

NEW JERSEY MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

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NJMCA Executive Committee Meeting, Summary August 2, 2002- Monmouth County MEC Submitted by Christine Musa, President

The NJMCA Executive Committee met on August 2nd. As stated in the Association Bylaws the Executive Committee is established to “manage the affairs of the Association.” In order to communicate the activity of the Executive Committee to the membership the following is a summary of the discussions that took place and actions taken at that meeting.

Treasurer’s Report: The Association currently has a fund balance of \$54,974.40. Discussion took place during the treasurer’s report regarding alternative accounts (to get better interest rates) for the Association funds that are now kept in a Dean Witter account.

Tax exempt status is being pursued and the anticipated attorney cost is approximately \$500.00. The budget will have to be modified by the Trustees to place this amount in the appropriate line item in addition to making changes in the budget to accommodate unexpected expenses in other line items.

Committee Reports: Written reports were submitted for review by the following committees:

- **Research & Development:** The Committee has met twice, reviewing areas of needed investigation and decided to concentrate on insecticides that are currently not fully approved in the Recommendations in addition to the Larvasonic, distribution of positive mosquitoes in the proximity of positive crows and the gravid trap attractive distance. Drs. Sutherland and Brattsten developed a larvicide and adulticide protocol to be used in all field trials to allow for comparison of tests from one county to the next. These were reviewed and accepted by the committee. Someone from each agency working with new products should be certified in Category 10 (Demonstration and Research). Cage designs for adulticide trials were discussed and a common design agreed upon for which construction plans were provided by Dr. Sutherland. Droplet collection techniques were discussed including the use of a slide spinner and the possibility of centralized regional storage centers for making the equipment easily accessible.

- **Program:** A Call for Papers was developed for the 2003 meeting and will be in the next newsletter. The Call for Papers along with the Guidelines for Proceedings Manuscripts will also be on the NJMCA website.
- **Professional Training:** Meetings are taking place for next years Pesticide Re-certification Training. Input from surveys and tests taken by prior attendees is being considered to determine training needs. A draft program is intended to be set by November for obtaining re-certification credits for NJ & surrounding states.
- **Public Relations:** The poster contest had 85 entries in 2002. Plans have been made for the Association to have a display at the NJ Education Association Convention, November 7 & 8, 2002 instead of the NJ Science Teachers Convention held in October and at the League of Municipalities meeting, November 18-21, 2002.
- **Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP):** Communication from former AMCA-PESP Committee Chair, Doug Carlson included comment from EPA's letter of acceptance for the AMCA's annual report, within which New Jersey's annual report (as a sub-partner) was incorporated.
 - The EPA's letter from PESP liaison Kevin Sweeney include 'congratulations on the excellent progress as measured in acre-age included in source reduction programs, numbers of workers trained and certified and in your public education efforts.' The Executive Committee voiced an interest in getting acknowledgement and recognition of New Jersey's contribution to this program and this annual report as a sub-partner of AMCA.
- **Scholarship:** A meeting is planned in the near future for the development of written criteria for scholarship recipients for approval.
- **Newsletter:** The third issue for 2002 is being assembled at this time with distribution intended for the end of August. All NJMCA members and others interested in receiving a copy are on the mailing list in addition to the issues being posted on the NJMCA website.
- **Registration/Companion (for annual meeting):** The meeting registration form is being revised and an updated version will be available on the Internet that will facilitate registration at the 2003 meeting. Optional companion activities/tours were outlined and determined necessary due to the off-boardwalk location of the meeting facility.
- **Proceedings Distribution Manager:** Sales to agencies and outside libraries, universities etc. was outlined. The charge for the 2002 Proceedings was requested for billing purposes and is covered later in this summary.
- **Membership Committee:** Discussion took place regarding Membership on a number of long standing issues:
 1. The requirement in the current bylaws for two sponsor signatures for new members was reviewed. Discussion included argument to keep the concept of sponsorship to assure that members endorse the concept of professional mosquito control. Rebuttal included

arguments to accept all individuals regardless of their views on the pros or cons of mosquito control. A motion was made to eliminate this requirement. A Bylaws committee will be established to propose revised wording in the bylaws regarding this which will be voted on by the membership. It was noted at this time that the sponsorship requirement may be a factor in our status with the IRS and inquiries will be made regarding this.

2. The length of time a member is kept on the membership list if dues have not been paid was touched on. The Membership Committee will come up with a recommendation.
3. The benefits of different levels of membership (including honorary, regular and sustaining) have not been defined. The Membership Committee will meet to develop clear rules and regulations for sustaining membership including benefits that go with that and other membership categories as well as language that disclaims product endorsement because of sustaining membership.
4. Clarification was given to the membership year (the association operates on a calendar year for financial purposes) that entitles a member to the luncheon at the annual business meeting.

