Message from the President

ERIC WILLIGES, President

I want to start by thanking all of you for the opportunity to be president of our organization. Starting off as a seasonal that had no idea mosquito control existed to being the 104th president of an organization that helped create organized mosquito control is a bigger leap than I could have imagined.

Reading through past years at what former Presidents said to start their terms, consistent themes show up. Increasing the communication between all parts of the infamous three legged stool, working more closely together to make sure we’re doing the best we can, increasing our contact with the private companies that are increasing work in our counties, finding a way to keep our institutional knowledge intact as people retire, and becoming more involved regionally and nationally.

Looking back on how our community has grown in the past few years, I think we’ve done a great job with many of those ideas. Having jumped back and forth between agencies and levels of government, I have seen the communication increase. How different counties can work together to answer the same question, or lean on each other to stop trying to answer questions that are already answered. How different offices inside the state can work with county agencies to help find answers to their needs, and how what counties deal with and do locally directly affects the direction the state should take. We can find a common goal and work towards it, even if the goal sometimes is as basic as professional courtesy.

Unfortunately I’ve also seen some of the negative aspects. How state or county agencies can fight over things as minor as the wording of an agreement, and how relationships can jump from working together to create something brand new to being adversary’s on that same project within weeks. How good work and answers may be pushed aside because of who said it or what we thought before. With as much work as we’ve done in the recent past to get over these issues, we can’t afford to stop working together now and lose the progress we’ve made. Making sure we focus on communication between agencies before something small grows out of control is key to keep us going forward. As much as we may think we exist in a bubble of our own, that doesn’t work over the long term. We all contribute to each other and need to realize that and work together.

Continued on Page 2
President’s Message continued

Moving forward, we need to focus on new and positive ideas. We’ve increased communication between ourselves, and other agencies. Personally I know I’m much more comfortable reaching out to another county or state agency with new ideas, or for help with something they’ve already mastered. We need to take that same level of comfort and make better connections with private companies. Last year President Thompson made it a priority to open that communication and it helped in many ways. Already this year we have seen problems that were easily taken care of by simply reaching out and talking. In the past that may not have happened, this time we could address our concerns easily and make a new ally. That stems from knowing more people in the community and being comfortable talking to them. I will continue to make that communication a priority in the coming year.

This year at the annual meeting, it was great to see so many new people starting out and excited to get involved. All of a sudden it seems I’m older than I’d like to admit and closer to being the old guard. Unfortunately though, that means we’re still losing more and more of our friends that were the old guard a decade or two ago. We’ve done a great job passing information down and across to each other, and I’m excited to see that continue even as I’m sad to see people leaving the community. Coming closer to catching up on our proceedings is a great way to save that knowledge, and to hear that the proceedings from last year are almost ready to be published is a great jump from where we were a few years ago. My thanks go to everyone who made that happen. Even though there were some bumps and bruises along the way, I think a great goal for ourselves is to make sure the previous year’s proceedings are published before the next annual meeting. It’s going to take a lot of work, and one person alone can’t do it, but it’s not impossible.

Over the next year, I have a few objectives I’d like to try and accomplish. Some are rather vague and getting there is going to depend on more than a few people working together but these are directions I think we need to focus on to keep growing as an organization and industry.

We need to find more and creative ways to sell ourselves to the public. There were multiple speakers at this year’s convention that promptly went to their social media sites and posted about it. A few of our members approached me and pointed out that as great as that was to see, we had no way to respond or even acknowledge that they were there. However, looking thru this newsletter you’ll see an ad for the NJMCA’s new Facebook and Twitter pages. Autumn Angelus, John Betz, and Lauren Segreto have done a great job running with this idea and getting us started in the time between the annual meeting and now. Moving forward, we will need input from everyone. I know I’m not suggesting anything earth-shattering saying we should have a Twitter account, but this is a great way to keep explaining what we do to people outside our community. Without input from everyone this won’t work, so moving forward the committee is going to be pestering all of you for input, ideas, and day to day events.

Fitting in the same theme, we need to support our education and public relations committee on a more consistent basis. I’m guilty of this myself; an email goes out announcing that NJMCA is going to be attending an event and needs help but “I’m busy someone else will do it”. Keeping with the idea of getting our new members involved, Russell Berger and Michael Rosselini have volunteered to chair this committee with Kris McMorland and Mike Romanowski there to assist. They are excited to keep adding events to NJMCA’s calendar but that’s going to need more help from our members. I’m going to make a concerted effort to attend more events, and I hope others will as well. If we don’t find the time to put out our message forcefully and consistently, someone else is going to do it for us. Personally I doubt it would be in a good way.

