

Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

Newsletter

Volume 25 Number 3

September 2007

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27th Annual Meeting of the Midsouth APMS Planned for Alabama

The 27th Annual Meeting of the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society is tentatively going to be held in Alabama. The meeting planning committee is actively pursuing hotel accommodations at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, or a venue in Mobile. The committee is looking to keep the preferred dates of October 21-23, 2008, but this could change depending on hotel availability.



2007 MSAPMS Scholarship



Wilfredo Robles from Mississippi State University was awarded this year's student scholarship. Wilfredo is a Ph.D. student pursuing his degree in Weed Science where his research focuses on remote sensing and management of waterhyacinth and hydrilla.

Board of Director Changes

During the meeting in Nashville, TN the attending members of MSAPMS voted in a new Board of Directors. Bryan Goldsby is the president, John Madsen is president elect, Sherry Whitaker moved from editor to secretary, Jeremy Slade is treasurer, Ryan Wersal is the new editor, and Bob Gunkel moves to the past president. Neil Colter and William White were also appointed as directors. A special thanks to the exiting board members for their hard work and contributions to the society; Greg Wall, Donald Morgan, Greg Reynolds, and Joe Jernigan.

Awards and Recognitions from this Year's Meeting



Scott Lankford was presented a Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Honorary Membership.



Craig Aguillard was recognized as for his service to the Society as the outgoing Past President.



Terry Goldsby was presented with the President's Award.



David Brewster was recognized for his service as Secretary from 2005-2007.



Bob Gunkel was recognized for his service as the Society President for 2006-2007.



John Madsen was recognized for his service as a Director from 2005-2007.



Greg Reynolds was recognized for his service as a Director from 2005-2007.



Greg Wall was recognized for his service as Treasurer from 2005-2007.



Sherry Whitaker was recognized for her service as Editor from 2005-2007.

New MSAPMS Display

The Society has developed a new poster to be used at meetings to help promote MSAPMS.

MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

The MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society (MSAPMS) is a non-profit organization of scientists, educators, students, resource managers, administrators, and concerned individuals interested in the management and study of aquatic plants in the MidSouth region consisting of the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee. Membership reflects a diversity of federal, state, and local agencies; universities and colleges; corporations; and small businesses.

MISSION

The mission of the MSAPMS is to provide a common forum in which to exchange ideas and information concerning the management of aquatic plants.

Objectives:

- Assist in promoting the management of nuisance aquatic plants
- Provide for the scientific advancement of members of the Society
- Encourage scientific research
- Promote university scholarships and other educational assistance
- Develop and extend public interest in aquatic plant sciences



PUBLICATIONS

The MSAPMS Newsletter is issued three times a year. The newsletter publishes current aquatic plant management news, annual business meeting minutes, aquatic plant literature, upcoming training courses and meetings, and news from other aquatic plant management society chapters.



SCHOLARSHIPS

The Society's Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to graduate students pursuing careers related to the aquatic plant management profession.



ANNUAL MEETING

The Society holds an annual conference for the presentation of papers and sharing of information. The conference is held in October each year in different cities throughout the MidSouth region.



For more information, visit <http://www.msapms.org>

Minutes from the Final Business Meeting Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Nashville, TN July 17, 2007

The final Business meeting was called to order by President Bob Gunkel at 5:10 p.m.

Gunkel recognized the following past presidents that were in attendance:

Terry Goldsby
Leon Bates
Randell Goodman
Scott Lankford
David Webb
Lewis Decell
Harry Knight
Tom Broadwell
Craig Aguillard

Gunkel also recognized the following honorary members that were in attendance:

Leon Bates
Lewis Decell

Treasurer's Report:

Greg Wall reported that the books were audited by Tom Broadwell and Harry Knight and the books were found to be in order. Greg reported that the Society had originally had 4 separate accounts; however, during this year the Alabama Power Scholarship Fund was grouped together with the MSAPMS scholarship fund to form one individual fund. The account balances were as follows:

Total Assets through July 12, 2007:
Compass Bank - \$2367.01
Peoples Bank (Operational) - \$9854.34
Peoples Bank (MSAPMS Scholarship) - \$46058.30
Total MSAPMS Assets - \$58,279.65

The bonding of the MSAPMS treasurer had currently had a limit of \$25K. This limit was increased by the board to a total of \$55K to provide full coverage.

Secretary's Report

David Brewster stated that the program agenda was sent to surrounding states for consideration for Continuing Education Credits (CEU's) or re-certification points toward the Aquatic Pesticide Applicator Permit. Those

members that have a permit and want to register should do so for their particular state at the registration desk

The MSAPMS has voted to sponsor the Aquatic Right-of-Way Training Course in the amount of \$500.00. An announcement of this course will be placed in the upcoming newsletter. Bryan Goldsby will be attending this meeting for the MSAPMS and will setup the MSAPMS display and distribute brochures.

