I hope that everyone is having a good summer and that there has been time for a vacation or at least a few days off from the normal activities of your work. Fortunately, I was able to enjoy a few days off following the WSWS summer Board meeting in Reno that was held on July 29 and 30. It was a very productive meeting and every elected and appointed Board member was in attendance, signifying the dedication that each has for ensuring that WSWS is well governed. As I’m sure Tom Lanini, Local Arrangements Chair, and Kassim Al-Khatib, Program Chair, will relate somewhere else in this newsletter, the John Ascuaga Nugget Hotel is an outstanding facility for our meeting. Room rates will be the lowest we have had in a number of years, parking is free, and the dining options are numerous and fairly priced. We are expecting a large turnout for the meeting and Kassim’s program is packed with excellent content for everyone.

Several actions were taken by the Board during the meeting. 1. A job description was agreed upon and a search committee headed by Past President Phil Stahlman was created to find a new Business Manager/Treasurer to replace Wanda Graves. The search committee will have the job announcement posted elsewhere in the newsletter and they intend to advertise it widely. 2. The Board voted to increase registration fees for the annual meeting to $150 for pre-registration and $200 for late registration. The student registration fee will remain the same at $25 for pre-registration and $40 for late registration. For the past ten or more years, our registration fees have been very low in part because of past income generated by Weeds of the West and other sources not related to the annual meeting. However, as we all know, there is no free lunch. We have now reached a point that the cost of the meeting and running the society exceeds income from registration fees by almost $13,000 per year. Even with the increase, our registration fees remain well below those of other professional meetings of the same caliber. With this increase and with continued income from other sources, no additional registration fee increases should be needed for quite some time. 3. You will be asked to vote on constitutional changes that will eliminate the Placement Committee and the Student Educational Enhancement Committee. The Placement Committee has essentially been put out of business by the rapid methods of advertising jobs on various society websites. The committee has worked with Website Editor Tony White to provide a link for our members at our website to several of these job websites. Due to dramatic changes in the private sector related to weed science and difficulty in finding sponsors for the students, the Student Educational Enhancement Committee has been inactive for several years and requested to be disbanded. Constitution and Operating Guide Representative Kai Umeda will be drafting the amendments that eliminate these two committees for you to consider. 4. We increased the amount of room reimbursement for students from $10 per night to $15 per night for a maximum of three nights with the continuing requirement that they present a paper or poster and stay at the meeting hotel.

Finally, please consider nominating a deserving person for one of the many awards that are available. Ron Crockett, head of the Awards Committee, has the call for awards included with this newsletter. I’m looking forward to the upcoming Reno meeting and I hope you are too. As always, if you need to contact me with questions, suggestions or just want to talk, feel free to do so (505-527-8853 or marathonag@zianet.com).

Phil Banks, President
Reno Hosts WSWS Conference

Reno is located in the rain-shadow of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Thus, it is relatively dry year-round. Rainfall during the month of February averages 1 inch. This makes outdoor sports, such as golf, mountain biking, or visiting a remote ghost town, possible in the middle of winter. Reno temperatures in early February average 50°F for the high and 23°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. Reno’s proximity to the Sierra’s and Lake Tahoe make it an ideal spot for winter sports. There are 15 world-class alpine ski areas and seven cross-country areas within 90 minutes of the John Ascuaga Nugget Hotel. The Lake Tahoe ski areas have an average snow pack of over 20 feet. The Nugget hotel has daily shuttle and lift ticket packages available at the hotel lobby. Don’t forget to read the spring newsletter on tips on where to ski.

Reno is a long way from the ocean. However, if you’re a fisherman and want to catch a big fish, try the winter Steelhead run on the American River. It’s a beautiful 2-hour drive over the Sierra’s to Sacramento (this is the same route the Donner party took). The American River, flowing through Sacramento has had excellent steelhead runs the past few years and the run is at its peak during the month of February.

If outside activities aren’t you’re thing, well your not out of luck in Reno. The most obvious indoor activity is gambling. However, if you’re not feeling lucky, you may instead want to see many of the local attractions. Celebrity performers are in town for shows year-round. The Nugget hotel nightly show features an illusionist who makes a 747 disappear from the stage. 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 hotel has ten restaurants, and a 50-lane bowling alley in the basement, open 24 hours (don’t get a first floor room). You can get a massage at the health club, work out with the latest in exercise machines plus free weights, or enjoy the hot tub after a hard day of skiing. There is a four plus mile outdoor jogging trail for those inclined to run. The hotel also rents bicycles (and Harley Davidson motorcycles) if you want to go for a ride (on the wild side).

