

TEXAS MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 39

January

2019



Photo courtesy of Christy Almond

Editor – James Garcia

Asst. Editors – Patrick Prather, Salvador Rico, William Sames

**Dear TMCA Members,
So, you think you got
me this year? With all
those lovely fall
rains, I'll be back
next season AND I'm
bringing all my blood
thirsty friends! I'll be
ready, will you?**

**Since 1985, your
dearest nemesis,**

Aedes albopictus

2019 Texas Mosquito Control Association Board of Directors

President	Mike Nichols	Target Specialty Products, (713) 682-4411; mike.nichols@target-specialty.com
President-elect	Salvador Rico	HCPHES Mosquito Control Div., 3330 Old Spanish Trail, Bldg. D, Houston, TX 77021; (713) 440-4800; srico@hcphe.org
1st Vice-President	Greg Marciniak	Jefferson County Mosquito Control, 8905 First St., Beaumont, TX 77705; (409) 719-5927; gmarciniak@co.jefferson.tx.us
2nd Vice-President	Nina Dacko	TCPH Vector Control, 1101 S Main St. Fort Worth, TX 76104; nmdacko@tarrantcounty.com
Director	James Garcia	City of Baytown Mosquito Control, 220 W Defee Ave, Baytown, TX 77520 (281) 425-1008; james.garcia@baytown.org
Director	Larry Heller	550 Aero Lane, Sanford, FL 32771; 800-367-0659; lheller@myadapco.com
Secretary	Meagan Wise-de Valdez	Texas A&M San Antonio, One University Way, San Antonio, Texas 78224 (210) 784-2218; mwise@tamusa.edu
Treasurer	Richard Duhrkopf	PO Box 906, Hewitt, TX 76643; (254) 744-8497; rick_duhrkopf@baylor.edu
Past President	William Sames	Medical Entomology Consultant; mosquitodoctor@yahoo.com

2019 Texas Mosquito Control Association Standing Committees

Legislative	Mike Nichols, Chair	R. Duhrkopf
Membership	Greg Marciniak, Chair	M. Nichols, M. Johnsen
Program	Nina Dacko, Chair	Board of Directors
Publicity/Newsletter/Media	Nina Dacko, Chair	J. Garcia (Chair, Newsletter Subcommittee), M. McNairn (Chair, Website Subcommittee), S. Rico (Chair, Social Media Subcommittee), M. Nichols, P. Prather, W. Sames, S. Sawlis
Scholarship & Awards	Jeff Flosi, Chair	R. Duhrkopf

2019 Texas Mosquito Control Association Special Committees

Auditing	Mike Nichols, Chair	M. Johnsen, P. Beebe, C. Fredregill, W. Sames
Constitution, By-laws & Resolutions	William Sames, Chair	W. Becker, M. Nichols, S. Sawlis
Financial Support	Patrick Beebe, Chair	J. Flosi, M. Nichols
Local Arrangements	Rick Duhrkopf, Chair	R. Duhrkopf, M. Nichols
Nominating	William Sames, Chair	R. Duhrkopf, J. Flosi, S. Sawlis
Young Professionals	Eleanor Kirkscey, Chair	E. Chu, K. Dye-Braumuller, K. Haydett, E. Plaisance, S. Peper
Systematics	Jeff Flosi, Chair	R. Duhrkopf, W. Sames
Workshop CEU's	Rick Duhrkopf, Chair	J. Flosi, M. Nichols

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CONTINUOUSLY
CONTROLLED.**

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Mike Nichols

Message from the President Mike Nichols

According to an old Chinese proverb, “When the winds of change blow, some people build walls and others build windmills.” Here we are in January...a brand-new year. Welcome to 2019. With every passing year comes change. Often, we find change to be welcome, and at other times we bemoan it. But one thing is for sure, change is inevitable, and TMCA is not immune to it. We can either stand against it or embrace it. There have been a few recent changes within TMCA, with more on the horizon, and I would like to share those with you.

For decades, TMCA has been overseen by a Board of Directors consisting of eight elected members and a semi-permanent Treasurer. Ascension through the ranks of the Board meant committing to an eight-year term of service to the Association, along with traveling to up to four meetings per year. Let’s face it...an eight-year commitment is asking a lot of someone,

even amongst TMCA’s ranks where members tend to be part of the Association for a long time if not for life. In 2017, Dr. Bill Sames brought a proposal before the Board to turn the clock back to TMCA’s roots where there were two tracks of Board membership, one six-year track for the regular Board with normal ascension through the ranks, and a separate two-year track for the two Director positions. This proposal offered two advantages: 1) it would allow members who wished to serve on the Board two options regarding the length of the time commitment, and 2) it would mean that two Board members would be elected annually, thereby increasing the participation opportunities for members. This proposal was voted on at the 2017 Annual Business Meeting, and then was enacted this past fall when TMCA held its Board of Directors elections at the 2018 Annual Business Meeting. Hopefully our members see the value in this new structure, and I hope many of you take advantage of the increased opportunity to serve the Association as a Board member.

