

# WSWS Newsletter



NOVEMBER 2005

## Report from the President

It seems like just a few days ago that we were meeting in Vancouver and yet, now is the time to start thinking about getting those paper titles and abstracts in for the Reno meeting. Tony White has the website ready to accept meeting registration, paper titles and abstracts. The deadline for paper title submission is December 1. I'm looking forward to the many quality presentations and posters that we always have at the meeting. The last few months have been relatively quite as far as WSWS is concerned although there are a few things to report. Nelroy Jackson has served as our WSSA Representative for the past three years and he will finish his term at the upcoming WSSA meeting in New York City. The Board of Directors has

approved the appointment of Vanelle Carrithers to be our new WSSA Representative. When you see Nelroy and Vanelle at the meeting, thank them for their service to WSWS. This appointment requires that the representative attend our summer Board meeting and annual meeting and they have to do the same thing for WSSA. Other action taken by the Board this summer was to formalize our service agreement with Weed Management Services related to the Noxious Weed Short Course that we sponsor each year. We also have discussed our possible participation in the CAST Shared Leadership Workshop that is planned for next year. The Board decided to delay action on this item until after the new Business Manager is hired. Dead-

line for applications for the Business Manager is December 1, 2005, so it is possible that by the time you read this, it may have already been decided.

Included in this Newsletter is the ballot for new officers. Please read about the candidates and vote. Each candidate has shown a willingness to serve WSWS and commit time and effort to the continuing success of our society. I've enjoyed serving as WSWS President and look forward to seeing everyone at the Reno meeting. If you need to contact me please do (505-527-8853 or [maratho-nag@zianet.com](mailto:maratho-nag@zianet.com)).

Phil Banks, President

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### ATTCHMENTS TO THIS ISSUE

*Officer's Ballot and Bios*

*Student Contest Criteria*

### Important Title Submission Information

Members who are submitting titles for the annual meeting please note that submission instructions online override and are more current than what was sent in previous paper mailings. These changes were necessary to better facilitate program and proceedings development.

## Reno Hosts WSWS Annual Meeting

When most people think of Reno, they think of gambling, but there is a lot more to do in and around the “Biggest Little City”. Reno is located in the rain-shadow of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Thus, it is relatively dry year-round. Rainfall during the month of March averages 1 inch. This makes outdoor sports, such as golf, mountain biking, or visiting a remote ghost town, possible in the winter. Reno temperatures in March average 57°F for the high and 29°F for the low, but extremes range from 70°F to 0°F. You might want to check an internet weather site in deciding what kinds of clothes or gear to bring.

A short trip south of Reno is Virginia City. Virginia City was the site of the largest silver strike in US History – the “Comstock Load”. Today, it is a thriving ghost town and you can walk through many of the restored buildings and tour the mines. About 45 minute southeast of Reno is Lake Tahoe. It is one of the clearest, deepest, fresh water lakes in the world. There are numerous world-class downhill ski areas in the mountains around Lake Tahoe. The Lake Tahoe ski areas have an average snow pack of over 20 feet (last year over 30ft!). Alpine Meadows and Squaw Valley ski resorts are two of

the best with the most challenging terrain. However, if you want to avoid the crowds, try Homewood ski resort – no crowds and excellent views of Lake Tahoe.

Other entertainment options in Reno include seeing big name performers at one of the many shows, visiting the National Bowling Stadium, or Fleischmann planetarium. Some of the finest restaurants west of the Mississippi are found in Reno. Many of these restaurants are open 24 hours a day, so no matter what time zone your coming from, you can still eat on your normal schedule. The downtown lights of Reno are spectacular, and worth venturing out for a view, which also gives you a chance to do some people watching.

For those who don’t want to leave the hotel – no problem. The Nugget has eight restaurants, ranging from adequate to awesome. You can get a massage at the health club, work out in the exercise room, or enjoy the hot tub after a hard day of skiing. There is also a year-round swimming pool so bring your swim suit. Whatever you decide to do, you won’t be bored in Reno.

