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# NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

[www.flaentsoc.org](http://www.flaentsoc.org)

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Volume 17, No. 4

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December 2002

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Howard Frank

Florida has an insect fauna of an estimated 12,500 species. We members of FES are best situated to celebrate this diversity. Does the general public have any idea how many species there are, or what varied life styles they have? I suspect that we could do more to share our knowledge with the public about how dynamic and cool insects are.

Perhaps most professional entomologists in Florida were hired to work in some way on minor or major pests that attack different commodities. But, FES members, in particular, have mountains of information about all the fascinating non-pest species here. We need to interest and inspire the general public in the wonders of Entomology - and in the FES - by creating more awareness and less fear of insects. If we could do this, perhaps we could attract interested amateurs as does, for example, the Florida Native Plant Society. We want our society to grow and flourish, and adding new members would help greatly.

It is a shame that much of the public considers insects as pests. We know they're not! So how can we entice a greater involvement of biology teachers, naturalists, amateur bug collectors, pest management professionals, kids, etc.? Our mission is stated in our constitution: FES is committed to promote the study of insects. This means **all** insects, not just pest insects, and not just Florida insects. Insects in the Caribbean region, Mexico, Central and South America should be emphasized, too, given the close proximity of those areas and their similar climate. Granted, insects (pest or not) can also be transported from any other place in the world to Florida...

## How can we enhance a positive image of insects and FES in the eyes of the public?

Our image hangs on two items: (1) Florida Entomologist, a professional journal, and (2) the FES website. It's unlikely that the general public reads the Florida Entomologist, but, after recent changes to a larger format, I think it is close to what the current members want. On the other hand, we may change our website to reflect what the general public may want, and this is what I propose:

A bold new design for the website with the opening page labeled **Florida Insects** (perhaps with URL <http://FloridaInsects.org> perhaps with URL <http://Insects.org> if this is not already taken). This opening page will have 3 parts:

(a) **Insect Biodiversity**: to explain the world of insects to the public, using the same kinds of expressions as are used in other places to explain birds and mammals, using butterflies as one (but certainly not the only one) of the examples; to provide links to sites with checklists (Florida checklists, checklists for Florida parks) and keys to identification; to provide lists of books and other guides to the Florida insect fauna.

(b) **The (existing) FES website**: with characteristics unchanged.

(c) **Pest Insects**: to provide general information about pest insects and their control without recommending particular products, especially by provision of links.

I would like to appoint new ad-hoc committees to oversee parts (a) and (c). Chris Tipping has agreed to be the chairperson for "Insect Biodiversity". Richard Lobinske and Faith Oi will Co-chair "Insect Pests". I

would like to ensure that these new ad-hoc committees develop their parts of the website to the point where these parts may be uploaded without causing any burden on Richard Mankin, FES webmaster. Obviously this means that committees (a) and (c) must include people who can compose HTML, so chairmen should ensure that such persons join the committees.

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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The edited minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, held September 17, 2002, at USDA-ARS, are as follows:

**Attendance:** Ken Bloem, John Capinera, Teresa DuChene, Howard Frank, David Hall, Steve Lapointe, Richard Mankin, Rob Meagher, Jim Price, Stuart Reitz, Jeff Shapiro, Tom Walker, Lois Wood

**Business Manager Report (Teresa DuChene):** The financial report, current through August 30, 2002, is as follows: Morgan Stanley \$69,718.64, Bank of America \$22,757.44 for total assets of \$92,476.08. The financial outcome of the last Annual Meeting was lower than expected due mainly to poor attendance. We had hoped for 120 or more regular registrations but had lower. We need a larger number of full registrants to offset the losses we experience from students and invited guests. A comparison of the last three year's meetings, with only direct costs (revenue minus hotel costs, awards, audio & visual, poster boards, meeting supplies and symposia) follows : 2000 (Registry): \$6,161.52; 2001 (Indian River): \$2,212.90; and, 2002 (Clearwater): \$4,332.59. The Regular, Student, and Total Attendee numbers were 78, 37, 115; 96, 15, 11; and, 66, 24, 90, respectively. Renewal notices will be mailed at the end of October .

**Pioneer Lecture (David Hall):** The Pioneer Committee reported that they were considering various themes and honorees for the 2003 meeting including: Epidemiology of West Nile and Other Mosquito-Borne Viruses, honoring Maurice Provost; Diversity and Mite Systematics, honoring Martin Muma; or Diversity and Insect Scales, honoring Harvey Hubbard. Final decisions on a speaker, theme and honoree will be made

over the next month. The committee recommends that everything possible be done to encourage student attendance at the Pioneer Lecture Luncheon, to include avoiding holding the luncheon immediately before student paper competitions. The Pioneer Lecture Committee members have customarily held an informal dinner with the Lecturer the evening before the opening session, a Dutch-treat dinner except for the cost of the Lecturer's meal which has always been paid for by someone attending the dinner. There are currently no funds in the FES budget for this purpose. The committee recommends that FES consider holding a symposium related to the Pioneer Lecture theme immediately after the opening session. A manuscript to accompany the Pioneer Lecture is desirable with respect to capturing history, and therefore we encourage FES to request a manuscript from the lecturer. However, it is sometimes difficult to get speakers to complete their manuscripts, the papers cost FES, and the manuscript requirement could sometimes negate attracting speakers. The 1997 (Alfred Baumhover) manuscript has been submitted to R. Baranowski for the Florida Entomologist. Manuscripts from the 2000 (Lewis Wright) and the 2001 (Philip Callahan) Pioneer Lectures are in progress. It was noted that those and future Pioneer Lecture manuscripts should be duly noted in Florida Entomologist.

