

NEWSLETTER
International Society of
Hymenopterists
April 2001

President's Report

This is my first report as president, as I assumed duties in December. I am fortunate to be taking over when the Society is in better shape than it ever has been. Membership is at its highest level, with 393 members, and 316 of those with e-mails. We are also in increasingly good shape financially. However, we should not be complacent, and I would like to see a continued increase in membership. This will require that the Society continues to expand to meet the expectations of existing and potential members.

There are still several important issues continuing from Andy Austin's presidency that need completion, and a couple of these are things that you as members will be able to vote on in this newsletter.

The Society is proposing the introduction of awards for distinguished research on Hymenoptera and service to the Society. I strongly support this, and I expect that the membership will vote for the introduction of these awards. So, I am calling for nominations for these awards to be sent to me (electronically, or on paper). I am jumping the gun a bit on this because, if approved, I will immediately form the required committee to assess the nominations, and hopefully we will be in a position to make our first awards at the Beijing meetings next year.

The Society is also proposing the creation of an Endowment Fund. Again, I strongly support this. We are in the strongest financial position we have ever been, but we are still a long way from achieving the type of financial position that will give us long-term stability and allow us to pursue many of the goals of the Society.

As with previous presidents, I will be looking towards moving the Society more and more towards a completely electronic format. I realize that this does present a hardship to the percentage of our membership that is not internet or e-mail connected. However, the savings in time (of our entirely volunteer executive officers) and money will be considerable. This will also mean some improvements to our website to bring it more in line with the type of information content being offered by similar societies, and hopefully members without e-mail will have the opportunity to occasionally visit the site to download newsletters and other items of information.

Many of you will have noticed that we have changed the timing of the ISH meeting. We have been holding meetings every 4 years, however the Beijing meeting is only 3 years after Canberra. This was done in order to get the ISH meetings on a two-year cycle with the International Congress of Entomology. There are a variety of reasons for making this decision, including the fact that it might be easier to get funding for international meetings every other year than two years back to back. Also, by having a society business meeting at the ICE, it will allow us to hold truly international business meetings every two years, while retaining our other meetings at the Entomological Society of America meetings.

One by-product of changing the timing of the meetings is that we can now look to a change in officers to take place every other year at the international business meetings at the ISH Conference

and the ICE. This will shorten the terms of the current officers about 6 months, but will make it easier for future generations of officers.

One issue that we will have to start thinking about soon is the venue of the 6th Conference of the International Society of Hymenopterists. As you know, the 5th Conference will be held in Beijing in July 2002. We would like to be able to announce the venue for the following conference at the Beijing meetings, so any nominations, volunteers or suggestions can be sent to me so that we can get the process started.

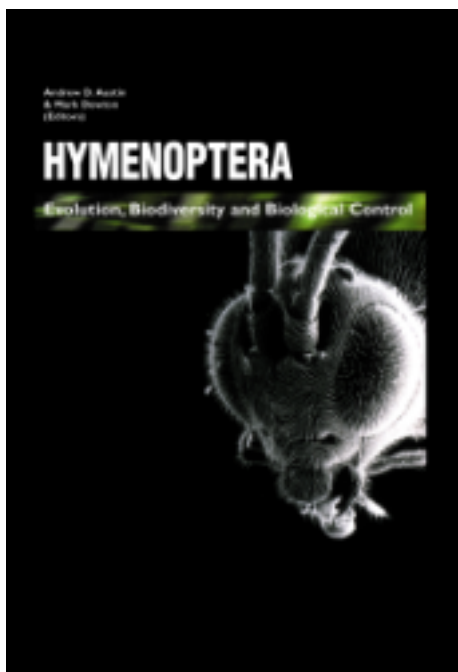
As always, the Society Executive is anxious to hear the views and opinions of its members, and any suggestions can be sent directly to me, or to any of the other officers.

Finally, I would like to thank the outgoing president, Andy Austin, for the great job that he has done during his term. Obviously, he could not have done this all by himself, and a good deal of credit and our thanks go to the other officers who contribute so much of their time to the Society.

John LaSalle, President

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 Endowment Fund of 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.

Journal of Hymenoptera Research
Editor's Report for 2000

Volume 9 of the Journal of Hymenoptera Research consisted of two issues: No. 1 was mailed on 5 May; No. 2 was mailed on 27 October. Volume 9 totaled 432 pages and included 40 articles and 4 scientific notes.