Luncheon tickets will be given only to members that are paid for the calendar year in which the meeting is held.

5. Membership requirements for NJMCA awards was addressed in addition to the type of recognition to be given. A motion was passed unanimously stating the NJMCA membership is not a prerequisite to be nominated or to receive any award from the Association. The Bunnie Hajek Award, the Achievement Award and the Past President's Award will be plaques and the 25 year service roll will be kept on file with the individual receiving a certificate. Please note that an individual can be listed on the 25 year service roll and also be awarded the Achievement Award upon retirement.
 6. A membership database (in Microsoft Access) has been developed by Membership Chair Jack Nunemaker. There is an interest in expanding this to include all Association contacts in addition to being made available to the Association Secretary and all the Committee Chairs that would have need to use it including the following: Convention Arrangements, Program, Newsletter, Commercial Exhibits, Registration, Professional Training. Users would have to be trained to use the software. The possibility of having this available on the web vs. having one individual maintaining all the listings was discussed and will be pursued with possible assistance from the Associated Executives Internet Committee.
- **Future Annual Meetings:** The possibility of incorporating the state health departments annual statewide West Nile Virus meeting in conjunction with the 2003 NJMCA annual meeting is being pursued. This would avoid the need for speakers to attend both our convention and the NJ Health Officer

Association quarterly meeting which has accommodated this WNV program in the past.

- The Northeast Mosquito Control Association is no longer looking to have a joint meeting with the NJMCA in late 2004. Proposals from Trump Marina are being requested for March 9-12, 2004 and March 8-11, 2005 for approval by the Trustees. Neither of these meeting dates conflicts with Easter, an AMCA meeting or Rutgers spring break.
- **Annual Meeting Proceedings:** The price for the 2002 Annual Meeting Proceedings was set at \$10.00 each for ordering purposes prior to the end of the year. The proceedings will also be offered in a write protected CD-ROM format (for \$10.00 each) in addition to the bound hard copies produced in prior years.
- **Surveillance Symposium:** The surveillance symposium presented at the 1989 NJMCA Annual Meeting will be published in a separate CD-ROM with the intended availability date of the end of 2003. Future papers on other surveillance techniques such as resting boxes, gravid traps, etc. will be added to this publication in the form of revised versions.
- **Media Training:** The contact information for a possible media training session provided earlier in the year is being passed on to the Professional Training Committee to set up this training using funds already available in the NJMCA budget for this.
- **Motion Book:** A book has been set up to record motions made by the Association which are organized by topic for easy reference.
- **Letter of Support Requested:** Concern of mosquito breeding in cemeteries was addressed and the President will write a letter to discourage use of vessels that hold water in cemeteries.

Freshwater Wetlands Regulations Update

On July 30th there was a meeting scheduled by the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination with representatives of the NJDEP Land Use Administration and 15 different county mosquito control commissions and agencies. The purpose of the meeting was to develop an improved relationship between the Department and the regulated community who are obligated to obtain water management permits for mosquito control. As a result of the first meeting, several constructive recommendations were brought forward which will (hopefully) evolve into seminars, workshops and guidelines for the working agencies. The counties submitted twenty-five pre-meeting comments to OMCC staff member Sean McManus which were condensed and collated in order to format the agenda. Almost all of the questions, which pertain to the application for and successful approval of all different categories of permits for mosquito control, were addressed by DEP Supervisor Kevin Broderick and the Land Use regulation staff. Each question will be formally replied to and will be used as a basis for a seminar



on the subject. It is hoped that there will be several more such meetings thus improving communication and cooperation between the agencies.

Robert Kent, Administrator Office of Mosquito Control Coordination

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

For those who live in houses with screened-in porches and window and door screens, such an insect-excluding device is taken for granted. Yet, less than 50 miles away in what was the focal point for West Nile virus in 1999, you could drive around the area a year later and see that the majority of windows in apartment buildings were not screened. One of the ironies of the 1999 outbreak was the case of the man who would wake up in the middle of the night and go out on his back porch to take the night air. Unfortunately, his was not a screened porch. It was, as Yogi Berra said, “Déjà vu all over again,” for the Egyptians who lived in mosquito-plagued areas of the Nile delta around 450 BCE built towers in which to live so as to escape the pestiferous insects. The residents of Queens felt that living in upper stories was adequate protection. One wonders if the sales of window screens in New York City skyrocketed because of West Nile virus. The Egyptians, as well as the ancient Greeks, also reportedly used fine-meshed nets to protect themselves. Before the discoveries of Manson, Ross, Finlay and Reed, mosquito netting had proved invaluable to David Livingstone who slept under a “mosquito curtain” during his travels in sub-Saharan Africa—known then as “the White man’s grave” because of malaria and yellow fever and today an area where a child dies of malaria every 30 seconds. A search of the internet for information on mosquito netting reveals the name of Jane Delano a nurse who, before the relation of mosquitoes to yellow fever was known, wanted the use of mosquito netting to prevent the spread of this dreaded disease.