**Computer Resources Committee (Richard Mankin):** We have reviewed a recommendation from Tom Walker that FES should sign a licensing agreement with BioOne to publish the Florida Entomologist on [www.bioone.org](http://www.bioone.org) in SGML and PDF format. The proposal has considerable merit. Participation in the BioOne partnership will increase worldwide access to Florida Entomologist, enable new functionality similar to that provided by the Web versions of Science and Nature, and encourage other cooperative efforts to provide enhanced access to scholarly information on the Internet. Painter Printing Co. has confirmed they will be able to provide the journal in SGML format for a modest increase in publication costs. FES can absorb these increases without increasing its IFWA fees. As an added benefit, once the Florida Entomologist is prepared in SGML format, it can be published also in PubMedCentral at no additional cost. The Computer Resources Committee supports the BioOne proposal. The motion to sign up for 2 years (2002 & 2003) and then reconsider, was approved unanimously. Our Internet service provider, Colony-One Online, moved its server operations from Gainesville to Boca Raton during the first week of September. The company will still keep an office in Gainesville, and we do not anticipate any significant changes in service.

**Newsletter (Lois Wood):** The September, 2002 Newsletter (Volume 17, No. 3) has been posted to the website. The printing of the hard copy was delayed at UF Print Shop, necessitating a delay in the mailing. The items needed for the November/December issue were requested from the appropriate officers and members.

**Education Committee Guidelines (Jim Price):** The Education Committee plans to prepare for our annual entomological display at the Florida State Fair, Tampa, in February, and the State Science and Engineering Fair in April. Prospective exhibitors for the State Fair will be contacted in October. Judges for the entomology awards at the Science Fair will be solicited in December.

**Honors and Awards (Ken Bloem):** It's not too early to begin thinking about nominees.

**New Business:** Teresa will contact and get information from Marriott Hutchinson Island Resort for next year's Annual Meeting. Stephen Lapointe presented two considerations dealing with educational services: 1) create a database of entomologists throughout the state that could provide presentations; and, 2) organizing a teacher's workshop at next year's meeting. This would involve small talks and demonstrations and would be pertinent to the new FCAT science standards. Stephen also asked about the possibility of conducting Executive Committee meetings using a conference call. This option will be investigated. Rob Meagher inquired about the Business meeting minutes being published in Florida Entomologist, and is this necessary or should they be only on the website? The Executive Committee agreed to post the complete, unedited minutes on the website and an abbreviated version in the Newsletter. John Capinera inquired whether it is necessary to have both an executive committee meeting and a business meeting at the Annual Meeting? It was agreed to have just a business meeting next year.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm. The next meeting will be held December 17 at USDA-ARS in Gainesville. All members are invited to attend. Committee chairs are encouraged to prepare reports. The complete version of the minutes will appear on the FES webpage, [www.Flaentsoc.org](http://www.Flaentsoc.org). Minutes were prepared by R. Meagher, Secretary.

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**NOTE:** The next Executive Committee meeting will be in early March. Contact an officer for the exact day and time.

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## 86<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Florida Entomological Society will be held **July 27 - 30, 2003** at the Hutchinson Island Marriott Beach Resort and Marina, 555 N. E. Ocean Blvd., Hutchinson Island, Stuart, FL 34996: Phone 800-775-5936, 772-225-3700, FAX 772-225-0003, Internet [www.floridatreasures.com](http://www.floridatreasures.com). The room rate will be \$95 (specify that you will be attending the annual meeting).

We have a **Fall Armyworm** and an **Entomological Outreach/Curriculum Development** symposium in the beginning stages of preparation, but there is room for more. Please contact Richard Mankin if you have a hot topic.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

The deadline for submission of papers for the 86<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Florida Entomological Society will be **Friday, May 30, 2003**. Time allotted for submitted oral papers will be eight minutes for presentations and two minutes for discussion. Facilities for posters (probably 48" by 48" area per poster) will be available. Confirmation of receipt of papers will be sent to the first author. There will be oral student paper sessions with awards as in previous years. A description of the format for judging the student papers will be presented in the next Newsletter. Students participating in the judged sessions must be members of the Florida Entomological Society and registered for the meeting.

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*HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!!!*

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**MEMBERS AND EVENTS**

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**Moving up**

**Yasmin Cardoza** accepted a 3-year post-doctoral fellowship with CSIRO in Perth, Western Australia. She is conducting research to evaluate mechanisms of aphid (primarily *Myzus persicae*) resistance on lupins. Lupins are an economically important crop because of their high protein content. They are used as a rotational crop with wheat, used for animal feed, and also show some interest for use in processed foods such as tofu and tempeh. Yasmin says she has not seen the salty crocs, nor any venomous spiders or snakes and frankly, is very disappointed. Australia is nothing like what the croc hunter depicts!!! The kangaroos are cute, though, and many parrots, parakeets, and beautiful black swans are everywhere. To contact Yasmin at work: Private Bag 5, Wembley 6914, WA, Australia. Phone: 61-8-9333-6638. FAX: 61-8-9333-6646. Email: [Yasmin.Cardoza@csiro.au](mailto:Yasmin.Cardoza@csiro.au).

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Help!! We need dedicated, enthusiastic people to serve on Society committees. Commitments aren't very time consuming, and are dynamic ways to provide input and motivate change. Please contact President Howard Frank (352-392-1901, [jhf@mail.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:jhf@mail.ifas.ufl.edu)).

**For the current list of Executive Committee members as well as all other committees and their members, see Pages 5 -8 of this Newsletter.**

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**CALL FORMEMBERSANDEVENTS**

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 Eileen Buss.

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.

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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 Eileen Buss.

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Revised November 1, 2002  
Robert Meagher, Secretary

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