Did you know …

that the Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS) is the oldest professional weed science organization in the United States?

Call for Research Progress Reports

Please consider submitting preliminary results from ongoing laboratory, physiological, and other research in the WSWS Research Progress Report. It is a good opportunity for staff and graduate students to initiate the process for journal submission and improve their technical writing skills. Also, consider publishing results that will not be submitted for journal publication.

For instructions, see the Call for Research Progress Reports included in the Newsletter mailing. Reports must be postmarked by December 5, 2005.

Traci Rauch

Call For Papers

Don’t Forget - See the Call for Papers for the WSWS 2006 Annual Meeting in Reno attached to the hard copy version of the newsletter.
New Director of Science Policy

Dr. Lee Van Wychen has accepted the position of Director of Science Policy for WSSA. He started on Monday, July 18th in the Washington DC WSSA office. The WSSA Board of Directors interviewed 2 candidates on Sunday, July 10, 2005 after the summer BOD meeting in New York City.

Lee grew up on his parent’s integrated dairy and crop farm near Green Bay, WI, graduated valedictorian from his high school, and then earned a double major in Agronomy and Horticulture at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Van Wychen then earned a Master’s degree in Weed Science under the late Dr. Gordon Harvey, and a Ph.D. degree in Weed Science under Dr. Bruce Maxwell at Montana State University. While his Master’s work was applied agronomic and horticultural weed management and herbicide efficacy work, his doctoral work consisted of more basic weed ecology, as well as an overview of rangeland, forest, and noxious weed management. His doctoral work in Montana exposed him to a broad array of weed science issues.

He was selected as a Congressional Science Fellow through the Agronomy, Crop and Soil Science Society’s Congressional Science Fellowship program, and served in the offices of Rep. Gil Gutknecht (MN) and Nick Smith (MI). During the past two years, Lee has worked for two U.S. Congressmen where he analyzed, advised, and implemented the offices’ legislative strategy on agriculture, environment, science, energy, trade, and budget policies. His experiences on the Hill have helped him to build a solid network of contacts in federal lobbying and stakeholder groups, academic societies, and regulatory and oversight agencies.

Rob Hedberg has left very big footprints in Washington DC, so Lee has big shoes to fill, and we wish him the Best. I urge all WSWS members to help him during his initial orientation period and beyond so that all of us may be even more successful in the future.

Nelroy E. Jackson
WSWS Representative to WSSA

Did you know …

that conception of the WSWS can be traced to the 1936 annual meeting of the Western Plant Quarantine Board (WPQB), an organization consisting primarily of entomologists and administrators? At that meeting Harry L. Spence, an Extension Agronomist in Idaho, presented a paper entitled ‘Our Weed Problem’ and took “… the liberty of suggesting to your organization (WPQB) that an annual symposium be arranged as a section of the WPQB meeting, whereby you could bring together the men working on weed problems from various western states?’” He further stated “It would aid materially in coordinating the various programs and furnishing a valuable opportunity to interchange suggestions in regards to our many weed problems.”

… that the first meeting of the Western Weed Control Conference (WWCC) was held in Denver, CO, on June 16-17, 1938? Starting in 1950, the WWCC met every other year in even years, then after meeting in consecutive years in 1962 and 1963, met every other year in odd years to avoid meeting during the same year as the Weed Science Society of America. Meeting annually resumed in 1967.

Upcoming WSSA Election for New Officers

The Weed Science Society of America will be conducting an election for new officers in the next few weeks. Currently and in recent years, WSWS members have occupied prominent leadership positions in the WSSA. Help continue that trend by taking the time and effort to vote and consider supporting WSWS members Bill McCloskey for Secretary and Jesse Richardson for Treasurer.

Phil Stahlman
Report on CAST Activities

At the spring meetings in April the CAST board of directors met with three candidates and selected Dr. John M. Bonner to serve as its new Executive Vice President (EVP). Dr. Bonner assumed his duties on July 1, 2005. He succeeds Dr. Teresa A. Gruber, who tendered her resignation December 1, 2004. Dr. Bonner is particularly suited for the responsibilities required of CAST’s EVP. He is proficient in both development and implementation of successful, profitable agricultural programs and altogether demonstrates broad, articulate leadership and initiative.

Dr. Bonner received his Ph.D. from Iowa State University with a Nutrition Physiology major and Economics and Physiology minors. Earlier in his career he was employed by the International Minerals and Chemical Corporation (first as Marketing Planning Manager and then as International Area Technical Manager) and Bio-Zyme Enterprises, Inc. (as Director of Technical Marketing).