Another goal I want to accomplish is to increase our visibility to senators and representatives. Budgets are tight, and to say getting permission to travel is difficult is an understatement. Getting a large contingent from New Jersey to AMCA’s Washington Day as in the past is a great long term goal, but not realistic in the near future. I do think we can get a group together and visit our representatives and senators in their local offices. I’d also like to see us take that national idea and apply it locally by increasing our contact with our state senators and assemblymen. At the least, making a concerted effort to contact each local office can only help our community. With the public concern over Zika virus and other emerging diseases, mosquito control is in the forefront of everyone’s mind. This is a great opportunity to introduce ourselves locally and statewide by explaining what we do and the responsible ways we can help to protect the public health. This will require some creative thinking and hard work from everyone, but I think the potential results will be worth it.

Outside of my ideas though, I’ve gotten great feedback from many members with their own ideas. Rest assured, if you’ve approached me with something new expect to hear from me asking you to run with it or pushing you to get involved another way. For our established committee chairs who I can’t thank enough for all they do, now is the time to expand. There are plenty of new members looking to help. Find a way to get them involved while you have this chance. To those new faces I’ve talked about a few times now that are looking to do more, reach out to the rest of us. There is always a way to help and make the best use of your talents. The next few years is a great opportunity for us all to grow mosquito control in new ways across the state, while making sure we still provide the same service to the public that has kept us going for over 100 years. Thank you all again for your support and for the chance to be president of the NJMCA. I am looking forward to putting my effort over the next year to moving our organization forward without forgetting our history.
The 2016 College Scholarship was awarded to Alexandria Crans, daughter of longtime NJMCA member and Past President, Scott Crans, and granddaughter of longtime NJMCA member and Past President, Wayne Crans. Alexandria was unanimously chosen by the committee, and plans on pursuing a degree in biology at Rutgers University.

Silent Auction

The Scholarship committee held a silent auction on Thursday, March 5th, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the 2016 annual meeting, just prior to the banquet, held at the Golden Nugget in Atlantic City. NJMCA members donated 42 items, which garnered $875.00 toward the scholarship fund.

Heather Lomberk—Chair

$875.00 raised for the Scholarship Fund with our annual Silent Auction

Fun was had by all:

Chuck Lubelczyk, John Kranz, Rui-De Xue, Tadhgh Rainey

Placing bids
New Features

Starting this month the Newsletter will have a few new features.

**County Corner** will highlight a random county each month. Please consider writing an article about your county!

**News from the Northeast** will be a selection of news from our friends in the Northeast.

We will still have the county roundup at the end of the year and the monthly Rutgers News. A few more ideas are in the works.

If you would like to contribute or have a great idea, let us know!

The Newsletter Committee

- Receiving a print copy of this newsletter and prefer digital?
- Someone in your organization isn't receiving an issue?
- Receiving this by mistake?

Contact: tduckworth@co.morris.nj.us
Passaic County
Rich History, Bright Future
Joe Pezzillo

Passaic County was formed in 1837. Passaic County's history and landmarks offer visitors an opportunity to take a step back in time. The county seat, Paterson, was named after William Paterson, the Governor of New Jersey. The City of Paterson’s Great Falls, a national historical park, offers guided walks featuring its industrial architecture. Lambert Castle was constructed in 1892 for the silk manufacturer Catholina Lambert. The Castle, located within the Garret Mountain Reservation in Paterson, was purchased and renovated by the Passaic County Park Commission in 1928. The man-made Morris Canal ran through northern New Jersey and connected the Delaware River with the Hudson River, transporting people and goods throughout the state and through the Passaic County towns of Clifton, Little Falls, Paterson, and the Mountain View section of Wayne. The Dey Mansion in Wayne achieved national recognition as General George Washington’s revolutionary war headquarters in the Preakness Valley, and is considered to be the “Jewel of the Passaic County Parks Department.”

