

ESA Eastern Branch Final Business Meeting
March 21, 2017
Minutes

Present: Daniel Frank, Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Dan Gruener, George Hamilton, Tom Kuhar, Don Weber, Brenna Traver, Becky Anthony, Carlyle Brewster, Yong-Lak Park, Bill Lamp, Faith Kuhen, Jim Steffel

Call to Order: 7:04 am

Committee Reports

Secretary (Daniel Frank): There were numerous positive comments about the hotel. The hotel staff was good to work with, and the food provided at the meeting was excellent. The only negative comment about the meeting involved the bad acoustics during the banquet presentations.

Treasurer (Mark Taylor): No report. A copy of the current Eastern Branch finances has been included as an attachment to the Executive Committee and Final Business Meeting minutes.

Program Committee (Doug Pfeiffer): There were 129 total presentations: 8 symposia, 65 symposia oral presentations, 30 student presentations (20 oral, 10 poster), 20 contributed posters, 14 contributed oral presentations. Generally, two concurrent symposia during the meeting. Overall, the meeting program was well attended and received. Comparisons with 2016 have limited applicability because it was an unusual joint meeting, and there was no method to identify affiliated society membership at registration. However, total presentations were down slightly from 2015, and total registrations one week out were down by 36.

A number of people expressed a strong desire for a program book during the meeting. Instead of printing programs for all attendees, registrants were given an opt-in choice to request a printed program. One week out, 13 people requested a program. Only 50 copies of the full program were produced at a total cost of \$500. A condensed program printed by Tom Kuhar for the the 2015 Rehoboth, DE meeting was well received. The original idea for this year's meeting was to do the same thing, but the pages were not laid out in manner to make a condensed program possible. The program committee worked with Confex to generate the program books. Confex can print programs, but they can only produce them in the large format. Potential options discussed for offsetting the costs of a program book for attendees at the meeting included: reduced breakfast options (keep coffee and hot drinks, but remove food), sell page space for advertising, and increase the meeting registration cost.

It may be a good idea in the future to have coffee in the room where poster presentations are displayed. This would help increase attendance and interest in the poster session.

Several members had expressed disappointment that two major symposia conflicted with the student presentations. It would have been nice to have only the student presentations on Sunday,

but there were too many symposia this year. The only way to accommodate a student-only presentation day would be to extend the meeting.

Some members had difficulty with room reservations. They didn't receive an option to choose between two queen beds or one king bed when reserving rooms online. Also, the block of rooms that was originally reserved for the meeting went quickly. Some members reserved rooms in other hotels before the Executive Committee could make arrangements to get another block of rooms reserved at the discounted rate.

Doug and Dan provided a final report for the 2017 Program Committee, which is included as an attachment in the Final Business Meeting minutes.

ESA HQ (Becky Anthony): The total number of people registered for the meeting was approximately 200 individuals (including guests); a significant increase from the 140 confirmed before the meeting. Becky will send the registration money to Mark. She also has the student award winner emails and will forward that information along to Mark, so that he can mail award checks.

Banquet attendance numbers had to be given to the hotel 1 week in advance. At that time only 36 individuals had indicated at registration that they would be attending the banquet. Cesar gave the hotel a count of 155 people for the banquet. There were around 10-20 empty chairs at the banquet. At this time, it is unclear the best way to remedy this issue.

There are a number of committee vacancies coming up. It may now be easier to find interested volunteers using the new communications web portal developed by ESA headquarters.

Education and Outreach Committee (Faith Kuehn): This will be Faith's last year organizing Bug's World. However, she would be willing to mentor a chair and co-chair to continue the program. John Cambridge (Philadelphia Insectarium) would be a good choice to take over as chair. Don will contact him to gauge his interest. There is no space available during the Annapolis meeting to host Bug's World, so we have over a year to find interested individuals to serve on this committee.

There were 10 student volunteers at the meeting. Bug's World kept the volunteers busy, but at other times there wasn't much for them to do at the meeting. Next year we should consider fewer volunteers to help cover costs for travel grants or printed programs. If Bug's World is continued in the future it would be good to have volunteers help out when booths get crowded.

Faith provided a final report for the 2017 Bug's World event, which is included as an attachment in the Final Business Meeting minutes.

Student Competition Committee (Yong-Lak Park): There was a total of 30 student presentations. Although the meeting was in the northeast region of the Branch, there were few student presentations from New England universities; approximately 25% of the student presentations were from Penn State. We need to continue to encourage more student posters; numbers have continued to decline. It would be good to have a specific time slot during the day

for poster presenters. Providing an incentive for people to go into the poster room during this time would also be helpful.

It was discussed that there needs to be a better way to score students during the competition. Carlyle and Don have volunteered to look into this further and get some type of rubric developed.