For the past 15 years Dr. Bonner has been employed by Land O’Lakes Purina Feed (LOL) LLC, first as Beef Production Manager and then as Beef Production and Marketing Manager. Most recently, he has served as LOL Training and Marketing Manager and Eastern Sales Manager. Dr. Bonner will be located in the CAST office in Ames, Iowa.

Also in April, CAST met with Dr. Eric Sachs of Monsanto who is helping to organize an new enterprise—the Consortium for Science and Society (CSAS). The CSAS has a vision for an integrated, cooperative network of institutions, societies, associations, non-governmental organizations, federal agencies, and foundations that would work together as an advocate for scientific communication. The group plans to increase public understanding of science and technology by sparking societal interest in new advancements in engineering, medicine, nutrition, agriculture, food biotechnology, and other rapidly expanding areas of science. The consortium would be a national program that would work with existing entities to coordinate and facilitate, but not replace or compete with them.

Goals of CSAS include creating a science and information website; implementing a rapid, peer-reviewed, on-line journal; building functional linkages and a partnership between organizations; identifying and developing programs that will prepare scientists to communicate; and engaging the journalism community by offering science education programs and building a topical directory of scientists who will engage and work with journalists on topical and emerging issues. The CAST National Concerns Committee passed a motion stating that “CAST should stay engaged in the development of the Consortium for Science and Society” and plans to monitor the organization’s progress.

Rod Lym
WSWS representative to CAST

Celebrate WSSA’s 50th Anniversary in New York in 2006!!!

Mark your calendars for February 13-17 and join us as we celebrate WSSA’s 50th anniversary at the Annual Meeting and Conference at the New York Marriott Marquis Hotel. We’ll have a kickoff celebration on the 13th and many special events including presentations on the history of each section, a room of memorabilia, and posters from each member society. You’ll get a book written by Dr. Arnold Appleby tracing the history of the society and a travel mug with the 50th anniversary logo. Plus, you’ll be in New York right in the middle of the theater district!!! Please plan to join us.

Dale Shaner
WSWS Business Manager Position Announcement

**TITLE**

Business Manager/Treasurer – Part-Time

The Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS) seeks applications for a part-time Business Manager/Treasurer. The WSWS is a dynamic volunteer organization of public agency/institution and industry professionals, practitioners, and others committed to research, education, and training activities pertaining to weed management in agricultural, natural and managed ecosystems in the western region of the United States and Canada. More information on the WSWS is available online at [www.wsweedscience.org](http://www.wsweedscience.org). The successful candidate will serve as the chief financial officer of the WSWS, manage the annual meeting and business office, oversee distribution of societal publications, and serve as the primary contact for society members and the public. The incumbent must be able to attend the WSWS annual meeting in March, the summer board meeting, and other infrequent meetings approved by the Board of Directors. The Business Manager/Treasurer works closely with the Finance and Executive Committees and reports to the Board of Directors.

**DATE AVAILABLE**

March 1, 2006

**RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:**

- Managing the Society’s monies, including income, expenditures and investments, in accordance with prescribed policies or as instructed by the Board of Directors.
- Maintaining detailed financial records, preparing financial reports, filing state and federal tax returns, and assuring business practices comply with nonprofit organization regulations.
- Archiving business records, minutes of Board of Directors meetings, copies of WSWS publications, and other pertinent records and documents.
- Preparing WSWS annual meeting preregistration packets and registration receipts, overseeing registration desk functions during the annual meeting, and coordinating logistics with the Local Arrangements Committee and hotel.
- Handling telephone queries and requests from members, nonmembers, vendors and suppliers.
- Maintaining membership, mailing, and listserv lists; general filing and tracking of inventory.
- Compiling, light editing, printing and assembling materials for bulk mailings, such as newsletters, calls for papers and award nominations, annual meeting programs, Proceedings and Research Reports.
- Coordinating with Newsletter, Proceedings and Research Report Editors to ensure timely publication.
- Reviewing contracts for completeness and accuracy of negotiated terms and conditions.
- Marketing and promoting the WSWS and serving as a liaison with other professional societies, allied organizations, policymakers and the public.
- Orienting incoming board members as to their duties and responsibilities.
- Other duties as requested by the Board of Directors.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- Essential Qualities
  - Energetic and self-motivated individual with training and/or experience in accounting/bookkeeping, budgeting, and business management.
  - Proficient in the use of electronic communication, computers and software such as word processing, spreadsheet, database, and accounting/bookkeeping.
  - Skilled in time management and organization.
  - Ability to work independently and with a diverse constituency.
  - Strong written and oral communication skills in English and good telephone etiquette to convey a friendly and professional image.
- Desired Qualities
  - Familiarity and appreciation for weed science, natural resource conservation and management, or related biological science discipline.
  - Experience in marketing and promotion, public relations, and/or fundraising.
  - Experience in editing and design of promotional literature and website content.
  - Experience in public speaking, leadership, and consensus building.
  - Knowledge of regulatory and policy issues and dynamics.