Mosquito netting even served as a subject for the great American painter John Singer Sargent who painted two portraits of ladies reclining with mosquito nets to protect them [right]. An excellent, new book, *The Fever Trail: In Search of the Cure for Malaria* by Mark Honigsbaum, has a photo of a British malariologist with a headnet on the cover, and those who follow the trail of mosquitoes and malaria prevention are aware of the current efforts to introduce treated bednets as a means of controlling malaria. On a personal note, I remember sleeping under mosquito netting in Tsingtao, China, in the summer of 1946 because two US servicemen had died of Japanese B encephalitis. The development of what many consider an essential part of a house can be dated quite precisely. In 1874

Chester Wickwire (and, yes, that was his name) produced 150 square feet of hardware cloth for use in excluding flies. In 1876, he sold his hardware store to devote his energies to producing bronze wire screening, and by the mid 1880s he was producing some 30,000 square feet annually. The Wickwires produced the screening that was used so effectively in Gorgas' plans for preventing mosquito-borne disease during the construction of the Panama Canal. Later, in the 1920s, Wickwire Brothers produced some 25% of the world's wire cloth.



The number of cases of malaria, which was endemic in the South until the 1940s, was greatly reduced by the installation and routine repair of screens by local departments of health with support from the Rockefeller Foundation.

Those of us who have spent our time in mosquito control work tend to take screens for granted as they have been such a natural part of our lives.

We should remember that exclusion is a fundamental part of an integrated pest management program. Our efforts have been directed at protecting the citizens we serve by reducing mosquito populations, but we should not forget that exclusion is a valid principle, particularly when the elements conspire to create mosquito populations that get out of hand.

Books to read:

Gillett, J.D. *Mosquitos*. 1971.
Harrison, Gordon. *Mosquitoes, Malaria and Man: A History of the Hostilities Since 1880*. 1978.
Honigsbaum, Mark. *The Fever Trail: In Search of the Cure for Malaria*. 2001.
McCullough, David. *The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal 1870-1914*. 1977.
Spielman, Andrew & D'Antonio, Michael. *Mosquito: A*

Natural History of Our Most Persistent and Deadly Foe. 2001.

Henry Rupp

Trap Nets

I was recently wandering through our local Home Depot, and came across a good quality, readily available, and inexpensive alternative to the EVS & CDC miniature trap nets.

In their painting supplies section, Home Depot stocks Tufpro Painter's Best™ 1-gallon nylon paint strainers with elastic tops for 89 cents each (compare to EVS trap replacement nets from BioQuip sell for \$2.90-\$3.15 each, plus shipping). The paint strainer nets measure 14" long and are made of a very fine nylon mesh, with double stitched seams and an elasticized opening at the top. Unlike the nets originally supplied with the EVS traps, these nets are open only at one end, which I find to be an advantage. These fit perfectly onto BioQuip's EVS traps and CDC miniature light traps. The paint strainer nets also fit our other CO2-baited traps, but ABC traps may require an additional rubber band or similar device to secure the net in place. The nets "poof" out nicely, and keep the mosquitoes in good condition for identification. The only flaw I have been able to find with the paint strainer net is that it lacks a tie to securely close the net after it is collected, but this is easily remedied with a rubber band or binder clip. I have used this net on an EVS trap for several nights with good success.

Jamesina J. Scott, Mosquito Research & Control

NJMCA Annual Meeting, 2003 Call for Papers *Due November 30th, 2002!*

[Electronic Submission](#) or [Paper Submission](#)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- ***Pennsylvania Vector Control Assoc. Conference***, Strausburg Inn (Lancaster County) Nov 13-15 Contact Jaquelyn Hakim at (570) 420 - 3525
- ***Northeastern Mosquito Control Assoc. Meeting***, Dec. 2 – 4, 2002, Mystic, Ct. See website at www.nmca.org for more info.
- ***NJMCA Annual Meeting***, March 11-14, 2003, Trump Marina, Atlantic City. See website at www.njmosquito.org (go to link for NJMCA) for more info.