, including Keeper of the Insects at the British

Museum of Natural History. He has studied thrips worldwide, and recently published with Rita Marullo, *The Thrips of Central and South America: An Introduction*. Thrips are a very interesting, yet somewhat unstudied order. Many species have been spread throughout the world and become serious pests. Examples of invasive pest species in Florida and the Caribbean Basin are the western flower thrips and palm thrips. Laurence will stay the entire meeting to get acquainted with our members, and the Society is sponsoring a lunch on the first day of the meeting for students to get to know him in an informal setting. So take the opportunity to pick his brain on matters of thrips biology!

Things are getting serious for the Caribbean Conference in 1999. Committee Chair Abe White is traveling to Venezuela this January on behalf of the Society to meet with officials of the Venezuelan Entomological Society. He is getting information on the suitability of Coro for a joint meeting, and will report back to the Board about travel to Coro, hotels, meeting facilities, and excursions. The Board is waiting for this information before making a final decision, and is still looking at Puerto Rico as another option.

Please join me in thanking Mary Jo Hayes for serving as Secretary for over a year. Her plate is too full right now, and she felt that serving for a full three years was too much. John Petti has agreed to serve as Secretary until the next election. Listed in this Newsletter are the members serving on committees volunteering expertise and time on behalf of the Florida Entomological Society. Thanks for all the great work. I encourage everyone to be active and serve the Society as an officer or committee member. This is a volunteer organization that needs service from its members.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 81TH ANNUAL MEETING

The 81th Annual Meeting of the Florida Entomological Society will be held August 3-6 1998 at the Sundial Beach Resort in Sanibel Island, Florida. **Deadline for submission of papers and posters for the meeting will be Friday, 8 May 1998.** Paper submission forms will be in the next newsletter. Time allotted for submitted oral papers will be eight minutes for presentation and two minutes for discussion. Confirmation will be sent to the first author. There will be an oral student paper session with awards as in previous years. Students participating in the judged session must be members of FES and regis-

tered for the meeting. A summary of the system for judging the student papers will appear in an upcoming newsletter. A full description is available from the Chairperson of the Student Activities Committee, Dr. Guangye Hu.

Inquiries regarding papers, posters, and symposia should be directed to:

John Sivinski, Chair, Program Committee, FES
USDA/ARS, CMAVE
1700 SW 23rd Drive
Gainesville, FL 32608
Ph: 352-374-5791
Fax: 352-374-5804
E-mail: JSIVINSKI@gainesville.usda.ufl.edu

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The FES Nominations Committee invites you to nominate individuals for the following 1998-99 Executive Committee offices:

Vice-President _____

Member-at-Large _____

The Nominations Committee will put together a final nominations list (two nominations per office). An election ballot will be printed in the June, 1998 Newsletter. Winners will be announced at the August 1998 Business Meeting.

Please e-mail your nominations (feel free to nominate yourself) to:
dghall@gate.net

or mail them to:

David G. Hall
Research Department, U. S. Sugar Corporation
P. O. Drawer 1207
Clewiston, FL 33440

FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Revised 1/14/98

President

Joe Funderburk
NFREC-University of Florida
Route 3 Box 4370
Quincy, FL 32351
850-875-7146
Fax 850-875-7148
email: jef@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

President-Elect

John Sivinski
USDA ARS CMAVE
1700 SW 23rd Drive
Gainesville, FL 32608
352-374-5791
Fax 352-374-5804
email: jsivinski@gainesville.ufl.edu

Vice-President

Lance Peterson
DowElanco
1861 Capital Circle, NE
Suite 104
Tallahassee, FL 32308
850-877-6855
Mobile 850-566-3376
Fax 850-877-7255
email: lgpeterson@dowelanco.com

Past President

David Hall
Research Dept., US Sugar Corp.
P. O. Drawer 1207
Clewiston, FL 33440
941-983-8121
Fax 941-983-2218
email: dghall@gate.net

Secretary

John Petti
USDA ARS CMAVE
1600 SW 23rd Dr
Gainesville, FL 32608
352-374-5985

Treasurer/Business Manager

Teresa DuChene
Florida Entomological Society
P. O. Box 1007
Lutz, FL 33548-1007
Home 813-971-2674
FES Phone/Fax 813-903-9234
flaentsoc@worldnet.att.net

Editor

Richard Baranowski
Tropical REC-Univ. of Florida
18905 SW 280th Street
Homestead, FL 33031-3314
305-246-7040
Fax 305-246-7003
email rmb@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

Member at Large

Lance Osborne
Central Florida REC-Apopka
2807 Binion Road
Apopka, FL 32703-8504
407-884-2034
email lso@icon.apk.ufl.edu

Member at Large

Phil Stansly
Southwest Florida REC
University of Florida
P. O. Drawer 5127
Immokalee, FL 34143-5002
941-658-3400
Fax 941-658-3469
email pas@icon.imok.ufl.edu