The board also voted to support the Graduated Assistantship in the amount of \$1000.00.

A President's Award was established by the board to recognize individuals who have displayed many years of dedication and contributions to the Society and the field of aquatic plant management. The first recipient of this award was acknowledged at the meeting.

The board also voted to continue support of the AERF in the amount of \$1000.00.

Editor's Report:

Due to illness there was no report from the editor.

Membership Committee Report:

David Brewster reported that the MSAPMS currently has 68 members and 7 sustaining members. From the free registration offered at the meeting, the MSAPMS acquired 43 new members for a total of 118 members. Twenty-nine original MSAPMS members attended the national meeting.

David and Bryan will get together and send letters out to previous members about updating their membership.

Nomination Committee Report:

Craig Aguillard presented the list of nominations for the 2007-2008 Board of Directors for consideration by the membership:

President-Elect : John Madsen
Editor: Ryan Wersal
Treasurer: Jeremy Slade
Secretary: Sherry Whitaker
Director: Neal Coulter
Director: William White

The floor was opened for additional nominations. None were presented for consideration. A motion was made by Terry Goldsby to accept the nominations as

presented as was seconded. The motion was accepted by a unanimous voice vote.

Program Committee Report:

Bryan thanked everyone for their help for the meeting. The meeting worked out very well.

Scholarship Committee Report:

John Madsen thanked everyone on the scholarship committee for their help in judging the applicants. Three students applied for the scholarship.

Website Committee Report:

The website is currently being updated. Current newsletters are to be placed on the website.

And Adhoc Committee will be formed for the website.

A motion was made by Terry Goldsby to accept all reports as presented and was seconded by Greg Wall. The motion was accepted by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

The following awards were presented:

Scholarship Award – Wilfredo Robles of Mississippi State University

Honorary Member – Scott Lankford

President's Award – Terry Goldsby

Certificates of Appreciation were given to the following outgoing board members:

Craig Aguillard
Greg Wall
David Brewster
John Madsen
Sherry Whitaker
Greg Reynolds

Bob Gunkel then recognized Bryan Goldsby as the new president of the MSAPMS. Bryan then presented Bob with a plaque for his service as MSAPMS President.

A motion was made by Craig Aguillard to adjourn, the motion was seconded, and the motion was unanimous.

**Visit the MSAPMS Website: www.msapms.org
The membership list can be viewed by using the following:**

User Name: msapms Password: lilypad

An Update on Mississippi's Problematic Aquatic Plants

John D. Madsen

Mississippi is not well known for having invasive aquatic plant problems, but the prevalence of water in the state and the warm climate create the opportunity for widespread aquatic plant problems. Five plants in particular have created significant problems in the state.

Alligatorweed. Alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) is a major nuisance problem in ditches, streams, bayous and wetlands across the state. The main control technique employed has been the alligatorweed flea beetle (*Agasicles philoxeroides*), which has been particularly effective in the southern portion of the state. Herbicides, including imazapyr and 2,4-D, have also been effective. Alligatorweed problems have been particularly significant in the bayous of the Delta in the past few years. These bayous conduct runoff water to the Mississippi River, reducing flooding to this significant agricultural area. While biocontrol augmentation has been used in one reservoir, herbicides have been more widely used in this region.

Cuban Bulrush. Cuban bulrush (*Scirpus cubensis*) has spread rapidly throughout the Tennessee-Tombigbee waterway in the past few years. The Tenn-Tom runs from the TVA reservoirs in the north to Mobile Bay in the south. Cuban bulrush has been spreading northwards, overgrowing mats of waterhyacinth. At the moment, no control techniques have been implemented on this recent invader.

Giant salvinia. Giant salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*) has been found in several locations in the southern part of the state. The infestation in the Leaf River near Petal, MS continues to persist and spread, despite several herbicide treatments and the release of the salvinia weevil (*Cyrtobagous salviniae*). The giant salvinia population in the Pascagoula River estuary was

decimated by Hurricane Katrina, and has apparently been eradicated by follow-up herbicide treatments by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

Hydrilla. Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) has been found in several reservoirs in Mississippi. Ross Barnett Reservoir near Jackson has approximately 150 acres, which is under active management by the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District. Several reservoirs in the Tennessee-Tombigbee waterway, including Lakes Aberdeen and Columbus, have populations of hydrilla, which are not under management.

Waterhyacinth. Waterhyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) is found throughout the state, causing problems in numerous systems. Waterhyacinth is being actively managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers in the Tennessee-Tombigbee waterway using herbicides. The Pearl River Valley Water Supply District has been managing waterhyacinth in the Ross Barnett Reservoir since the early 1990's, mostly using 2,4-D.

