



**MINUTES OF THE 31st ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY, EASTERN CHAPTER
Held APRIL 04-08, 2005 in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey**

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

8:00 (Joint Session with the Eastern Plant Board)

Carl Shultz, president of the EPB, opened the meeting.

Walt Blosser, secretary, performed the roll call of states. Massachusetts and Rhode Island were not represented while the ten remaining states in the organization were present.

Self introductions were offered by the individuals attending the meeting.

8:20 (Joint Session)

Bill Dickerson, president of the National Plant Board, presented their report to the Eastern Plant Board. Sudden Oak Death issues were discussed including the plans to bring California officials to the south eastern part of the US in hopes of creating an understanding of the importance we associate with this pathogen. The National Plant Board website and revitalizing the Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan were covered.

10:20(HIS Meeting)

Matt Travis, president of the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society (HIS), struck the gavel and opened the 30th annual meeting.

Matt introduced himself and spoke of Dan Lawton leaving the Rhode Island Department of Agriculture and vacating the treasurer's position.

Since Dan Lawton was no longer a member of HIS, Tom Kehoe temporarily filled the treasurer's position to get through the meeting.

Matt mentioned that members of the organization should participate as officers.

Website discussion took place since our webpage has been removed from the PA web page. It was mentioned that the National Plant Board had a monthly cost of \$6.95 / year.

Sam Lovenworth is finishing his term as Newsletter Editor and we need to fill that position. We also need to find someone to deal with the Web page issue.

Roll Call of states attending the meeting was performed with New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New York, Maine, Delaware, Connecticut and Maryland present. Rhode Island, Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire were not represented.

Self introductions were performed.

10:30

Discussion of last years committee assignments.

2005 committee assignments were made and are listed as follows:

- Resolution committee- Matt Travis, Eric Ewing, Pete Trenchard, Mike Arnold
- Audit committee- Tom Kehoe, Eric Ewing
- Newsletter committee- Pete Trenchard, Ethan Angel
- Nominations committee- Matt Travis, Pete Trenchard, Eric Ewing
- Awards committee- Tom Kehoe, Matt Travis, Lindsay Modesto
- Program committee- undecided
- Constitution committee- Not needed this year.

The 2004 meeting minutes were distributed. A motion was made to accept the minutes with a few minor changes and the the 2004 meeting minutes were accepted.

Pete spoke of his need for submissions for inclusion into the newsletter. Word format would be preferable.

11:15

Web Page discussion took place and the idea that we form our own site and have links placed on other pages was put forth. This would provide a certain amount of security for our page. The question was asked whether to pay a web master to do it or not. Since Mike and Matt had volunteered to research the issue a motion was made to create a committee for this purpose. The formation of a new committee was seconded, voted on and passed.

Tom Kehoe reported on the Asian Longhorned Beetle situation in Pennsylvania. Currently they are doing a forest pest survey for ALB at a location where chips from an infested area had been disposed of.

11:35

Eric Ewing presented West Virginia's state report.

Ethan Angel presented NY's state report.

1:30

Joe Zoltowski of the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) presented material on *Phytophthora ramorum*. He discussed information dealing with New Jersey's experience with their recent 'Sudden Oak Death' (SOD) survey. During this presentation it was mentioned that this disease had been confirmed in the state of Washington.

2:00

Pete Trenchard spoke on 'Phytophthora ramorum leaf blight in Connecticut'. Pete spoke of the different SOD surveys with the most serious being the one associated with Hines Nursery. 55 nurseries, with greater than 7000 plants were tested. Discussion followed on discrepancies in testing and the destruction or disposal of plants. Future surveys and trace forwards are planned.

3:21

Lindsay Modesto spoke on 'Chrysanthemum White Rust in Delaware'. Lindsay mentioned that this pest may be shifting to the same position as Daylily Rust. She described modes of introduction, inspections, description of symptoms of infected plants.

Group discussion on this subject followed also mentioning similarities with Daylily Rust.

3:45

Pete Trenchard delivered the Connecticut State Report to the HIS.

Galen Ettinger presented the New Jersey State report.

The Maine State Report was presented by Sarah Scally.