Tom Lanini, Local Arrangement Chair

### Annual Meeting Lodging Information

John Ascuaga's Nugget  
1100 Nugget Avenue  
Sparks, NV

Hotel rates for the annual meeting are \$89/night plus applicable tax and other fees. This rate is good from March 11-17. To make hotel reservations, please make sure you register for the meeting first.

The JA Nugget toll-free number is 1-800-843-2427 (*be sure to ask for the WSWS group rate*).

The cut-off date for making room reservations is **FEBRUARY 1, 2006.**

Please make plans to stay at the facility and make your room reservations early.

## Advanced Invasive Plant School

**Advanced Invasive Plant School  
December 6 and 7, 2005  
Hilton Hotel, Ontario, CA**

Dr. Nelroy E. Jackson and Carl E. Bell are offering a new invasive plant school with a program designed for those people that need more in-depth information about how to control exotic, invasive plants in natural ecosystems and how these plants impact native flora and fauna.

Speakers will include: Nelroy, Carl, Joe Di Tomaso (UC Davis), Mike Zievers (Target Specialty Products), Jennifer Vollmer (BASF), Vanelle Caruthers (Dow Agrosiences), Ron Crockett (Monsanto), Jodie Holt and Edith Allen (UC Riverside), Dick Zembal (Orange County Water District), Jeff Beehler (Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority), and Mike Kelly (Kelly and Associates)

Topics will include: Field Research Methods, Effective Use of Herbicides, Herbicide Application Technology, Specific Herbicide recommendations, Herbicide Resistance and Species Shifts, Habitat Restoration/Rehabilitation, Interaction between Invasive Species and Endangered Species, Organizing and Funding Regional Invasive Plant Control and Management Programs, Emerging Weeds, Emerging Policy Issues.

For complete agenda and registration form visit <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/calgraphics/10235.doc>

### Reminder—WSWS Fellows and Honorary Member Awards

I know that most of you are busy with fall work but please think about nominating a candidate for the WSWS Fellow or Honorary Member Awards. The nominations are not due until **December 1, 2005** so there is still time to prepare the packets. We have many worthy candidates for these awards but someone must take responsibility for making sure the packets are complete. If you have any questions about completing the nominations, feel free to contact me.

Carol Mallory-Smith  
541-737-5883  
Carol.Mallory-Smith@oregonstate.edu

### Student Contest Reminder

Undergraduate and graduate students are invited to enter the Student Paper and Poster Contest at the WSWS Annual Meeting. Please refer to the guidelines/criteria attached to this issue or on the website (<http://www.wsweedsience.org>). Please contact Steven Enloe, University of Wyoming, at 307-766-3113 if you have questions regarding the contest criteria.

## Celebrate WSSA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in New York in 2006!!!

Mark your calendars for February 13-17 and join us as we celebrate WSSA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Annual Meeting and Conference at the New York Marriott Marquis Hotel. Over 350 oral presentations and posters were submitted for the meeting. There are also five formal symposia this year: 1) Obtaining Grant Funds: Experiences and Advice; 2) Advances and Regulatory Implications of Modeling Approaches to Environmental Fate and Exposure Assessment of Pesticides; 3) Challenge of Minor Crop Weed Control & Future Direction; 4) Natural Products in Weed Management and Biology; and 5) Grass Weed Resistance: Fighting Back. The symposia cover a wide array of presentations and topics. Hopefully, everyone will find a topic that is of special interest. Registration for the meeting is now open at <http://www.wssa.net> and you will realize substantial savings by registering early in December. Please plan to join us. Dale Shaner WSSA Program Chair

