



NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steve Lapointe

I'm pleased to announce that the 2005 annual meeting of the Florida Entomological Society will be held July 24-27 at the Sanibel Harbour Resort and Spa (<http://www.sanibel-resort.com>) in Fort Myers, FL (see the announcement in this newsletter). I thank Teresa DuChene and Rudi Scheffrahn for negotiating what I'm sure will be an excellent meeting place while providing a beautiful and entertaining locale for relaxing, enjoying the company of our entomological peers, and taking advantage of the many recreational opportunities available at the hotel and in the Ft. Myers area. Please do your part to ensure a successful and productive meeting by providing your input to the program chair, Rudi Scheffrahn (rhsc@ufl.edu). Rudi will be working closely with our new Vice President, Geri Cashion (geribugs@mindspring.com). We welcome ideas for symposium topics or workshops.

For those of you who have yet to meet her, Geri Cashion is currently a technical consultant for EcoSolutions, Inc. in Palm Harbor, FL, and conducts contract research, training, and freelance consulting in Florida and the southeast. Her background includes landscape design, nursery production, horticultural consulting, and most recently, eastern turf and ornamental technical service and development for FMC Specialty Products. I look forward to her contribution to the executive committee and welcome her to our ranks!

Join me in thanking the departing committee chairs and members who have served the society in recent years. Rob Meagher and Sue Legaspi (Fiscal Committee), Lois Wood (Newsletter), Greg Nuessly (Student Activities), Jim Price (Education) and Norm Leppla (Invasive Species) have all moved on from their positions while continuing to be active in other ways.

I've been successful in identifying some replacements. Marco Toapanta is the new and very active chair of the Student Activities Committee. Scott Ferguson has agreed to chair the Membership Committee along with new committee member Mike Rogers. Cara Congdon is now in charge of the newsletter, and I'm particularly grateful to her and her committee members, Bill Overholt and Ron Cave for undertaking this essential task. Jim Cuda has agreed to chair the Invasive Species committee and I encourage you all to provide him with input as he and his committee work to define how our society can contribute to the problem of exotics in Florida (see below).

In other areas, we are still in need of volunteers. The most pressing is to fill the Fiscal Committee, now vacant. A recent ruling by the Justice Department makes it impossible for USDA, ARS employees to hold outside positions that include fiscal responsibilities. Please consider if you would be able to help the FES and contact me. Another outstanding vacancy is the chair of the Education committee. Outgoing chair Jim Price will continue to serve on the committee and is committed to working with the new chair to ensure the success of that committee's activities.

In light of the concerns I expressed in my last column in this newsletter, I have resuscitated the Long Range Planning Committee and given it the charge of examining recent trends in membership and financial status of the society, and proposing appropriate changes (if any) to how we conduct our business. Howard Frank has graciously accepted the chair of this committee, ably assisted by Norm Leppla and Cara Congdon. I encourage you all to express your opinion and submit suggestions regarding how to best maintain this society and meet the needs of our membership.

Report from the Committee on Managing Invasive Species

As president of FES, Howard Frank had the vision to establish the FES Committee on Managing Invasive Species and set the stage for our Society to become more involved in this critical issue. Invasive species are a devastating problem, not only for agriculture but also in urban environments and natural areas. FES members have considerable expertise and want to help prevent and manage invasive species in every pest situation. The following synopsis of the Committee's 2004 report is the beginning of this effort.

The committee is charged to determine what FES can do to reduce the influx of invasive species. Typically, pest exclusion programs have been reactive. However, recent growth in volume of trade makes it increasingly difficult to exclude exotics at our ports. Action must be taken to build stronger partnerships among the stakeholders (exporters and importers) and to employ more scientific resources in combating invasive species.

The committee (Harold Denmark, Keith Griffith, George O'Meara, Rudolf Scheffrahn, and Norm Leppla, Chair) recently submitted its recommendations. The following is an abbreviated list of the committee's suggested actions to be taken by the FES. The full report will be posted to the FES website.

1. Publish a "new invasive species profile" in each issue of the Florida Entomologist to augment "pest alerts" produced primarily for agriculture and urban pests.
2. Disseminate information on invasive species to assist "first detectors" (e.g., growers, crop consultants, extension agents, scientists, agricultural inspectors).
3. Provide biological information to the regulatory community on emerging invasive species, particularly new information resulting from scientist's trips in the U.S. and foreign countries.
4. Prepare a registry of FES members who are willing to make independent recommendations about dealing with invasive species issues, e.g., review action plans.
5. Maintain an up-to-date list of qualified specialists willing to rapidly identify specimens of presumptive invasive species (in cooperation with FDACS, Division of Plant Industry).

I thank the committee for its work to date to define the problem and begin to formulate active and con-

crete responses to the problem for FES. Please don't hesitate to provide input or feedback to the incoming chair, Jim Cuda.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Edited minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, held October 14, 2004 at USDA-ARS, are as follows:

Attendance - at site or by teleconference:

Geri Cashion, Cara Congdon, Teresa DuChene, Howard Frank, David Hall, Bill Howard, Steve Lapointe, Richard Mankin, Rob Meagher, Jim Nation, Rudi Scheffrahn, Marco Toapanta.

Business Manager Report (Teresa DuChene):

Financial report is current through August 30, 2004: Morgan Stanley \$88,902.07, Bank of America \$11,585.27, for total assets of \$100,487.34.