The Passaic County Mosquito Extermination Commission was organized on April 23, 1912. On May 10, 1912, Dr. Jacob Lipman, director of the State Experiment Station, gave to the Passaic County Mosquito Extermination Commission an instructive lecture on the practical cost and effectiveness of mosquito extermination. In March 1913, the Commission submitted its proposed Plan, Method, and Estimate to Dr. Lipman for approval. After careful thought and consideration of the project, it was the opinion of the Commission that in as much as the work in Passaic County was in its initial and experimental stages, it would be advisable to confine the efforts of the Commission, for the first year, largely to a campaign of education so that the general public might be intelligently instructed in the hygienic and economic importance of the extermination of the mosquito. The methods included 1) holding public meetings in various parts of Passaic County in which the nature and value of mosquito extermination would be thoroughly discussed and every opportunity given to the county residents to obtain the fullest information relative to this important matter, 2) transmitting to the press of Passaic County statements of progress and the results obtained from mosquito extermination work done in New Jersey and other parts of the world, 3) making of a complete survey and map of all mosquito breeding places within Passaic County’s limits, 4) the control of the mosquito pest in a small municipality as an example of what can be done, and 5) estimating the expense necessary to abate the mosquito pest within the limits of Passaic County.

More than 100 years later, Passaic County Mosquito Control is still engaged in the long battle to control mosquitoes. And just as it was in 1913, education of the general public is still a major part of this battle. Today, the mosquito control division educates the public in numerous ways, including presentations to school students, seniors groups, public health professionals, and gardeners. Through use of our website, social media, and informational handouts that are distributed door-to-door or at health fairs, we get the message out on the importance of controlling mosquitoes.

Since 2003, Mosquito Control has been a division of the county health department. It was primarily the arrival of West Nile virus in 1999 that facilitated the division's move from Operations/Roads Department to the Health Department. However, Passaic County Mosquito Control still assists the Roads Department during the winter months, in helping to clear snow accumulations from County bridges (shoveling) and County roads (plowing) and occasional assistance in filling potholes on County roads.

The superintendent of Passaic County Mosquito Control is Joseph Pezzillo. Prior to beginning employment in the mosquito control division in 2003 as the biologist, Joe was an intern at the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Pollution Prevention and Permit Coordination. He was promoted to Superintendent at the end of 2015, following the departure of Eric Green, former superintendent. Mr. Pezzillo also spends some of his time at Passaic County as an environmental health specialist for the county health department, on-call as a first responder to incidents involving hazardous materials.
County Corner

Steven Peters is the newly hired biologist at Passaic County Mosquito Control, but he is by no means new to public health. Mr. Peters has worked for Passaic County Department of Health, Hackensack Health Department, and Bergen County Department of Health Services. His knowledge and experience as a licensed health officer is a tremendous asset to Passaic County Mosquito Control and the county health department.

Scott Johnson, water management supervisor, and Ralph Showalter, assistant supervisor, have a combined 33 years of experience in the mosquito control division, and each possesses a Certified Pesticide Applicator license. Scott and Ralph supervise three mosquito control inspectors who also possess Certified Pesticide Applicator licenses, and five laborers who each possess a pesticide operator license.

This team of twelve is tasked with surveillance and control of mosquito populations in sixteen (16) municipalities across the county’s 197 mi². The county is broken up into five (5) mosquito control routes, and each route has at least one CPA-licensed inspector and one laborer attending to it.

In general, the county has a more rural feel in its northern half, which is comprised of West Milford, Ringwood, Bloomingdale, Wanaque, and Pompton Lakes. This northern half, which borders Sussex County and New York state, features farms, horse stables, lakes and reservoirs, and parts of it are protected under the Highlands Water Protection Act of 2004. Common habitats in this region include: freshwater swamps, bogs, and woodland pools. Most of our early spring nuisance complaints are a result of the single-generation Aedes produced in this half of the county. In contrast, the southern half of the county is urban, including Paterson (the second highest population density of any US city, behind only New York), Passaic, and Clifton, for example. This part of the county is a major focus for the mosquito control division, as we tend to collect most of our positive West Nile virus mosquito samples in this region. Also, this region of the county has a significant Hispanic and Latino population that frequently travel to/from the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. (Passaic County had about 25 imported cases of Chikungunya in 2014; all of the cases resided in this lower half of the county). Common habitat in this part of the county includes tires, artificial containers, and unmaintained swimming pools, among many others. Notably, Aedes albopictus is frequently collected in the southern half of the county, but rarely in the northern half of the county; and this disparity lines up rather well with the 0°C isotherm which bisects the county into these northern and southern halves.

Please visit www.passaiccountynj.org/mosquito for further information, or contact Joseph Pezzillo at joep@passaiccountynj.org or (973) 305-5754.

Look for 2015 Proceedings Coming Soon!

