



**MINUTES OF THE 30<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY, EASTERN CHAPTER  
Held MARCH 07-11, 2004 in New Haven, Connecticut**

***Monday, March 8, 2004***

**8:00**

Tom Kehoe, current president of the Eastern Chapter of HIS, delivered the roll call of states attending the meeting and found that Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and West Virginia were in attendance. This left Massachusetts, New York, New Hampshire, and Vermont without representation.

Assignments were made to the various committees and are as follows:

*Resolution- Matt Travis, Tom Kehoe, Eric Ewing, and Mike Arnold*

*Audit- Steve Saundry and Charlie Leonard*

*Newsletter- Sam Lovenworth*

*Awards- Tom Kehoe and Eric Ewing*

*Nominations- Tom Kehoe, Pete Trenchard, and Lindsay Modesto*

*Constitution- Mark Rothschild and Matt Travis*

*Program- It was thought at this time the meeting would be in New Jersey.*

*(Old Business)*

Discussion of the HIS website occurred. There seems to be trouble with getting the website updated due to higher priorities. The group was open to suggestions on how to improve this situation with no obvious solutions mentioned.

The minutes of the 2003 meeting were called for and the Secretary did not have a hard copy but would have them the next day.

Dan Lawton presented the treasurer's report:

Previous Balance, (as of 2/28/03)	1219.98
Income:	
Interest	+ 3.71
Dues and pins	+ 120.00
Expenses:	
Current balance, (as of 3/8/2004)	<u>1343.69</u>

Motion was made to accept the treasurer's report and it was seconded.

Introductions were performed individually by the attendance.

(New Business)

Matt Travis pointed out that the archivist position would probably be available at the next meeting due to the retirement of Mark Rothschild. A replacement would need to be located soon.

Matt spoke about writing federal phytosanitary certificates, renewals, etc. It was mentioned that a large representation of state inspectors are in one location during HIS meetings and that it would be a good opportunity for the USDA to train state personnel for phytosanitary purposes. Pete mentioned that the future program committee should think about contacting APHIS for speaking on this subject at next years meeting.

9:15

Lindsay Modesto described the 2003 Ralstonia experiences in Delaware.

Dr. Sharon Douglas of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES), participated in an open house discussion of Ralstonia. Members offered their experiences to the group for discussion.

10:30

Dr. Douglas presented information on Daylily Rust.

11:20

Dr. Frank Ferrindino, CAES, spoke on wind blown Pesticide Sprays.

**1:00(Joint Session with EPB)**

**Opening remarks were given by Carl Schultz, president of the Eastern Plant Board.**

**Walt Blosser performed the Eastern Plant Board's roll call of states with Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island being absent.**

1:20

Matt Travis spoke on the recent introduction of emerald ash borer into Maryland and their attempt to control this pest. Matt discussed the nature of the infestation and the means of introduction.

2:30

Charlie Leonard from New Jersey described the ongoing Asian Longhorned Beetle problems occurring in New Jersey. This was a follow up of Galen Ettinger's presentation of 2003.

3:35

Dr. Douglas continued with the discussion on Ralstonia. This was in conclusion of the round table discussion earlier this morning.

3:50

An open discussion was held on invasive plants and other regulatory issues. One of the topics visited was New Hampshire's legislative attempt to exclude Japanese barberry, Norway maple, and winged euonymous as nursery or horticultural plants.

4:05

Pete Trenchard submitted Connecticut's state report to the HIS.  
Eric Ewing presented the WV state report.  
Matt Travis presented the Maryland report.

### ***Tuesday, March 9, 2004***

8:00

Robert Heffernan, Executive Secretary of the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association gave a description of agriculture in CT. He also spoke of regulatory issues and plant bans of interest to his organization.

9:20

Dr. Melody Kenna from the US Forest Service spoke on the 'Asian Longhorn Beetle' and research pertaining to this pest.

9:50 (Old Business)

A hard copy of the 2003 minutes was distributed and it was mentioned that New Hampshire needed to be added to the list of states without representation at the 2003 meeting.

Lindsay Modesto submitted Delaware's state report to the HIS.

10:55

Dr. Victora Smith, (CAES), presented information on various 'Nursery Diseases'. Specifically phytophthora, botryospheria, and vollutella were mentioned and methods of control.

11:50

Pete Trenchard discussed program items concerning the schedule after the tour of Yale University on Wednesday the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**1:35 (Joint Session)**

***Walt Blosser spoke on giant hogweed and Pennsylvania's involvement in hogweed eradication.***

***Phillip Bell spoke on emerald ash borer and the current infestation in Maryland.***

***Christine Markhum discussed Asian longhorned beetle and the effort to eradicate this pest in New York and New Jersey.***

***Matt Royer spoke on soybean rust.***

3:30(HIS)

Todd Mervosh of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station offered a description of giant hogweed and discussed the plant in general.