## National Program Leader for Rangelands/Grasslands Ecosystems Sought

**A National Program Leader for Rangelands/Grasslands Ecosystems is sought by the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service for a position in the Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) unit of CSREES and is a joint position with the Plant and Animal Systems unit of CSREES in the Washington, DC area - CSREES notes that " ... As the National Program Leader (Rangelands/Grasslands Ecosystems), you will serve as a recognized authority in addressing rangelands and grasslands ecosystems issues. You will conceive, formulate, and execute programs and activities, administer and manage programs, and evaluate and assess the quality and outcome of programs under your authority. Additionally, you will establish goals and objectives for new programs, allocate resources, and enhance program capabilities. You will establish and maintain contacts and relationships with the highest-level officials in other Federal and USDA agencies, universities, professional societies, and industry to promote a shared agenda and provide effective cooperation and coordination of research and education efforts ..." - Details are posted at <https://jobs1.quickhire.com/scripts/usda.exe> by highlighting the just browsing button, hitting enter and then scrolling down to the position announcement - Questions may be directed to Brandy Jones at 202 720 5038; e-mail: [BNJones@ARS.USDA.gov](mailto:BNJones@ARS.USDA.gov)**

## Necrology Committee

While we hope a necrology report will not be necessary this year, if you do know of any of our colleagues who have passed away during this year, please forward their names and any additional information so we can recognize their contributions and accomplishments. You can send any information to:

Amber Vallotton (Necrology Committee Chair),  
NMSU/ EPPWS Dept.  
MSC3BE Skeen Bldg, Rm N141  
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8003;  
[avallott@nmsu.edu](mailto:avallott@nmsu.edu)

## Washington Report

### **GREETINGS!**

Hello fellow weed scientists and practitioners. I want to formally introduce myself as the new Director of Science Policy for the National and Regional Weed Science Societies. I began work on July 18, 2005. As the only official employee of the WSSA, in conjunction with financial support from the NEWSS, NCWSS, SWSS, WSWS, and APMS, I am at your service.

Rob Hedberg left a big pair of shoes for me to fill. I have spent my first month getting up to date on some of the major issues facing the National and Regional Weed Science Societies and meeting some of the “movers and shakers” here in DC that can help us advance the Weed Science Societies’ agenda.

### **Technophile**

Another chunk of my time has been spent updating the DC office on some technology issues. I don’t know about you, but I haven’t used a dial-up connection to the internet since 1995 and I certainly didn’t intend to go back. I believe that all the Societies can benefit from the technology out there and improve our operational efficiency. We have a lot of tech savvy people in our membership and I hope to draw on their expertise to help move the Weed Science Societies forward.

### **The Train Has Left The Station**

For those of you who have been to the Washington DC office, you know that our office suite directly overlooks the railroad tracks that depart from Union Station. Hence, I see a lot of trains arrive and depart every day. I share this office suite with Karl Glasener from the Agronomy, Crop and Soil Science Societies (ASA-CSSA-SSSA), and Tamara Wagester from the Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (C-FARE). We hope to expand the office suite to more “agricultural policy directors” in the future because we certainly benefit

from our interactions on any number of issues. At the same time, I hope that if you are visiting Washington DC, for business or pleasure, that you will let me know when you will be in town! I can easily arrange a visit to your elected officials’ Congressional office and provide you with some briefing materials. It’s really a piece of cake!

### **Money and Mayhem**

#### **USDA RELEASES \$5 MILLION TO RESTORE AND PROTECT WETLANDS IN 20 STATES**

On July 19, 2005, Agriculture Deputy Secretary Chuck Conner announced the availability of \$5 million in the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

*(continued on page 6)*

### **Five Goals This Year**

Working with Rich Bonanno, chair of the WSSA Washington Liaison Committee, we have developed a list of five main goals we would like to accomplish in the coming year.

**Expand the awareness of weed science issues and increase participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW 7).** Nelroy Jackson, chair of the NIWAW 7 planning committee has done an amazing job of planning the next conference. Nelroy has been an invaluable resource to me thus far. The Weed Science Societies are fortunate to have such a dedicated and committed member to weed science issues. Plan to attend NIWAW 7 on February 26- March 3, 2006 in Washington DC!

#### **Work with the USDA-ARS to adopt Weed Science as a Federal job series.**

Rob Hedberg initiated this movement and I hope we can finish it. I find it ridiculous that when ARS posts a job listing for a weed scientist that they can’t refer to the position need as “Weed Scientist”.

