



NEWSLETTER
International Society of
Hymenopterists
November 2000

President's Report

By necessity and a close deadline to get this newsletter out before the Annual Meeting in Montreal, this will be a short article. It will also be my last as President, as John LaSalle will take office as the new President after the Montreal meeting.

On reflection, the last two years I think have been a successful one for the Society. The journal continues to prosper, and we had two very successful meetings during 1999, the International Conference in Canberra during January and the Annual Meeting in Atlanta in December. During this time the Executive has also been focusing on some long-term initiatives. Two of these, the introduction of awards to be made by the Society and the development of an Endowment Fund, are discussed elsewhere in this newsletter. However, a point worth making about them here is that these developments are, I think, indicative of a Society which is very much coming of age.

There are two related issues that I think the Society still needs to contemplate seriously, and these will be matters for the incoming Executive to consider. I would like to see the Society become fully electronic by the end of 2001, so that all correspondence is conducted by email, as are ballots for voting, and delivery of the Newsletter. Apart from increasing the speed and efficiency with which information can be delivered to members, this move would also represent a significant cost saving to the Society. At the moment, the Society is trying to do both, i.e. sending out information by email and duplicating this in hardcopy. However, in line with a change over to electronic delivery of information adopted by many institutions and scientific societies, ISH should move in this direction as soon as possible. Setting a target date of December 2001 will at least force the issue, otherwise it could drag on for some time to come. In order for this to work, we will all have to be more conscientious at keeping our email address current in the membership database.

Related to email contact, the ISH Home Page will also undoubtedly need to be expanded and professionalised if it is to keep pace with the needs of members and the entomological community in general. This is something that the Executive has discussed at length but which, so far, has not been resolved. The question really relates to whether the Society tries to run its own website or whether we get someone else to do this for us, such as Allen Press who handles our journal. Hopefully we will have a better idea of which way to go within the next few months.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, and particularly members of the current Executive, Jim Woolley, John Huber, Eric Grissell and John LaSalle, who have put in a tremendous effort in keeping the Society on track and moving forwards. Thanks Guys – its been great working with you!

Second Announcement
5th International Conference of Hymenopterists
Beijing, China, July 2002

Our 5th Quadrennial Conference will be held in Beijing in July, 2002. Specific details are being organized, and will be announced in due time. The organizers are currently soliciting ideas for symposia and plenary speakers. For further information, see the Conference web site at <http://panda.ioz.ac.cn/>.

ISH Scientific Forum and Annual Business Meeting
Informal Conference at Entomological Society of America Meetings
Montreal, Canada
Wednesday, December 6, 2000, 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Moderator: Jim Woolley, Texas A&M University

- (5 minutes)** “Introductory remarks”, Jim Woolley, Texas A&M University
- (15 minutes)** “Parasitoids of bark beetles in eastern Canada: recent insights”, Krista Lee Ryall and Sandy Smith, University of Toronto
- (15 minutes)** “Diversity and Abundance of Ichneumonidae and Braconidae in various habitats of Peninsular Malaysia”, Idris, A. B., Hasnah, T. and Nor Zaneedarwati, N., Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia
- (15 minutes)** “Advances in the knowledge of Ichneumonidae (Hymenoptera) from México”, Enrique Ruíz-Cancino, Dmitri Rafaelovich Kasparyan and Juana María Coronado-Blanco. Univ. Autonoma de Tamaulipas, México and Zoological Institute, St. Petersburg, Russia.
- (15 minutes)** "Rooting the ichneumonoids: problems and pleasures", by D Quicke & R Belshaw, Imperial College at Silwood Park, UK
- (15 minutes)** “A Gondwanan origin for aphid parasitoids?” Robert Belshaw, Mark Dowton, Donald L. J. Quicke, Andrew D. Austin, Imperial College at Silwood Park, U.K. and various other institutions
- (15 minutes)** “Diversity of *Diplolepis* (Cynipidae) and their galls on the wild roses of Canada”, Joseph D. Shorthouse, Laurentian University, Ontario, CANADA
- (10 minutes)** Break
- (15 minutes)** “Systematics of the Monomachidae (Proctotrupeoidea).”, Luciana Musetti & Norman F. Johnson, Ohio State University
- (15 minutes)** “Parasitoids of gallmakers on goldenrod in southern Canada”, D. Chris Darling, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto.
- (15 minutes)** “Molecular variation across Chalcidoidea - a problem of whole group reconstruction?”, J. Heraty, C. Babcock and B. Campbell, Univ. California Riverside and USDA/ARS, Albany, California.
- (15 minutes)** “Population genetics of the social wasp *Mischocyttarus collarellus* (Vespidae: Polistinae)”, Elizabeth F. Smith, University of Kansas
- (15 minutes)** "Phylogeny of the halictid bees based on single copy nuclear gene sequences.", Bryan Danforth, Cornell University
- (60 minutes)** **Annual Business Meeting**, International Society of Hymenopterists, James B. Woolley, presiding