Teresa commended the symposium organizers for all of their time and energy given to insure a successful International Annual Meeting in Ft Lauderdale. The overall attendance was lower than expected given the increase of symposia and the good location. While the financial picture is not the only gauge we use to measure the success of a meeting, it is one of our primary indicators.

Long Range Planning (Howard Frank):

Items of interest for the Committee would be moving the Society towards an electronic journal version only, seasonal timing of the Annual Meeting, and ways to increase membership.

Fiscal Committee (Rob Meagher):

The Committee voices the need to replace its members. Both Susie Legaspi and Committee Chair Rob Meagher must resign from the Committee (see President's Message on page 1).

Student Activities (Marco Toapanta):

The deadline for ESA travel grants was extended to October 22.

Newsletter (Cara Congdon):

Cara is waiting on a few reports in order to get the next issue out. She made requests for stories and information usually included in specific quarterly issues.

Nominating (Richard Mankin):

Sanford Porter and Nancy Epsky have agreed to serve on the Committee.

Computer Resources (Richard Mankin):

The new *Florida Entomologist* search engine has been operational for several weeks. All 348 issues can be searched from one location (the Textual Collections page at the Florida Center for Library Automation [FCLA]). Readers can view this page from either the Florida Entomologist home page (<http://www.fcla.edu/FlaEnt/>) or the Florida Entomological Society home page (<http://flaentsoc.org>). Many, many thanks to the FCLA staff and to Tom Walker for their diligent efforts over the last 12 years to make this upgraded search engine possible!

There have been several recent additions and deletions to the FES web pages. The revised FES guidelines approved at the Annual Meeting have been posted on the Archives page. We have removed the links to the outdated database, and the home page has been streamlined for a more “modern” look and feel. There is a new set of directions for using the *Florida Entomologist* search engine.

Visits to the FES web site have continued to increase during the last quarter, despite the recent hurricanes. Last week we had 2500 visits compared to 2000/week at the same time last year, and 850/week in 2002.

Pioneer Lecture Award (David Hall):

The Committee will meet in the near future to decide on a topic and lecturer for next year. It is probably time to return to the private sector with a topic relevant to the theme of our meeting, our president, or recent events. We would appreciate ideas from the Executive Committee.

Joe Funderburk has volunteered to ask Lawrence Mound for the one manuscript missing from our series. Norm Leppla will help edit the material for publication.

It is important to remind the FES annual meeting hotel staff to set-up the Pioneer Lecture student lunch in a single rectangle to facilitate interaction with the lecturer. Sometimes the hotel staff has individual tables and it is difficult for the lecturer to get around to all of the students. Interactions could be increased further by asking the lecturer to change seats between meal courses.

It is time to identify a new chairman for the Pioneer Lecture committee to serve after the next annual meeting. We believe that Joe Funderburk will accept the nomination and will verify this at our upcoming meeting. Howard Weems resigned from the Committee.

Florida Entomologist (James Nation): The latest issue of *Florida Entomologist* is now out. There was a delay this issue because of the hurricanes. The December issue will be large with many Scientific Notes. Jorge Hendrichs, Head, Insect Pest Control Section, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Vienna, Austria, would like to have between 20-25 articles published in *Florida Entomologist*. Even though they will edit the articles, the Editor believes that these articles still require much work. A suggestion to have IAEA pay an additional fee of \$40 per article was approved.

SEARCHING THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGIST

Before September 2004, locating information in the Florida Entomologist journal was sometimes a complicated process. If you knew which article you needed, you could retrieve it directly from the table of contents at the FlaEnt web site:

(<http://www.fcla.edu/FlaEnt/feissues.htm>). Otherwise, articles published in 1994 or later could be located by entering a word or phrase into a search engine at the Florida Entomological Society website. Articles published before 1994 could be searched only through author, keyword, or title information. Now, however, the entire collection can be searched using a new search engine at the Florida Center for Library Automation see: http://www.fcla.edu/FlaEnt/fe_about.htm#find. Enjoy!

There were a few “bugs” in the system initially, but most of the identified ones have been corrected. If you run across a problem in your searches, let us know.

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STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT WINNERS

The following students were recently awarded a travel grant from the Florida Entomological Society to assist them with attending the 2004 Entomological Society of America annual meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah: Matt Aubuchon, David Melius, Rebecca Baldwin, Cara Congdon, Tobin Northfield, and Kathryn Barbara.

Congratulations to all of you!

88th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The 2005 annual meeting of the Florida Entomological Society will be held July 24-27 at the Sanibel Harbour Resort and Spa (<http://www.sanibel-resort.com>) in Ft. Myers. The resort overlooks Sanibel Island at Punta Rassa where the Caloosahatchee River meets the Gulf of Mexico. The resort offers swimming, kayaking, catamaran tours, a fitness center, tennis, and golfing nearby. Guests can fish from the resort's own fishing pier, relax on the beach, or view dolphins from the resort's luxury yacht. Situated on 85 acres of coastal scenery and tropical landscapes, the Sanibel Harbour Resort & Spa has been named among the "Top 10 Spa Resorts in the U.S." by CondeNast Traveler, and is a multiple recipient of the AAA Four-Diamond Award. The resort offers a variety of dining at its six restaurants. The resort is completing upgraded renovations as a result of the visit from Hurricane Charley. All 45,000 sq. ft. of meeting rooms are on one level. At a special rate of \$104/night, FES is truly lucky to snare such a top-notch venue for our upcoming meeting. The room registration deadline is July 5, 2005.

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 Ron Cave, Cara Congdon, or Bill Overholt.

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2004-2005

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