2016 Proceedings are in the works.

Contact Isik Unlu with questions:

iunlu@mercercounty.org
Thank you to all of the attendees of the 103rd NJMCA annual meeting. With 44 wonderful speakers from near and far, the program was loaded with a diverse sampling of presentations! The topics varied greatly, yet each presentation was filled with educational and interesting information. Symposia included: Reports, Water Management, Public Education, Diptera & Disease, Pesticides, and more!

The poster session was once again a success, with 11 posters entered. The winners of this year’s poster session competition were: 3rd place ($25 prize)- Water Management Projects 2015, by John Kranz, 2nd place ($50 prize)- Hillcrest Drive Pond Restoration, by Stephanie Oliphant, and 1st place ($75 prize)- Malaria and Yellow Fever in the 18th and 19th Centuries, by Peg Shultz and Kris McMorland. Congratulations to the winners; be sure to submit your posters next year for a chance to win.

The baby photo contest was resurrected this year, brought to you by the Program Committee (especially Bob Duryea). The contest was a fun way to get to know colleagues. The program committee will be bringing you another fun activity for the 2017 meeting. Stay tuned!

Attendance was lower than in the past. Please keep in mind that we all have a responsibility to spread the word about the NJMCA annual meeting to anyone who may benefit. New Jersey pesticide recertification credits are always awarded to those that attend each day. The 2016 meeting provided the opportunity for NJ health credits and Pennsylvania pesticide recertification credits.

The Program Committee would like to extend gratitude to the A/V Committee, Convention Arrangements Committee, Registration, and many other committees and individuals for everything that they do. The meeting ran effortlessly thanks to the cooperation between us all.

DON’T FORGET! Now that we’re kicked into high gear, please start documenting your activities throughout the season. You’ll thank yourself when it’s time to create your presentation and/or poster.

2016 Program Committee: Teresa Duckworth, Isik Unlu, Howard Emerson, Robert Duryea, Mary Evangelista, Michael Romanowski, Shereen Semple, Kristian McMorland, & Autumn Angelus, Chair.
Images from
NJMCA Annual Meeting 2016
Photos by Krystal Deegan
News from the Northeast

ME Medical Center Research Institute – Following the unexpected fatality reported in Maine from EEE virus in October of 2015, the past winter been a very mild one in the region, like many of the other New England states. As we head into April, we noticed that, while mosquitoes have not emerged yet, the ticks (both dog ticks and deer ticks) are out and active close to month early.

How does the mild winter affect our mosquito season? Preliminary surveys for larval Cs melanura this winter in interior York County found that numbers of the mosquitoes were down, indicating a possible low number of fall adults laying eggs. What, if any, mortality that might also result from a lack of thermal insulation from the snow is also an unknown. Too, the lack of a snowpack may also lessen larval habitat for snowpool species that emerge in May.

The National Weather Service in Gray, ME indicated recently that overall precipitation for Maine was down from the winter of 2014-2015, indicating that unless a steady influx of precipitation occurs over the remaining spring months, the new growing could substantially reduce standing water bodies.

In addition to efforts to continue surveillance in many of the historical sites in York, Cumberland, Walso, and Aroostook counties, new efforts in to conduct mosquito surveillance are planned for Oxford, Lincoln, and Kennebec counties as well. Heavier mosquito sampling will also occur in York County, where the above-mentioned fatality resided. This region, in a few particular locales, has seen reliable foci of EEE-positive mosquitoes for a number of years. To date, mosquito management programs are still left to the municipalities!

- Chuck Lubelczyk, Vector Ecologist Apr. 1, 2016

Central Mass. MCP – Spring seems to have arrived early, but winter is probably not too far off. Larval control operations will begin shortly as water management projects wind down. A great winter season for the WM program, great work CMMCP crews!!

Zika has stirred up some interest in non-member towns, the next few months look to be busy for all CMMCP staff. As we learn more about Zika, preparations continue to be sure we are as prepared as possible.

Condolences to the BCMCP crew and Dave Colburn’s family. Dave was a great guy and a stalwart for mosquito control. As we lose another from the “greatest generation: please take a moment to reflect and remember to be thankful for those who have given so much and asked for so little. Godspeed Dave!

- Tim Deschamps, Exec. Director Mar. 31, 2016
Knowledge Transfer: Weekly e-mail blasts have consumed a greater portion of the daily work load for everyone as we attempt to share the latest information surrounding the Zika outbreak occurring in many tropical areas around the globe. Our e-mail distribution list has nearly doubled in size with new requests to be added coming in since January.

