

NEWSLETTER International Society of Hymenopterists July 2004

President's Report

This is the final report from me as President of the society. Denis Brothers is taking over as President at the Brisbane meetings this August. I am sorry that I am unable to attend the meetings and pass the scepter on to Denis personally.

The Society is in the process of modernizing some of its functions. The society website has been moved to Texas A&M and is being expanded, and we are looking at making more of our functions electronic.

The Executive Board and the Awards Selection Committee have met and selected two awardees this year, for the **ISH Distinguished Research Medal** and **ISH Service Award**. The selection criteria for the research medal were for the individual who has contributed the most to our community over their lifetime. This year the committee selected **Zdenek Boucek** for his outstanding contributions to the study of Hymenoptera both in terms of his own research program and in his support and training of other Hymenopterists. The previous recipient was Charles D. Michener at the University of Kansas. James Woolley and myself traveled to Lawrence, Kansas to personally present the award to Dr. Michener. Dr. Boucek will not be able to attend the meeting in Brisbane so plans are being made to deliver the award to him in London.

The recipient of the ISH Service Award is **Eric E. Grissell**. Eric has served the Society as editor since 1997; some 7 years. He was also one of the founding financial benefactors and has been involved with the organization since its founding in 1992. Eric's efforts on behalf of the Society have been above and beyond the call of duty and show a level of personal commitment to the society that few can match. The quality of our journal is a direct reflection of Eric's efforts.

The next (6th) international meeting is only two years away now. It will be in South Africa and is being organized by Denis Brothers. Save your funds for this meeting. A fine conference is promised and the Hymenoptera collecting and viewing should be fabulous.

I have greatly enjoyed working with the members of the Executive Board. Their help and guidance has been invaluable and I am impressed by their dedication to the Society. This is a time of transition for the Society. Nearly the entire board is stepping down this year, but I know that all of us will happily provide any assistance and institutional memory the new board members require. Keeping the society running smoothly and providing for the needs of the membership takes a lot of personal dedication. We are indeed fortunate.

Lynn S. Kimsey Davis July, 2004

Next ISH Meeting will be in Brisbane, August 19, 2004

The next Annual Business Meeting of the Society will be held in conjunction with the International Congress of Entomology, Brisbane, Australia. The meeting will be on the evening of Thursday, August 19, 2004, from 6:00-7:30 pm. The room has not yet been set, but it should be listed in the Congress Program. The agenda for the meeting is:

Welcome

Attendance

Apologies

Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held on October 28, 2003 in Cincinnati, Ohio

Presentation and Adoption of Reports

President (Lynn Kimsey)

Secretary (Jim Woolley)

Treasurer (John Huber)

Endowment Committee (Andy Austin)

Editor (Eric Grissell)

Awards Committee (John LaSalle)

Announcment of Society Awards

Distinguished Research Medal

Distinguised Service Award

Transfer of Officers

General

6th International Congress of Hymenopterology (Denis Brothers)

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

Other Business

Closure

2006 ISH Congress

The 2006 Congress will be held in South Africa at a venue yet to be decided, but which will be chosen with the special interests of hymenopterists in mind. The likely date will be in late January to enable participants to enjoy the hot summer weather. Associated excursions will be available and arrangements for collecting will be facilitated if desired.

Please contact the Congress Organiser, Prof. Denis J. Brothers, at brothers@ukzn.ac.za or School of Botany & Zoology, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Private Bag X01, Scottsville, 3209 SOUTH AFRICA for further information or to be placed on the mailing list. Suggestions and requests will be especially appreciated. Further announcements will be made in due course.

Results of Recent Elections

The new officers of the Society are:

President-Elect Mike Schauff

Systematic Entomology Laboratory National Museum of Natural History Smithsonian Institution MRC 168 Washington DC 20013-7012 mschauff@sel.barc.usda.gov **Secretary** Mike Gates

Systematic Entomology Laboratory National Museum of Natural History Smithsonian Institution MRC 168 Washington DC 20013-7012 mgates@sel.barc.usda.gov

Treasurer Justin Schmidt

Southwestern Biological Institute

1961 West Brichta Drive Tucson, Arizona 85745 ponerine@dakotacom.net

Editor, JHR Gavin Broad

Biological Records Centre

Centre for Ecology and Hydrology Monks Wood, Abbots Ripton Huntington UK PE28 2LS

gabro@ceh.ac.uk

Incoming president Denis Brothers (University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, brothers@ukzn.ac.za) will formally take command at the meeting in Brisbane. This is officially when each of the others takes office, but actually all of them have already been working with us on the transition.

ISH Website has moved!

The ISH website has moved to http://hymenoptera.tamu.edu. We are still in the process of moving material from the old website, so please be patient with us. At the moment, there is a searchable database of the membership at the new location. Credit for the new site goes almost entirely to Matt Yoder and Brian Urbain who have done the programming, and to Bob Wharton who has looked the other way as they spent a considerable amount of time and effort on the project.

Mike Gates has been negotiating with Allen Press to move some of the website functions to their location. This will provide ISH members with several useful and important new functions, such as the ability to update their membership records on-line and pay dues on-line with a credit card. We will notify you as soon as these new functions are operational.

We all owe a great debt of gratitude to Norm Johnson, Ohio State University, who has maintained our ISH web-site for many years, through thick and thin times. **Thanks Norm!**

Finally

This will be my last newsletter as Secretary of ISH. I have truly enjoyed working with all of you, and will always treasure the opportunities we have had to move our Society forward.

Adios,

Jim Woolley ISH Secretary (for another two weeks)