**Expand the WSSA’s participation and recognition within the EPA as an “independent and unbiased source of information for weed science related issues”.** The EPA has opened the door for us and we need to take advantage of this opportunity. Initially, I will be working with Carol Mallory-Smith, Rich Bonanno and John Jachetta this fall to set this train in motion.

**Increase Weed Science research funding opportunities.** The WSSA is currently a dues paying member of several coalitions whose main goal is to advance agricultural research funding opportunities. Two main coalitions are the Coalition on Funding Agricultural Research Missions (CoFARM: <http://www.cofarm.org/index.html>) and the National Coalition for Food and Agriculture Research (NC-FAR: <http://www.ncfar.org/index.asp>). I also hope to get the WSSA more involved in the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST: [http://www.cast-science.org/cast/src/cast\\_top.htm](http://www.cast-science.org/cast/src/cast_top.htm)). I will be meeting with CAST’s new Executive Vice President, John Bonner, on September 23, 2005.

#### **Find opportunities to advance the awareness and financial support of weed science in the 2007 Farm Bill.**

As most of you know, the discussion and listening sessions for the 2007 Farm Bill have already begun. There is much debate about how our international trade negotiations and World Trade Organization (WTO) cases will affect the commodity programs in the next Farm Bill. Regardless of what happens, weed science needs to have a seat at the table and make sure our voice is heard on Capitol Hill.

## Washington Report (continued)

for restoration activities in 20 states. These funds will restore and protect nearly 40,000 acres of wetlands. "This is another step towards meeting the President's wetlands initiative goal set last year to restore, improve and protect at least 3 million acres of wetlands. Through cooperative conservation efforts with federal and state agencies, private landowners and non-governmental organizations, saving wetlands is resulting in cleaner air and water, healthier soil and improved fish and wildlife habitat," said Conner.

WRP, administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, is a voluntary conservation program that offers landowners the opportunity to protect, restore and enhance wetlands on their property. The goal of the program is to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values and create optimum wildlife habitat on every acre enrolled in the program.

Additional information on WRP is available at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp>

### PESTICIDE DRIFT

On July 25, 2005, the USDA ARS issued a News Release, titled "Unique Software for Preventing Pesticide Drift," which states in part that "The first user-friendly computer software for estimating the droplet drift distances for pesticide spray applications has been released by ARS and Ohio State University agricultural engineers. Heping Zhu and Robert Fox at ARS' Application Technology Research Unit in Wooster, Ohio, and Erdal Ozkan at OSU-Columbus named the new software "DRIFTSIM," for Drift Simulator ... The OSU Communications and Technology Office is distributing the DRIFTSIM software for a nominal fee. The Windows-based software can help farmers and Extension Service educators minimize pesticide drift by helping them choose equipment, settings and techniques. It also helps manufacturers design pesticide formulations and pesticide spray-

ing equipment to minimize drift potential of their products.

The complete text of the ARS News Release is posted at <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2005/050725.htm>

### BIOPESTICIDE RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSALS

Biopesticide Research Grant Proposals are sought by November 18, 2005 by the Interregional Research Project No. 4 (IR-4) - The IR-4 Biopesticide Research Program has issued a "request for grant proposals for funding of efficacy research in 2006. With newer targeted conventional chemicals there is interest in resistance management to maintain the utility of those products. Therefore, IR-4 is especially interested in proposals containing biopesticides as resistance management tools, rotated with conventional products. While resistance management is an important interest, the proposal must still have a majority focus on biopesticides. Selection of treatments and experimental design should be considered to elucidate the contribution of each component to the pest control system ... The total amount of funding available will be around \$400,000. Most successful grants have generally ranged from \$5,000 to \$10,000 with the largest grants generally around \$20,000 - Questions may be directed to Michael Braverman, Ph.D, IR-4 Biopesticide Manager at 732 932 9575, ext 610; e-mail: [Braverman@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:Braverman@aesop.rutgers.edu)

### At Your Service

I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as Director of Science Policy for the National and Regional Weed Science Societies! I believe that the best days for the Weed Science Societies lie ahead of us. I look forward to the opportunity to get to work with more of our members and hope you feel comfortable enough to contact me with concerns that you have. I'm not going to be able to address every single issue, but I will certainly do my best to help you out. Along those lines, I hope that

I can bring in a weed science grad or undergrad student to DC on a short internship to help me out. If you have any interest in DC policy and politics, I could use your help in the near future!