**COMPENSATION**

Compensation will be negotiated commensurate with experience and qualifications. Employment as either an independent contractor or WSWS employee is negotiable. The successful candidate must provide his/her own office space and furnishings. Office equipment and supplies are negotiable.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Send a letter of application or proposal, resume detailing experience and qualification, and the names and contact information of three professional references to:

Phil Stahlman, Search Committee Chair: WSWS Business Manager, KSU Agricultural Research Center 1232 240th Avenue, Hays, KS 67601

**CLOSING DATE**

Review of applications will begin December 1, 2005, and continue until position is filled.
Did you know …

that the first meeting of the Western Weed Control Conference (WWCC) was held in Denver, CO, on June 16-17, 1938? Starting in 1950, the WWCC met every other year in even years, then after meeting in consecutive years in 1962 and 1963, met every other year in odd years to avoid meeting during the same year as the Weed Science Society of America. Meeting annually resumed in 1967.

WSWS Fellows and Honorary Member Awards

I know that most of you are busy with summer work but please start thinking 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 plenty of 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

Awards Committee Report

The Awards Committee has reviewed excellent nomination packages over the last few years. Each year deserving members have narrowly missed receiving awards and the richly deserved recognition of their peers. We encourage those who have supported individuals in recent past years by gathering background qualifications, assimilating achievements, then completing and submitting the nomination packages to once again consider re-nominating those members deserving recognition for their continued exceptional performance.

To those with whom you have worked who have demonstrated outstanding performance and have yet to be recognized, we would ask that you gather the background information needed, and nominate those people this year. The efforts you make to recognize others achievements benefits all involved, and the Society as a whole. Please see the attached Call for Nominations document.

Ron P. Crockett

Did you know …

that in 1968 the name of the Society was changed from the Western Weed Control Conference to the Western Society of Weed Science?

that the WSWS has had only two Business Managers in its history. Lamar Anderson served in that capacity from 1967 to 1989 and Wanda Graves has served from 1989 to the present.

Did you know in this issue was compiled by Phil Stahlman from:

**David Shaw Provides Congressional Briefing**

Friday, May 13 was not an unlucky day for the weed science discipline or David Shaw, Director of the Geo Resources Institute at Mississippi State University. That morning Dr. Shaw gave a briefing, “Down to Earth Science from Outer Space - Applying NASA Technologies and Interagency Collaborations to Advance Agricultural Science and Natural Resource Management” to congressional staff from both the U.S. House and Senate as well as several attendees from Federal Agencies and the private sector. After his introduction by Dr. Rodney Brown, Deputy Undersecretary for Research, Education and Economics at USDA, David gave an excellent overview of real and emerging earth science applications of remote sensing data combined with modern computing capacity. David did an outstanding job conveying the value of federally funded research conducted at Land Grant Universities as well as the contributions weed scientists are making to science, agriculture and natural resource management.

This briefing was conducted by NCFAR (the National Coalition on Food and Agricultural Research), a coalition that WSSA officially joined last year. This briefing was the third in a series that NCFAR has launched to provide congressional staff with a timely overview of scientific frontiers in food and agriculture research and to instill them with an appreciation of the value of federal investments in such research. It was personally gratifying to see how David created a new appreciation for weed science among NCAFR members and congressional staff.

**Weed Science to Host Congressional Briefing on Endangered Species/Invasive Species**

On Wednesday, June 15 WSSA will sponsor a briefing for the House Resources Committee to explore the connections between invasive weed management and the enhancement of critical habitats to promote endangered species recovery. Cosponsors for this briefing now include the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation, The Aquatic Plant Management Society, the Wildlife Management Institute, the Nature Conservancy and BASF. The opportunity to present this briefing grew out of the successful symposium held on this topic during the Northeast Weed Science Society annual meeting here in Washington in January. (Presentations are posted on the NEWSS website – NEWSS.org).