Student Member

Christopher Tipping
Dept. Entomol. & Nematol.
Bldg. 970, Hull Road
P. O. Box 110620
Gainesville, FL 32611
352-392-1901 ext. 209
Fax 352-392-0190
email tipping@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

Student Member

Andy Rasmussen
Dept. of Ag. Research, Entomology
Florida A&M University
Tallahassee, FL 32307-4100
850-599-3481
Fax 850-561-2221
email rasandy@freenet.tlh.fl.us

STANDING COMMITTEES

Publications

Richard Baranowski, editor

Associate Editors

Arshad Ali 407-330-6735
A. C. Bartlett
James Brown 904-772-2424
J. L. Capinera 352-392-1901
A. Castineiras
J. Howard Frank 352-392-1901
Richard Jansson 908-369-3017
Joe Knapp
G. J. Hallman
C. Morris
Sanford Porter 352-374-5914
John Sivinski
Gary Steck 352-372-3505

Robert Vander Meer 352-374-5918
Ronald Weseloh 305-798-7262
A. Wheeler

Program

John Sivinski, Chair
Lance Peterson, Cochair

Local Arrangements

Lance Peterson
David Hall

Public Relations

Richard Brenner
USDA ARS CMAVE
1600 SW 23rd Dr
Gainesville, FL 32608
352-374-5903
Fax 352-374-5818
rbrenner@gainesville.usda.ufl.edu

Nancy Epsky

Heather Dillon 352-374-5764

Honors and Awards

Gary Leibee, Chair
Central Florida REC
2700 E. Celery Ave.
Sanford, FL 32771-9608
407-330-6735
Fax 407-328-5575

Bill Howard 954-475-8990

Freddie Johnson 352-392-1901 x 122

Nominating

David Hall

Student Activities

Guangye Hu, Chair
USDA ARS CMAVE
1700 SW 23rd Drive
Gainesville, FL 32608
352-374-5732
Heather McAuslane 352-392-1901 x129
Elzie McCord 941-924-7303
Jorge Pena 305-246-6340

Fiscal

Susan Webb, Chair
Central Florida REC
5336 University Ave.
Leesburg, FL 34748
352-360-6686
Fax 352-360-6691
email sewe@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

John Altom, Valent, Gainesville, FL
Robert Meagher 352-374-5756

Membership

Phil Koehler, Co-Chair 352-392-2484
email: pgk@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu
Clay Scherer, Co-Chair 352-392-2326
email: cscherer@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu
Dept. Entomol. & Nematol.
P. O. Box 110620
Gainesville, FL 32611-0620
352-392-1901
Fax 352-392-0190

James Carpenter 912-387-2348
Bruce Ryser 813-973-2378
Tadd Dobbs 305-526-2825

Resolutions (3 yr)

Rita Duncan, Chair
Tropical REC
18905 SW 280th Street
Homestead, FL 33031-3314
305-246-6341
Fax 305-246-7003
email: red@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

Richard Sprengel 850-875-7128

Long Range Planning

Russ Mizell
North Florida REC
Route 4 Box 4092
Monticello, FL 32344-9302
850-432-0990
Fax 850-342-0230
email: rfm@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

Richard Mankin 352-374-5774
Julie Stavisky 850-875-7151
Tom Weissling 954-475-8990

Newsletter

Lois Wood, Co-Editor
Entomology & Nematology
PO Box 110620
Gainesville, FL 32611-0620
352-392-1901 ext 207
email lawo@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

Nancy Epsky, Co-Editor
USDA ARS CMAVE
1700 SW 23rd Dr.
Gainesville, FL 32608
352-374-5761
Fax 352-374-5733
email
nepsky@gainesville.usda.ufl.edu

Sustaining Membership

Keith Griffith
Uniroyal Chemical
5211 Fawnway Ct.
Orlando, FL 32819-3823
407-876-8698
Fax 407-876-8697
email griffith@uniroyal.geis.com

Elsie McCord
Joe Knapp

Computer Resources

Patrick Greany
USDA ARS
1700 SW 23rd Drive
Gainesville, FL 32608
352-374-5763
Fax 352-374-5923
email pgreany@nervm.nerdc.ufl.edu

Rick Brenner 352-374-5903
Tom Walker 352-392-1901 ext 207
Michael Hubbard 850-561-2216
Sanford Porter 352-374-5914

Operating Guidelines

Joe Eger, Cochair
DowElanco
2608 S. Dundee Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33629
813-835-8358
Fax 813-835-4856
email: jeeger@dowelanco.com

Ellen Thoms, Cochair
DowElanco
3225 S. MacDill Avenue #129-258
Tampa, FL 33629-8171
813-258-5448
Fax 813-258-3325
email: emthoms@dowelanco.com

Don Herzog 850-875-7142
David Hall

Tax Exempt Status

J. A. Hogsette
USDA Lab
PO Box 14565
Gainesville, FL 32604-2565
352-374-5912

Lois Woods

Historian/Necrologist

Susan Hydorn
USDA APHIS PPQ
2200 Broening Hwy, Suite 140
Baltimore, MD 21224
410-631-0075