Linnaean Games (Doug Pfeiffer): There were 4 teams that participated in the Linnaean games. First place and runner-up were Penn State and the University of Delaware, respectively. It was asked if undergraduate students could participate on teams. There is no rule against participation from undergraduates, and in the past, several teams have had all undergraduate participants.

Corporate Support (Jim Steffal): Industry has been undergoing various mergers, so we will need to get those companies to raise their support. Next year we can pitch more participation from industry by reminding them of the two meetings (i.e. Eastern Branch Annual Meeting and IPM meeting in Baltimore).

New Business:

There were no Canadians at this year's meeting. This may be due to increased travel restrictions and funding. However, Don will make a greater effort to get their participation and attendance at the 2018 meeting in Annapolis. Organizing an international IPM symposium may help with interest.

Mike Raupp has agreed to be on the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2018 meeting.

Although the cost for student registration went up this year, the Eastern Branch is still cheaper than other ESA Branches.

Anne Nielsen will not volunteer as program chair if we have a joint meeting with the Northeast IPM. We need to follow up on this issue via email to make a decision on where to hold the 2019 Eastern Branch meeting.

We also need to contact the Southeastern Branch to further discuss the possibility of a joint meeting in 2020.

Meeting Adjourns: 8:04 am

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT 2017

ESA Eastern Branch Executive Committee Meeting
Saturday March 18, 2017
Newport, RI

2017 Meeting Metrics (2016, 2015)*

Submitted Symposia – 8 (3, 8)

Symposium talks – 65 ()**

Student competition ten-minute talks – 20 (26, 29)

Student competition posters – 10 (13, 13)

Contributed ten-minute talks – 14 (+3 withdrawn) ()**

Contributed posters – 20 (12, 18)

Total presentations – 129 (104, 140)

Total registrations, one week out (14 March, 2017) – 138 (NA, 174)

- Comparisons with 2016 have limited applicability because it was an unusual joint meeting, and there was no method to identify affiliated society membership at registration.
- Total presentations are down slightly from 2015, and total registrations one week out were down by 36.
- The program committee worked with Confex to generate the schedule and, for the first time for EB, the program books. The online program will be familiar from ICE and the National meetings.
- Confex staff were professional in all phases, and we recommend continuing to work with, despite our growing pains with no prior experience using this system.
- Instead of printing programs for all attendees, registrants were given an opt-in choice to request a printed program. One week out, 13 people requested a program. Fifty copies were printed (by Virginia Tech). Some will be distributed to sponsors. Additional copies will be sold at the registration desk at cost for those who want one.

** Because 2016 was a joint meeting (NE Plant, Pest and Soils Conference), 2015 totals are also listed.*

**** 2016 and 2015 symposium talks & contributed talks were lumped as 'submitted talks' (53, 20)**

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Pfeiffer
Program Committee, Chair
2017 ESA EB

Daniel Gruner
Program Committee, Co-chair
2017 ESA EB

**Report to the Executive Committee
Entomological Society of America, Eastern Branch
2017 Outreach Program**

The Entomological Society of America, Eastern Branch’s outreach program, “It’s a Bug’s World”, and is designed to showcase collectors, authors, naturalists, artists, and extension services local to the area of the Branch’s Annual Meeting. Our goals in presenting Bug's World are increased awareness of pest issues, e.g. invasive insects or regulated insects the public might encounter (e.g. emerald ash borer), pique interest of kids and hope they’ll study entomology or develop an increased understanding of the role of insects in the environment, and identify local groups focused on insects and/or insect conservation where interested kids and parents and visit or join. The program was held on March 19, 2017 from 10:00am – 4:00PM in the Atrium of the Newport Marriott, Newport, RI.

Exhibitors and Activities:

Organization/Individual	Exhibit Name
Delaware Department of Agriculture	Invasive Insects
Rhode Island Beekeepers Association	Bees and Beekeeping
University of RI, Tom Maher	How TickSmart are You?
University of RI, Lisa Tewksbury	Biological Control, Lily Leaf Beetle
American Museum Nat. History, Lou Sorkin	Know (and Taste!) your Arthropds
RI Dept. Environmental Mgmt., Al Getman	Mosquito Habitats and Zika
USDA-APHIS-PPQ	Safeguarding American Agriculture
Dave the Bug Guy, Dave Albaugh	Various exotics
USDA-APHIS	Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication
Ent. Club at the University of Delaware	Bug Zoo
Caterpillar Catalyst, Inc., Doug Fleury	Spider Folklore, Art from Parts, the Well Pampered Cricket
Build-a-Bug	Make and Take craft
URI Master Gardener Program	MG Pollinator Conservation Kiosk
RI Face Painting, Lisa Sullivan	Face Painting
Bjorn’s Balloons and Magic	Balloon Art and Garden of Balloons
Nibbles Woodaway	Big Blue Bug Pest Control