Elections for New Officers

A ballot is enclosed for President-Elect, Editor of Journal of Hymenoptera Research, Secretary and Treasurer. Please return your ballot by November 28, 2000. Members with email addresses will also receive an electronic ballot, which you may prefer to use. Obviously, only one ballot should be returned for each member.

NEW BOOK ON HYMENOPTERA

"Hymenoptera: Evolution, Biodiversity & Biological Control" Edited by Andrew Austin & Mark Dowton, October 2000, CSIRO Publishing, Cost A\$165 (about US\$88)

Can be purchased through CSIRO Publishing website at <http://www.publish.csiro.au/index.html>.

NOTE: All royalties from this book go directly to the International Society of Hymenopterists.

This book examines the current state of research on the Hymenoptera as we enter the new millennium. Chapters include contemporary reviews and research reports on the taxonomy and molecular systematics of specific groups, behaviour and ecology, biological control, physiological interactions between parasitoids and hosts, medical effects of wasps, and the use of Hymenoptera in education. The book comprises 50 scientific papers and review articles presented at the International Hymenoptera Conference in Canberra, January 1999. All chapters have been extensively rewritten, refereed and edited. This book is a must for all researchers and students interested in the Hymenoptera. An ideal Christmas present for that special loved one!!

Draft Amendments and Additions to the Constitution concerning Awards by the Society and the Endowment Fund

Over the last 18 months the Executive Committee has discussed two important items. One is the need of the Society to have separate awards to recognise distinguished research on Hymenoptera and significant service to the Society, and the other is to set up an Endowment Fund, the purpose of which is to support special activities of the Society, and to encourage students and young scientists. These proposals were also briefly discussed at the AGM in Atlanta, and in the last Newsletter. Some of you will be aware that there were significant funds left over from the International Hymenoptera Conference in Canberra, that arose largely from several late sponsorships - our intention is to use these funds to kick-start the Endowment Fund and then lobby members, corporations and scientific institutions to contribute to the Fund, the interest from which will be used to support special projects.

Accordingly, we have drafted a set of amendments and additions to the constitution to govern these initiatives. They will be discussed at the AGM in Montreal in December, with the view to having a ballot some time in early 2001. For Members who are not attending the AGM, please send any comments to the Secretary of the Society, Dr Jim Woolley by email, JimWoolley@tamu.edu.

Article X

Section 1. The Society will have an award for outstanding research on Hymenoptera which will be called the *International Society of Hymenopterists Distinguished Research Medal*. The rules outlined under the By-laws will apply to the award.

Section 2. The Executive Committee will make an award from time to time called the *International Society of Hymenopterists Service Award*. The award is to recognise service to the Society above and beyond what is considered a normal contribution by a member to the Society's activities. The rules outlined under the By-laws will apply to the award.