Education

John Capinera, Chair
Department of Entomology
University of Florida
PO Box 110620
Gainesville, FL 32614
352-392-1901 ext 111
fax 352-392-1910

Wayne Dixon
Richard Mankin
Bernie Wojack
Burt Kelly
Laurence Cutts
Jonas Stewart
Melissa Reeves
Dale Habeck
Gary Buckingham

Caribbean Directory

J. H. Frank
Dept. of Entomology & Nematology
Box 110620
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32614
352-392-1901 ext 128
Fax 352-392-0190
email jhf@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

Caribbean Conference

Abe White, Chair
817 W. Fairbanks Ave.
Orlando, FL 32804
407-629-1984
fax 407-578-5829

Joe Knapp 941-956-1151
Jorge Pena 305-246-7048
Howard Frank 352-392-1901 ext 128

Pioneer Lecturer Award Series

Harold Denmark, Chair
10930 NW 12th Place
Gainesville, Florida 32606
352-332-1441

Joe Funderburk
John Sivinski
Clay McCoy
Dale Habeck
Allen Selhime
James Lloyd 352-392-1901 ext 124
Norm Leppla

MEMBERS AND EVENTS

MOVING UP

Steven M. Valles accepted a permanent position as a research entomologist in the Imported Fire Ant and Household Insect Research Unit, USDA/ARS, Center for Medical, Agricultural and Veterinary Entomology (CMAVE) in Gainesville, FL. He will be working on insecticide resistance in urban pests (cockroaches, fleas), specifically trying to gain a more complete understanding of insecticide resistance mechanisms in the German cockroach. This information could be used ultimately to develop alternative control measures or to detect resistance before it becomes refractory. 352-374-5834, svalles@gainesville.usda.ufl.edu

Nancy D. Epsky accepted a permanent position as a research entomologist in the Postharvest and Bioregulation Research Unit, USDA/ARS, CMAVE. She will conduct research on the chemical ecology and behavior of insects as applied to the detection of stored product insects and the protection of harvested agricultural commodities. Specifically, she will conduct research on detection systems based on pheromone, food lures and electronic signals, and pheromone-based methods for interfering with the reproduction of stored product insects. 352-374-5761, nepsky@gainesville.usda.ufl.edu

Robert L. Meagher, Jr. accepted a permanent position as a research entomologist in the Behavior and Biocontrol Research Unit, USDA/ARS, CMAVE. His research emphasis is on the mechanisms of behavior of lepidopterous pests of field and horticultural crops and the development of approaches and methods of pest control based on behavioral manipulation. The research objective will be to develop novel methods to exploit insect behavior with semiochemicals for purposes of monitoring, detection, and control of pest insect populations. The research will focus on the development of female attractants to either male-produced pheromones, host plants and/or food sources, and the development of attractants and trapping systems for pest insects of both sexes using chemical attractants. 352-374-5756, 352-374-5804 (fax), rmeagher@gainesville.usda.ufl.edu

Denise Johanowicz recently joined the laboratory of Everett Mitchell in the Behavior and Biocontrol Research Unit, USDA/ARS CMAVE as a postdoctoral research associate. She will study biological control of the diamondback moth. 352-374-5769; djohanowicz@gainesville.usda.ufl.edu

This newsletter is published irregularly between issues of the Journal of the Society, *The Florida Entomologist*. It is intended for the publication of subjects of interest to the members of the Florida Entomological Society. Articles, announcements, awards and other news about FES members are solicited from the membership and should be addressed to the co-editors Lois Wood or Nancy Epsky.

Lois Wood, Dept. of Entomology & Nematology, P.O. Box 110620, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611-0620. Phone: (352)-392-1901 Ext. 207, FAX: (352)-392-7567, Internet: LAWO@GNV.IFAS.UFL.EDU.

Nancy Epsky, USDA/ARS, P.O. Box 14565, Gainesville, FL 32604. Phone: (352)-374-5761, FAX (352)-374-5733, Internet: NEPSKY@GAINESVILLE.USDA.UFL.EDU.

CALL FOR MEMBERS AND EVENTS

In the Newsletter, we would occasionally like to include information about FES members. Please refer to the requested items for each category and let your colleagues know what you have been up to lately. This information should be sent to Lois Wood or Nancy Epsky.

1. Invitational talks, keynote speeches etc...: Speaker, organization, meeting, date, location and title of talk.
2. Honors & Awards: Recipient, title of award, given for and given by.
3. International Activities: Person, date, activity and funding source.
4. Grants/Contracts: Principal investigator(s), project title, funding source and project description.
5. Major Publications (Books, Monographs, Chapters): Authors, title and citation.
6. National or Branch Offices: Person, office held, organization and dates.
7. Moving up: Person on the move, old position, new position, location, date of change and responsibilities.
8. Visiting Entomologists: Visitor(s), visiting from, dates, purpose of visit, host and location.
9. On Leave: Person, new location, dates and activity.
10. Community Activities: Person, project description, organization, location and dates.