In early February Scott Crans led a discussion on the emerging Zika situation in Brazil for the county mosquito control biologists group. Topics included what to expect this coming season based upon what we currently know (or knew at that time), a review of Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus bionomics, behavior, surveillance and control, and how best to prepare for the approaching season. Preserved samples of larval and adult specimens were provided to all attendees. The digital material has also been provided on the outreach section of our website. All participants were encouraged to participate in the CDC survey in an effort to accurately update the distribution of these invasive container breeding mosquitoes.

As a member of the AMCA education and member training committee led by Isik Unlu, Scott Crans offered a national webinar for AMCA members on the topic of mosquito trap use called “Everyone seems to have a better mosquito trap: Making sense of mosquito trapping” on Tuesday, February 23rd, 2016. Registration was free for AMCA members. This talk was timely with respect to the Zika awareness situation and covered many of the routine traps used in professional mosquito control around the country. Consistency through time using calibrated traps was a theme stressed for making comparable population level estimates. Attendance was superb for this webinar as it has been for the two that have followed. Kudos are due to the committee for organizing timely presentations on emerging topics for the mosquito research and control community.

Presentations on Zika virus and potential Northeast mosquito vector involvement, partnering with public health and local mosquito control to provide a consistent public health message, have almost become a weekly activity throughout the Spring.

Lisa Reed, Scott Crans and Isik Unlu attended the 7th annual EEE conference hosted by the CTAES in New Haven CT. The conference was well attended and covered EEE epidemiology, latest research on the topic and provided state surveillance and control program activity updates. As has been the case of late CDC also took advantage of this mosquito research and control gathering to offer an update on evolving Zika situation. For those needing to address EEE, this conference was a valuable use of time. The CTAES put on an exceptional event.

For Recent Publications: Visit http://vectorbio.rutgers.edu/publications/

Graduation: Rutgers 250 convocation and commencement ceremonies were something special for all who participated. A crowded stadium and 12 thousand graduates on the field all took part in this historic achievement for Rutgers University. Six of the graduates this year came through the Entomology program. Having a sitting President deliver a congratulatory speech capping off a year of celebration with family members present was something for all to remember.

Grants/Awards: The AMCA member and training education committee has been given approval to move forward with a Zika surveillance and control training initiative supported on anticipated CDC funds. All that remains is an act of congress (currently being debated) to occur. If successful one of the regional training centers is planned for the Northeast. More will certainly follow on this topic as we move into the summer season.

Also, in collaboration with Richard Lathrop, Director, Walton Center for Remote Sensing & Spatial Analysis, Professor, Department of Ecology, Evolution, & Natural Resources School of Environmental & Biological Sciences, Rutgers University, several coastal counties surrounding the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve have partnered with Rutgers on a grant submitted to NOAA to fund research that will look at sea level rise impacts on Aedes sollicitans larval habitats. It is hoped, if funded, this work will provide valuable information on how the marsh system changes under management and restoration activity which will ultimately result in informed policy decisions.

Blog: Read all about what we’re up to!
The value of mosquito control.
Cost per acre makes Zenivex® adulticide a sound investment.

DO
THE
+ MATH

ZENIVEX® =
EFFICIENT
OPERATIONS

Zenivex® E20 adulticide is an attractive option for professionals looking for advanced mosquito control. At mid-range labeled use rate, Zenivex® adulticide cost equates to just 67¢ per acre, before rebates. Add to that demonstrated efficacy, small environmental footprint and no PBO and Zenivex® E20 adulticide becomes an even more superior value. Zenivex® adulticide also comes in a ready-to-use E4 formulation. To learn more visit CentralMosquitoControl.com or call 1-800-248-7763.
New Jersey Mosquito Control Association Inc.

President
Eric Williges
Essex County Mosquito Control

1st Vice President
Robert Duryea
Warren County Mosquito Extermination Commission

2nd Vice President
Deepak Matadha
Middlesex County Mosquito Extermination Commission

Secretary
Joyln Mitchell
Salem County Department of Mosquito Control

Treasurer
Jennifer Gruener,
Warren County Mosquito Extermination Commission

Newsletter Committee
Anthony Acquaviva
Doug Abdill
Autumn Angelus
Joe Pezzillo

Send Correspondence To:
Teresa Duckworth, Editor
County of Morris
Division of Mosquito Control
PO Box 900
Morristown, NJ 07963
Phone:(973) 285-6450
FAX: (973) 285-6454