From 1 January to 31 December 2000 a total of 32 manuscripts were received. Of these, 21 were accepted after review and rewrite; 2 were accepted pending minor rewrite; 2 were rejected as written (the author was given an option to rewrite, resubmit, and be rereviewed); and 7 are still under review. In most cases each paper was read by two reviewers, a subject editor, and the editor; in a few cases a subject editor acted as one of the two reviewers.

The Editor and Subject Editors are extremely grateful to the numerous reviewers who have contributed much time and effort to writing constructive reviews and in attempting to help authors communicate more effectively. Without the guidance of these individuals the editorial progress would be much diminished.

I extend my gratitude for the expeditious and commendable manuscript handling rendered by our four Subject Editors, Sydney Cameron, Don Quicke, Wojciech Pulawski, and Mark Shaw. They spend a great amount of time reconciling the reviewers' comments with the paper's contents, and are paramount in suggesting improvements in many of the submitted papers.

Eric Grissell, Editor
Journal of Hymenoptera Research

Secretary's Report

Membership in the Society continues to increase at a steady rate. As of today, we have 393 members, of which 127 are from the U.S., 266 are from other countries, and 48 are sponsored. Sponsored members are typically students or colleagues working in countries in which the economies are such that dues present an obstacle to membership. We continue to have funds available for sponsoring new members, and we welcome your ideas or suggestions for new members to sponsor. Please contact me directly with your suggestions.

Unfortunately, as of today, **85 of you have not paid your dues for 2001**. Volume 10(1) of Journal of Hymenoptera Research has just been mailed, and if you have not paid your dues you will not receive your copy. I will be sending reminders under separate cover. Let us remind you again that although we will continue to ship your copies of the journal following late payment of dues, this represents an additional expense to the Society and considerable additional time required of people working on a volunteer basis.

We have set a goal of becoming a totally electronic society as soon as possible. In order for this to work smoothly, members need to keep us informed of any changes to their email address!

Jim Woolley, Secretary
JimWoolley@tamu.edu

Treasurer's Report

The financial position of the Society continues to improve. In 2000 we had a total of \$33,733.78 in income from membership dues, institutional subscriptions, sales of back issues, Girault CD-ROM's and braconid manuals, donations, page charges and sales of reprints.

Expenses for postage, supplies, bank charges, and payments to Allen Press for printing and mailing Volumes 9(1) and 9(2) of Journal of Hymenoptera Research totaled \$25,861.89.

Together with the carry-over from 1999 in the Society's accounts in Ottawa and College Station, this resulted in a total balance at the close of 2000 of \$24,691.86. In comparison, our ending balance in 1999 was \$16,819.47. In addition, in 2001 we received the proceeds of the Canberra Congress, adding another \$6352.32 to the Society's coffers.

John Huber, Treasurer

**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/>.

The organizers are currently arranging the scientific program. People wishing to present talks or posters should contact the organizers through the website, or directly by sending a message to sea@panda.ioz.ac.cn (for Chao-dong Zhu) or John.LaSalle@ento.csiro.au (for John LaSalle). Anyone wishing to suggest or organize symposia, or nominate plenary speakers, should also contact one of the above persons.

ISH Scientific Forum and Annual Business Meeting

**To be held in association with Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America
San Diego, California
December 9-13, 2001**

Moderated by Lynn Kimsey, President-Elect, and Jim Woolley, Secretary

- 5 minutes.** **Lynn Kimsey and James B. Woolley.** "Opening remarks".
- 15 minutes.** **Svetlana N. Myartseva, Enrique Ruíz-Cancino and Juana María Coronado-Blanco,** Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, México. "Advances in the knowledge of the Aphelinidae (Hymenoptera) in México".
- 15 minutes.** **Donald Quicke,** Imperial College at Silwood Park, U.K. "Progress towards a genus level phylogeny of the Ichneumonoidea and why?!"
- 15 minutes.** **Austin, A.D.** (1) and **Dowton, M.** (2). (1) University of Adelaide, (2) University of Wollongong, Australia. "Phylogeny of the non-aculeate Hymenoptera: conflict between morphological and molecular data partitions"
- 15 minutes.** **Christopher Desjardins and Jerome Regier,** University of Maryland, USA. "Phylogenetic utility of three nuclear protein coding genes in chalcidoid systematics: PEPCK, DDC, and enolase (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea)."
- 15 minutes.** **Rudo Sithole,** The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), Kenya. "The taxonomy and biology of *Diadegma mollipla* (Holmgren) (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae), an African parasitoid of the diamondback moth."