Delaware's state report was offered by Lindsay Modesto.

Matt Travis presented the Maryland state report.

Tom Kehoe gave Pennsylvania's state report.

Wednesday 4/6/05

8:00

Mike Arnold presented material on 'Field Use of Laptop Computers and Printers'. Mike spoke on WV's usage of computers to do their inspection reports on in the field. Portable printers are available to print the report immediately and distribute to the nursery owner.

9:15

Barry Emens, USDA spoke on 'Asian Longhorned Beetle- an uninvited guest in your community.' Barry discussed cooperation between Federal and State Agencies, dealing with Asian Longhorned Beetle in New Jersey. Barry gave a history of the ALB infestation, description of the pest and the leaf feeding damage that can indicate an infestation. Treatment strategies, public relations, data storage and reimbursement for trees lost were all included.

10:30

Pam Tappin from the NJDA gave a presentation titled 'Bacterial Leaf Scorch'. She spoke about susceptible species, locations of infestations, means of spread and modes of treatment.

11:30

'New Jersey's Blueberry Plant Scorch Survey/Certification' was presented by Saul Vaiciunus, NJDA. He mentioned the disease is systemic, and described the survey and problems encountered while completing the survey in New Jersey.

11:55 – 4:15 (tour)

4:15(New Business)

Tom Kehoe presented the Treasurer's report for the previous year and gave an account balance valid through the beginning of the meeting. Dues collected during this meeting were not included.

Previous balance(2/27/04) \$1343.94
Income:
Interest \$2.96
Dues & Pins \$210.00
Expenses: --
Current Balance: \$1556.90

2005 Meeting
18 Member Dues: \$90
17 Pins Sold: \$85
Total: \$175

Mike mentioned that the New York members that had joined HIS last were members through the meeting in 2006.

Lindsay announced that the 2006 meeting would be in Delaware.

4:30

Matt Travis spoke regarding some difficulties shipping to Canada. A shipment had been rejected due to lack of stamp or seal. There was also discussion on problems with the color of ink used to sign the certificates.

Thursday, 4/7/5

8:10

Matt Travis presented material concerning 'Maryland and Emerald Ash Borer'. A history of emerald ash borer in Maryland, and that state's attempt at controlling the pest. EAB's current status in Michigan and possible natural predators were also covered.

9:05

A new balance of 1731.90, which includes pins and dues, was put forth by Tom.

9:20(Committee Reports)

Resolution Committee-

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY, EASTERN CHAPTER, APRIL 7, 2005 IN WEST ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY

- **Resolution 1**
- WHEREAS there is no predetermined directive for the involvement of state plant regulatory officials to deal with introduced foreign pests or pathogens,
- WHEREAS members of the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society (HIS) were recently called upon to participate in regulatory action with *Phytophthora ramorum*.
- WHEREAS the lack of a clear and precise directive contributed to a non-uniform response among state and federal inspectors,
- WE RESOLVE THAT:
The Eastern Chapter of HIS at its 31st Annual Meeting encourages relevant state and federal agencies to develop a clear and consistent protocol to provide a means of management for future introductions of pests or pathogens.

Matt spoke on past resolutions.

Audit Committee reported the balance of 1731.90 including pins and dues as the current balance for the treasury.

Nominations Committee nominated:

Ethan and Pete to the Newsletter Committee.

Sarah Scally to the Treasurer position.

Eric Ewing for President.

Secretary-Mike has one year left.

Nominations were accepted

Awards committee nominated Walt Blosser for the Carl Carlson award.

Discussions of this award followed.

Pete recommended Mark Rothschild for the Distinguished Service Award. Eric said he would check on a plaque for Mark.

10:30

Mark Mayer from the NJDA presented on 'Producing Biocontrol Critters'. Mark spoke of different types of biocontrol and their goals, concerns and when it can be done. He also mentioned collection of data, example of targeted pests and little known releases.

11:45 (Joint with Eastern Plant Board)

Matt Travis, acting President of HIS, submitted his report of HIS affairs to the Eastern Plant Board

12:00(HIS)

Matt handed the gavel to Eric Ewing the incoming President and he adjourned the meeting.