These and other plants will be documented using a new web-based database under development at the GeoResources Institute. The Invasive Plant Atlas of the Mid-South (IPAMS) will track the locations of these and other aquatic plant species, as well as terrestrial invasive plants. IPAMS, which can be viewed at www.gri.msstate.edu/ipams, will launch in the near future.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that a number of native plant species including duckweed, watermeal, southern naiad, and others cause problems in the numerous farm ponds throughout the state. These problems, while small in area, are the source of the most frequently asked questions for controlling aquatic plants in Mississippi.



Giant Salvinia infestation near Petal, MS. Photo by Wilfredo Robles.

BASF Agricultural Products appoints Paul Rea director of Specialty Products Division

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC, September 4, 2007 - BASF Agricultural Products (AP) announced it has appointed Paul Rea as director of its Specialty Products Division (SPD). The SPD group consists of three businesses within BASF AP, including Professional Pest Control, Professional Turf & Ornamentals and Professional Vegetation Management.

Paul has been with BASF for more than six years and his most recent assignment was director of regional marketing for North America. Prior to that, he was involved in the company's divestiture of the Microflo business and global marketing efforts for BASF's line of herbicides.

Have You Paid Your Membership Dues

The society currently has 99 paid members for 2007-2008, an increase of 9 members over the previous year. There are also another 40 people who have not paid there dues for this coming year.

Membership dues for 2008 are being accepted so make sure your membership is up to date. Those that attended the national APMS in July have already paid their dues for 2008. A note to all members, if you know of someone who is not a member and should be, please urge them to become a member of the Midsouth APMS.

January Newsletter Deadline December 15, 2007

Send Newsletter Items to:

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Thank you, Sustaining Members



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NATIONAL INVASIVE WEED AWARENESS WEEK

WHAT: Ninth Annual National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week
WHEN: February 24 - 29, 2008
WHERE: Washington, D.C.
WHO: Organizations and Individuals who Support Invasive Weed Management and Ecosystem Restoration

The Ninth Annual National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW 9) will be held in Washington, D.C. the week of **February 24 to February 29, 2008** to bring people and groups from across the country together to focus national attention on the severe impacts caused by invasive weeds. Individuals and organizations interested in this issue are invited to participate in this event and help build on the success of NIWAW activities in previous years. NIWAW 9 events are designed to focus on the important roles the Federal government must play to help the U.S. deal with invasive weed problems. We have also designed the schedule to provide ample time for attendees to meet with their Congressional delegations, individual federal agencies and each other.

NIWAW 9 Event Highlights

- Standing exhibits at the United States Botanic Garden Conservatory
- Sunday Kid's Fun Day Activities at the United States Botanic Garden Conservatory
- Sunday evening Mixer at the Hotel
- Monday morning breakfast and kickoff session on current national invasive weed issues.
- Tuesday evening reception at the United States Botanic Garden Conservatory for participants and our Washington allies to socialize in a pleasant and relaxed setting
- Tuesday afternoon briefing by the Corps of Engineers
- Tuesday and Wednesday briefings with the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and the Interior.
- Wednesday afternoon NGO Partnership Building Roundtable
- Thursday morning special meeting of FICMNEW (Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds)
- Thursday afternoon briefing by the Environmental Protection Agency
- Special meetings with Federal Agencies on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

NIWAW 9 is organized by the Invasive Weeds Awareness Coalition, a Washington D.C.-based coalition dedicated to increasing awareness of invasive weed problems and the associated research and management needs. Although some events during the week are open to the public, access to the full array of activities will require payment of a modest registration fee.

For More Details Please Visit The NIWAW 9 Website

http://www.nawma.org/niwaw/niwaw_index.htm

Four Points by Sheraton Hotel

1201 K Street NW, Washington, DC is the Headquarters Hotel for NIWAW 9

For additional information on NIWAW 9 contact:

Dr. Nelroy Jackson (951-279-7787) or nelroyjackson@sbcglobal.net

NIWAW 9 Registration Deadline: FEBRUARY 1, 2008

"NIWAW Block" Hotel Reservations (202-289-7600) Deadline: JANUARY 24, 2008

Calendar of Events

September 17 - 19, 2007

Texas Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting
Canyon of the Eagles Burnett, Texas

www.tapms.org

October 2 - 4, 2007

31st Annual Meeting of the Florida Aquatic Plant
Management Society
St. Petersburg, Florida

www.fapms.org

October 30 - November 2, 2007

Orlando Symposium
North American Lake Management Society
Orlando, Florida

www.nalms.org

January 14 - 16, 2008

9th Annual Meeting of the Northeast Aquatic Plant
Management Society
West Dover, Vermont

<http://www.neapms.net/>

February 4 - 7, 2008

Weed Science Society of America Annual Meeting
Chicago, Illinois

www.wssa.net

MidSouth APMS Newsletter

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