Publicity:

A flyer was developed by the undersigned and approved by ESA. On a February 17 visit to the Newport Marriott, I visited the Discover Newport offices (www.discovernewport.org) and inquired about opportunities to spread the word about Bug’s World. The office was very helpful and provided many suggestions which were followed up on. The flyer was sent to the following schools: Pennfield, Cluny School, All

Saints Academy, and St. Michael's Country Day. The flyer was sent to the Children's Department of the following libraries: Middletown Public, Portsmouth, Newport Public and Jamestown. The event was posted on the following online calendars: Patch Newport, Newport This Week, Discover Newport, What's up Newport, NewportRI, Visit.com and WPRI community calendar. At the invitation of WPRO, I called in to Big Blue Bug's Weekly talk program on March 11 and March 18. The ESA wrote and issued a press release to Newport-area media outlets. The event was registered with the Marriott's concierge and Social Media Coordinator.

Matt Sheley, a staff writer for the Newport Daily News attended Bug's World, along with the News' photographer. An article about Bug's World appeared in the March 20 edition of the Newport Daily News.

Budget

The income for the program was \$1000 from the Eastern Branch-ESA, \$500 from an anonymous donor, \$400 sponsorship from the Delaware Department of Agriculture, and \$156 in donations from the roving donation collectors. Total income = \$2056. Expenses were \$220 for the face painter, RI Face Painting, \$1500 for the balloon display and balloon art to Norse Enterprises, Inc., and \$256.46 to the Newport Marriott for electrical connections and internet service. Several incidental expenses were covered by me, the undersigned. Total expenses = \$1976.46. Balance = \$109.74.

Attendance

Attendance estimates were made by the volunteers making walking through the crowd with hand-held clickers and counting the number of adults and children:

Time	No. Adults	No. Kids
11:00 am	51	32
12 noon	60	30
1:00 pm	62	31
2:00 pm	77	52
TOTAL	250	145

The actual total of 395 does not include the first and last two hours of the program, so we can say more than 400 people attended.

Five volunteers helped throughout the day in many ways, and their cheerful support and service is greatly appreciated:

- Caryn Michel, Rutgers University
- Nakorn Pradit, Rutgers University
- Ana Luiza Sousa, Rutgers University
- Ashley Kennedy, University of Delaware
- Ann Steffel, Lab Services

Feedback

Survey Monkey was used to create an 8-question survey for Bug's World attendees. Volunteers surveyed 50 attendees.

Where attendees live: Newport, Kingston, Portsmouth and Boston

How they heard about Bug's World: newspaper (10%), Facebook (7%), radio, school and library (1-2%). The rest were a combination of email at work, word of mouth, online calendars, and friends.

What people liked best: interactive exhibits (76%) and diversity of educational exhibits (52%).

What they didn't like: nothing (97%)

What one thing they learned (some of the answers):

- Scorpions can become habituated to humans and scorpion diversity
- Bees can be green
- Asian Longhorned beetle and Emerald Ash Borer
- Ticks can be active during the winter
- How to spot bedbug infestations
- Insects are edible
- Cultural entomology and making jewelry from insect wings

Respectfully submitted,



Faith B. Kuehn
Eastern Branch, ESA Outreach Chair
March 21, 2017

SOCIETY OF AMERICA
EASTERN BRANCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENT,
March 1, 2017

November 30, 2015	\$65,449.93
<u>Fund Location</u>	
Wells Fargo Bank, High Performance Money Market, Annapolis, MD (Savings)	\$12,102.77
Wells Fargo Bank, Annapolis, MD (Checking)	\$10,143.39
The Bank of Delmarva, Salisbury, MD (Reserve)	<u>\$43,203.77</u>
Total	\$65,449.93
 Total Funds Available	 \$65,449.93
 June 1, 2016	 \$74,809.89
<u>Fund Location</u>	
Wells Fargo Bank, High Performance Money Market, Annapolis, MD (Savings)	\$12,105.29
Wells Fargo Bank, Annapolis, MD (Checking)	\$19,229.64
The Bank of Delmarva, Salisbury, MD (Reserve)	<u>\$43,474.96</u>
Total	\$74,809.89
 Total Funds Available	 \$74,809.89
 March 1, 2017	 \$74,809.89
<u>Fund Location</u>	
Wells Fargo Bank, High Performance Money Market, Annapolis, MD (Savings)	\$12,110.33
Wells Fargo Bank, Annapolis, MD (Checking)	\$19,222.64
The Bank of Delmarva, Salisbury, MD (Reserve)	<u>\$43,882.69</u>
Total	\$75,215.66
 Total Funds Available	 \$75,215.66

Mark C. Taylor, ESA-EB Treasurer.