4:30

Richard Cowles, CAES, spoke on 'Weevils, White Grubs and Hemlock Woolly Adelgids'. A wide range of topics was discussed including exotic insect impact on agriculture and landscapes. Plant susceptibility and possible controls were also covered. Richard also discussed problems stemming from application on broad leaf insecticides.

7:00

Various committee meetings were held.

***Wednesday, March 10, 2004***

**8:00(Joint Session)**

***Presentation was given by Waymond Fussel, USDA/APHIS/PPQ, on the detection of pine shoot beetle. Pine bark mulch issues were discussed along with proposed regulations.***

***Matt Royer spoke on Ralstonia detection and related issues. Distributors of geraniums, such as Goldsmith, were discussed.***

***Mr. Royer also submitted information on phytophthora ramorum and the different affects it has on different plants.***

**Arnie Chance, USDA/APHIS/PPQ, discussed the evaluation and remodeling of Quarantine 37.**

**10:30**

**Open discussion regarding Connecticut invasive species.**

3:30 (HIS only)

Dr. Louis Magnarelli, CAES, spoke on 'Tick Associated Diseases in Connecticut'. Lyme, Ehrlichiosis, rocky mountain spotted fever, babesiosis, tularemia, and west Nile virus were discussed.

Dr. Theodore Andreadis, from CAES presented material on 'West Nile Encephalitis in the United States'. He also discussed some telltale indicators of this disease.

Kirby Stafford or CAES spoke on 'Tick Control'. Information was relayed on strategies to decrease the number of ticks by control of vegetation and pesticide use.

**Thursday, March 11,2004**

**8:00 (Joint session with EPB)**

**Officials from SITC presented an update of recent operations.**

8:45(HIS)

Dr. Carole Cheah, CAES, presented a 'Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Progress Report'. An overview of plants susceptible to hemlock woolly adelgid, the distribution of the insect and climatic affects on this pest were all visited. Biological control and predictions for the next five years were also discussed.

9:30

Tim Abbey, CAES, spoke on 'Invasive Plants and Alternatives'.

10:30

Dr. Richard Jaynes from Broken Arrow Nursery presented information on 'Kalmia Varieties and Problems'. Dr. Jaynes spoke mainly on *Kalmia latifolia*, its range and problems encountered when growing this plant.

11:00

David and Kasha Furman from Cricket Hill Gardens, a CT nursery, spoke on different varieties of 'Chinese Tree Peonies'. The origins and differences with the Japanese Tree Peonies were discussed.

1:00

Discussion of the 2003 meeting minutes and the addition of New Hampshire and Vermont to the list of absent states were agreed upon. With these amendments the minutes were voted on and accepted.

The audit committee verified the treasurer's report was accurate. A motion was made to accept the auditors report and it was seconded. The final balance before dues paid at this meeting was \$1343.69.

Matt spoke for the awards committee and re-nominated Walt Blosser for the 'Carl Carlson Award'. There was a discussion on why there would be no nomination for the 'Service Award' at this time.

There was a discussion on possible agenda items for the program committee. Since there was no concrete plans for the 2005 meeting, there was no way of determining who should be on the program committee. At this time it was suspected that NJ would host the meeting.

The resolutions committee reported only one resolution:

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY, EASTERN CHAPTER, MARCH 11, 2004 IN NEW HAVEN, CT**

WHEREAS the Eastern Chapter of the Horticultural Inspection Society (HIS) was established to promote education, cooperation and interaction among state horticultural inspection personnel,  
WHEREAS rapid response to high risk exotic organisms has increasingly become an integral part of horticultural inspection, the participation of inspectors from member states is vital in order to achieve the goals of the Society, and attendance at the annual meeting is contingent on support of state administrative personnel, and  
WHEREAS the Eastern Plant Board (EPB) has played a vital role in this process,  
We resolve that:

The Eastern Plant Board continues to proactively support membership and participation of horticultural inspection personnel from the 12 EPB states in the Eastern Chapter of the HIS.

A motion was made to accept the resolution as written and it was seconded.

The nominations committee mentioned that the Secretary and Treasurer positions did not need to be filled this year. Matt Travis was nominated to the president position and Eric Ewing was nominated to the vice president position. Both were voted on and accepted. The archivist position was becoming vacant and Steve had accepted the position.

Charlie Leonard presented the NJ state report to the HIS.

There was a thorough discussion on federal phytosanitary inspections and problems encountered with them regarding signatures and the color of ink used to sign the documents. Specifically, problems shipping to Canada, Costa Rica, and Holland were mentioned.

Dan Lawton presented Rhode Island's state report. This gave rise to the question of an inorganic crops influence on a farm that grows to meet organic certification.

Sara Scally represented the state of Maine and reported to the HIS.

Tom Kehoe gave the Pennsylvania state report.

**3:30(Joint with EPB)**

***Tom Kehoe, acting president of the HIS, submitted the annual report of the HIS to the Eastern Plant Board.***

4:00

Tom passed the gavel to the vice president, Matt Travis.

Motion was made to conclude the meeting and it was seconded.

The 2004 meeting of the Eastern Chapter, Horticultural Inspection Society adjourned.