The significance of this briefing is that the House Resources Committee chaired by Congressman Pombo (R-CA) is spearheading efforts to revise and reform the Endangered Species Act. By being invited to present this briefing we will have an opportunity to promote recognition of noxious and invasive weeds as a significant threat to T&E species. Furthermore we will be able to encourage pragmatic revisions in the bill so that noxious weed management will be recognized as a legitimate method of enhancing the quality of critical habitats and promoting endangered species recovery.

**WSSA to Receive Grant For NIWAW VII From National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) has informed WSSA that we will receive a Pulling Together Initiative (PTI) grant for $15,500 to help expand the NIWAW outreach activities and promote the establishment of Cooperative Weed Management Associations (CWMA)s across the country. This welcome news comes at a time when Dr. Nelroy Jackson assumes the chairmanship of the NIWAW VII planning committee on behalf of WSSA. The plans for NIWAW VII are already off to a very promising start with substantial new offers of support and involvement from many of the partners who recognize the value of this event that has now grown into an annual conference. When you can, please thank Dr. Jackson for his willingness to take on this important role and mark your calendars now for the week of February 26-through March 3.

**Thank You**

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all members of WSSA, APMS, NEWSS, NCWSS, SWSS and WSWS for the opportunity to serve as your representative in Washington for the past six years. I have accepted an offer to work for USDA-CSREES as the agency’s Science Policy and Legislative Affairs Advisor and will assume that post in July. As I prepare to move on, I can honestly say this is the best job and most fun I have ever had for a living. The members of the societies are great, the mission of the societies is worthwhile and the opportunities to have positive impact are significant. I’ll move on with a tinge of regret but I am confident that the momentum we have created can be maintained. I must especially thank Rich Bonanno who has served steadfastly as Chair of the Washington Liaison Committee from the time I was hired and through the whole time I have been Director of Science Policy. Rich has performed an enormous service for the societies and has been an excellent source of support and counsel the whole time. Please let Rich know his efforts are appreciated as he now spearheads the effort to hire your next Director of Science Policy.

Thank you,
Rob Hedberg
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.

News From Around the West

New Hire
Michael Quinn was recently hired at the University of Idaho as a Support Scientist I and will work in the weed science program of Don Morishita. He completed his M.S. degree in weed science in December 2004 at the University of Idaho.

THOMAS LYLE NAGLE APRIL 4, 2005
Thomas Lyle Nagle, 82, a retired Washington State University field Technician in Agronomy Research died on April 4, 2005 at the Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, WA.

Mr. Nagle was born on February 7, 1923 at Garfield, WA. to Thomas and Grace (Freeze) Nagle. Lyle attended Palouse schools and graduated from Palouse High School in 1941. He served with the 69th Division of the U.S. Army in the European Theater during WWII. Mr. Nagle received the award of the Silver Star for his gallantry in action against the enemy on March 7, 1945 and the Croix de Guerre Avec Etoile de Bronze medal from the French Government on October 30, 1945. He was discharged on July 11, 1946.

After the war, Mr. Nagle returned to Palouse and attended Washington State University receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy and Soil Science. He married Alma Markgraf on June 1, 1950 at Pullman, Washington and the couple made their home at Palouse. Mr. Nagle worked for Eugene Powers as a farmhand for a several years, and raised registered Hereford cattle at the ranch.

In 1966, Mr. Nagle began employment at Washington State University as a field techni- cian in what is now the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences. Lyle tested herbicides on test plots throughout eastern Washington, retiring from WSU in 1988. From 1988 to 1994, he worked for McGregor Company as a consultant for new herbicide products used in the area. Mr. Nagle was active at the time of his death helping local farmers.

He was a member of the Catholic Church, A.G. R. Fraternity at Pullman, WA., served on the Palouse school board in the 1960's, enjoyed reading and raising cattle. Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Alma Nagle at the Palouse home, two sons, Jim Nagle, Walla Walla, WA., Larry Nagle, Seattle, Wa., two daughters, Mary Ann Bennett, Pull- man, WA. and Kathy Schilb, Seattle, WA., one sister, June Loesch, Longview, WA., two grandchildren, Keri Ann and Mark, two step-grandchildren, Jennifer and Ken, one great grandson Adrian and one step-great granddaughter, Alyssa.

Calendar of Events

October 2005
Online Pre-registration for WSWS Annual Meeting Opens

October 18-20
UC Davis Weed Science School. Contact Gale Pérez at (530) 752-1748 or gperez@ucdavis.edu

November 2-4, 2005
Southwest Vegetation Management Association Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ. Contact Patti Fenner (602) 255-5386

March 14-16, 2006
WSWS Annual Meeting, John Ascuaga Nugget Hotel Sparks (Reno), Nevada

May 25-28, 2006