Article XI

Section 1. The Society will have an Endowment Fund, the purpose of which will be to support special activities, to foster the study of Hymenoptera, and to encourage research and training of young scientists. The rules outlined under the By-laws will apply to the Endowment Fund.

BYLAWS

5. The rules that apply to the award of the *International Society of Hymenopterists Distinguished Research Medal* are as follows:

- a) The award will be made no more than every second year.
- b) The President will invite nominations for the award from members of the Society at an appropriate time.
- c) A candidate must be proposed by no fewer than three financial members.
- d) There is no restriction on candidates, beyond having made significant and distinguished research contributions to the study of Hymenoptera.

- e) Proposers of the candidate shall provide the Secretary of the Society with the name, curriculum vitae (including qualifications, career, distinctions and publications), and a statement of approximately 500 words explaining why the candidate merits the award.
 - f) A selection committee for the award of the medal will be appointed and convened by the President, and members of that committee shall themselves not be nominated or be signatories of the nomination in that year.
 - g) Should the committee recommend to the Executive Committee that an award be made, the name of the recipient will be announced at the following annual meeting.
 - h) The recipient of the award will receive in addition to the medal life membership of the Society.
6. The rules that apply to the award of the *International Society of Hymenopterists Service Award* are as follows:
- a) A candidate may be proposed by one or more Financial Members.
 - b) Any Financial or previous members of the Society are eligible for the award including current members of the Executive Committee.
 - c) Proposers of the candidate shall provide the Secretary of the Society with the name and a statement of approximately 300 words explaining why the candidate merits the award.
 - d) A selection committee for the award will be appointed and convened by the President, and members of the committee shall themselves not be nominated or be signatories of the nomination in that year.
 - e) Should the committee recommend to the Executive Committee that an award be made, the name of the recipient will be announced at the following annual meeting.
7. The rules that apply to the Endowment Fund are as follows:
- a) The fund shall be managed by an Endowment Committee of three people who are financial members and who are not members of the Society's Executive Committee. The Treasurer will be an ex-officio member of the Endowment Committee.
 - b) The members of the Endowment Committee will be appointed by the President.
 - c) A member of the Endowment Committee will hold office for three years in the first instance, and will be eligible for no more than two consecutive terms.

The introduction of the above NEW Articles and By-Laws, require the following minor changes to the existing Articles, as follows:

Article II

Section 1. The membership of the Society shall consist of Full Members, Student Members, Emeritus Members, Sustaining Members, and Life Members.

[Here the word 'Active' is replaced by 'Full' and 'Life Members' is added to cover the award of the Society Medal]

Section 2. Full Members shall be individuals who are interested in Hymenoptera and the objectives of the Society. Each Full Member shall pay to the Society annual dues as prescribed in the By-laws.

[Here the word 'Active' is replaced by 'Full']

Section 6. Life Members shall be individuals who have been awarded the *International Society of Hymenopterists Distinguished Research Medal*.

Section 7. A Financial Members shall be any Full Member, Student Member, or Sustaining Member who has paid their annual dues by the due date. A Member In Arrears shall be any Full Member, Student Member, or Sustaining Member who has not paid their annual dues by the due date.

[As only Financial Members can propose candidates for the Society Medal and Service Award, this needs to be defined. Also it will serve to distinguish between Financial Members versus the term Members used in a general, e.g. often the Executive talks about Members as the total number of people on our books, which includes a significant number that are in arrears at any one time]

Article IV

Section 5. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the Society, except those in the Endowment Fund, and shall make routine disbursements as required. Unusual disbursements and/or investments shall be made only with the concurrence of the Executive Committee. He or she shall keep an account of receipts and disbursements and those accounts shall be audited as provided by the Executive Committee. He or she shall present a statement of the receipts and expenditures and funds for the past year at the business session of regular meetings of the Society.

[Here 'except those in the Endowment Fund' has been added as the Treasurer does not have custody of these funds but is an ex officio member of the Endowment Committee]