- 15 minutes.** **Idris, A. B., Anthony, G. and Nor Zaneedawarty, N.** Universiti Kebangsaan, Malaysia, “Diversity of Ichneumonidae and Braconidae in various habitats of Peninsular Malaysia.”
- 15 minutes.** **Bob Wharton,** Texas A&M University, USA. “Dealing with wood.”
- 15 minutes.** **Leah L. Larkin (1), John L. Neff (2) & Beryl B. Simpson (1).** (1) University of Texas at Austin (2) Central Texas Melittological Institute, USA. “Phylogeny and floral host preferences of *Callandrena* (Apoidea: Andrenidae: Andrena)”
- 15 minutes.** **Anne M. Akol and Peter Njagi,** The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), Kenya. "The foraging behaviour of *Diadegma mollipla* (Holmgren) (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae), a parasitoid of the diamondback moth, *Plutella xylostella* (L.)."
- 15 minutes.** **Allan Hook,** St. Edward's University, USA "Scramble competition polygeny in *Bembecinus neglectus* (Hymenoptera: Sphecidae)".
- 15 minutes.** **Isidoro N., Romani R., Bin F.,** University of Perugia, Italy, “Diversity of antennal multiporous gustatory sensilla for host recognition in parasitoids.”
- 60 minutes** Annual Business Meeting, International Society of Hymenopterists. **Lynn Kimsey** and **James B. Woolley** presiding.

<p>Minutes Annual Business Meeting International Society of Hymenopterists Montreal Canada December 6, 2000</p>
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1. ABM called to order at 11:00 am, following a superb series of presentations by members in the ISH Scientific Forum. Jim Woolley, Secretary and John Huber, Treasurer presided. From 40 to 50 members were present.
- 2- Minutes of the last ABM in Atlanta, Georgia, December 19, 1999, were read. Justin Schmidt moved approval, second by Tom Bellows, motion passed on voice vote.
3. Jim Woolley read Report from Past President, Andy Austin. Two major points were raised: the importance of moving to a fully electronic society as soon as possible, and the need to expand and improve our web pages.
4. Jim Woolley read Report from current President, John LaSalle.
5. Results of the recent elections for new officers were announced:

President-Elect, Lynn Kimsey
Treasurer, John Huber
Secretary, Jim Woolley
Editor, JHR, Eric Grissell
6. Woolley read the Editor’s Report, Journal of Hymenotera Research from Eric Grissell.
7. John Huber presented the Treasurer’s Report.

8. Jim Woolley presented the Secretary's Report.

Announcements.

9. 5th ISH Congress to be held in Beijing 2002

10. Proceedings of 4th ISH Congress in Canberra have been published.

New Business

11. A series of proposed amendments and additions to the ISH constitution were discussed. These had been distributed to the membership in the Fall 2000 newsletter.
- a. Establishment of ISH Distinguish Research Medal, to be awarded by a committee appointed by the President. Life Membership would be part of the award. Members expressed some concern about the potential fiscal impact if many such awards were made in the future, but were positive about the concept.
 - b. Establishment of ISH Service Award, to be awarded by a committee appointed by the President.. Members were positive about the concept.
 - c. Establishment of an Endowment Fund to further the aims of the Society. The fund would be managed by an Endowment Committee, appointed by the President. Members were positive and enthusiastic about the possibility of such a fund.
 - d. Categories of Membership to include Full Members, Student Members, Emeritus Members, Sustaining Members and Life Members. Discussion ensued regarding the various proposed categories. The consensus was that categories of membership should be as simple and inclusive as possible. Various editorial suggestions were made to improve the language of the proposed changes.

***** Important *****

**Ballot enclosed for Proposed Changes to ISH Constitution!
Please vote and return your ballot to the Secretary electronically or by mail**

A draft of the proposed changes to the ISH Constitution was distributed with the Fall 2000 newsletter. The proposed changes were then discussed at the Annual Business Meeting in Montreal. We have attempted to incorporate your suggestions and changes as much as possible. In particular, the new categories of membership are much simplified.

For newsletters to be distributed electronically we are sending the ballot as a separate email message that can be marked and returned electronically. The ballot will also be attached to the email in pdf format which is readable using the Adobe Acrobat Reader software, available for free download on the Internet.

Please return your ballot electronically to JimWoolley@tamu.edu or by mail to

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