I didn't really provide you with any of my background, but I want to give you a brief summary of who I am:

- Grew up on a dairy farm near Green Bay, WI. Didn't like milking cows, so I did my undergrad work in Agronomy and Horticulture at the University of Wisconsin.
- Completed my Masters Degree in sweet corn weed management under the late Dr. Gordon Harvey.
- Have been a member of the WSSA since 1996 and have attended six Annual Meetings and five regional weed science meetings.
- Dr. Bruce Maxwell and Dr. A.J. Bussan co-advised me on the "Field-Scale Spatial Distribution, Water Use, and Habitat of Wild Oat in the Semi-arid Northern Great Plains" at Montana State University.
- Dr. Clarence Swanton's gray hair is due to me (I was an unfortunate pedestrian in a hit and run accident while at the 2000 WSSA Annual Meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada).
- Was selected as a Congressional Science Fellow through the Agronomy, Crop, and Soil Science Societies Congressional Fellowship Program in 2002-03.
- During the past two years, I worked for Rep. Gil Gutknecht (R-MN) and Rep. Nick Smith (R-MI-retired), both members of the House Agriculture and House Science Committees.
- I am socially moderate and fiscally conservative in my political views. If you "take the quiz" at <http://www.politicalcompass.org/>, you can compare yourself to my numbers. I'm a 1.5 on the social axis and a 6.2 on the economic axis.

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Western Society of Weeds Science  
P.O. Box 963  
Newark, CA 94560  
510-790-1252

Hours of Operation:  
9:00am to 5:00pm Pacific Time

Visit the web site at  
[www.wsweedscience.org](http://www.wsweedscience.org)

### WSWS Objectives

- To foster and encourage education and research in weed science.
- To foster cooperation among state, federal and private agencies in matters of weed science.
- To aid and support commercial, private and public agencies in the solution of weed problems.
- To support legislation governing weed control programs and weed research and education programs.
- To support the Weed Science Society of America and foster state and regional organizations and agencies interested in weed control.

## Washington Report (*continued*)

- My lifetime alumni memberships include Alpha Gamma Rho and the National FFA Organization.
  - The Green Bay Packers are invincible. J
  - “You ain’t much if you ain’t Dutch”, a local saying back home.
- In my free time, I play a lot of recreational sports, spend time with my girlfriend, and serve as a “volunteer” tour guide in Washington DC.

I would like to thank the WSSA Board of Directors for this opportunity. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Lee Van Wychen  
900 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NE, Suite 205

## Calendar of Events

December 1, 2005

**WSWS Annual Meeting Title  
Submission Deadline**

December 5, 2005

**WSWS Progress Report Deadline**

December 6-7

**Advanced Invasive Plant School**  
for agenda and registration form  
visit  
[http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/  
calgraphics/10235.doc](http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/calgraphics/10235.doc)

February 1, 2006

**WSWS Annual Meeting Abstract  
Upload Deadline**

**WSWS Annual Meeting Hotel  
Reservation Deadline**

February 13-17, 2006

**WSSA Annual Meeting, New  
York**

February 15, 2006

**WSWS Annual Meeting Pre-  
Registration Deadline**

February 26-March 3, 2006

**National Invasive Weed  
Awareness Week (NIWAW)**

For more information please visit  
NAWMA’s web site at [http://  
www.nawma.org/niwaw/  
niwaw\\_index.htm](http://www.nawma.org/niwaw/niwaw_index.htm)

March 14-16, 2006

**WSWS Annual Meeting,  
Reno/Sparks NV.**