Dr. Sames, as TMCA president in 2018, also initiated another change regarding the Board. Even though the organized mosquito control districts in Texas are heavily concentrated along the coastal region, our Board members are elected from across the state with the intent to provide representation to various regions. As you know Texas is a very large state and traveling across it can take longer than we all like at times. The Board normally meets four times per year, once each in conjunction with both the annual fall meeting and the spring workshop, and then once each in the summer and winter. Dr. Sames suggested that the Board start utilizing technology (conference calls / web meetings) for the summer and winter meetings to save on travel as well as the associated costs for these meetings, and the Board agreed. We did such successfully for these meetings in 2018, and we have opted to continue this practice for 2019. Our association business still gets handled, and there is a cost and time savings for both our Board members and the Association.

A change that many members would like to make is like our change in Board structure in that it reflects back on a practice from years ago, and that is the addition of a periodic joint fall annual meeting between TMCA and LMCA. For a few decades TMCA and LMCA would occasionally hold their annual meetings jointly, rotating each time the state responsible for hosting. These meetings would be held somewhere near the Texas / Louisiana border to keep travel to a minimum for the visiting members. These meetings brought a synergy, providing exposure to new speakers, new topics, and new points of view to attendees. The possibility for renewing these joint meetings has been discussed between the TMCA and LMCA Boards, and a joint committee between the Associations has been formed to look into its feasibility. I personally enjoyed each of the joint meetings that I attended in the past, and I hope our members see the value that this could bring to them. The only issue that arises is our members’ ability to get approval regarding interstate travel. Since many of our members are government employees, their ability to travel out of state can be limited. You should soon see a survey published by TMCA, either in this newsletter or shortly thereafter,

regarding your ability to travel out of state, and I encourage each of you to respond so that the Board can make an informed decision regarding a joint meeting.

Another “change” has been desired by members for years now, but has so far eluded us, and that is the need for a new, fresh, up-to-date website. The Board has discussed various formats and costs numerous times but failed to come up with a firm plan. More than once members have volunteered to help complete the design of a new website, only to get deep into it and realize that it required much more time than they had to give. At the end of the day, our Board and associated Committees consist of volunteers, the majority of which have regular jobs and various other commitments, so expecting one individual to complete this task is probably out of the question. I could tell you a lot of reasons why we don’t have a current website, but I know no one wants any more excuses. I am pleased to let you know that our procrastination and proverbial kicking the can down the road is going to end. Our Website Subcommittee, part of our Publicity, Newsletter and Media Committee, has identified two different platforms for us to use, and will be reporting their recommendation to the Board within days of me writing this message. Shortly thereafter, the Board will hold a vote on which platform we will use, and we will immediately move forward on our new website. I am unable to provide a firm date for completion at this time, but I can commit to you that we will move forward on this issue at long last.

And finally, let me shift from some of the needed and wanted changes to some of the changes that give us pause, despite the fact that we acknowledge we must move forward. Stephen R. Covey wrote “The key is in not spending time, but in investing it.” There are two individuals who I would like to recognize for the tremendous amount of time they have invested in TMCA over the course of their lives. Dr. Richard Duhrkopf, former professor at Baylor University, and Dr. Jeff Flosi, former professor at the University of Houston Downtown, both retired from their respective universities this past year. Each of these gentlemen have spent decades serving TMCA (and sometimes AMCA) in various capacities, either as a Board member, a Committee Chair, or in other means. Currently, Dr. Duhrkopf serves as the Association Treasurer, as well as serving as Chair of both the Workshop and CEUs Committee and the Local Arrangements Committee. Dr. Flosi currently serves as Chair of both the Awards and Scholarships Committee and the Systematics Committee. To list all the capacities in which they have served over the years would take up more space than I have for this article. Though both of these gentlemen are still involved in TMCA, they have expressed that they will also be retiring from these roles in the near future. Their shoes will prove difficult to fill when they choose to finally step away. So many times, people retire and move on with little fanfare, and we never get to thank them for their contributions. Hopefully this will not be one of those times. I want to personally thank both of them for their countless contributions to TMCA, and I hope each of you will take the time to visit with them at one of the meetings this year and do the same. Dr. Duhrkopf and Dr. Flosi, thank you both for your many years of service to TMCA.

Again, change, whether good or bad, is something we can’t escape. And with that, I leave you with a quote from writer William Arthur Ward: “The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.”

Position Announcement – Membership Committee Chair

Greg Marciniak, who has been the TMCA Membership Committee Chair for many years, is planning to retire in about 3 years. He is looking for a person who is interested working with him at the Workshop and Annual Meeting Registration desk to learn the procedures and requirements, then taking over for him in two or so years. This volunteer position is critical to the TMCA. Interested persons should contact Greg directly at membership@texasmosquito.org.

TMCA Spring Workshop – March 13-14, 2019

The Hampton Inn, 2010 Civic Center Lane, Waxahachie, TX, 75168

Phone: 972-923-0666; Use code “TMC;” Rate: \$89 per night

Pre-Registration Deadline is March 6, 2019!



What's in Waxahachie?

Things to see and do: <http://www.waxahachiecvb.com/businesses/things-to-see--do>

Dining: <http://www.waxahachiecvb.com/businesses/dining>

Shopping: <http://www.waxahachiecvb.com/businesses/shopping>

Special Event: March is the Tulip Festival in Waxahachie, Ellis County!

PROGRAM - 2019 TMCA Spring Workshop March 13&14, Waxahachie, Texas

Tuesday (afternoon), March 12

4:00-10:00 **Exhibitor Set Up**
5:00-7:00 **Early Bird Social**
7:00 **Board of Directors Meeting**

1:30 ELEMENTS OF INTEGRATED MOSQUITO CONTROL
2:30 **Break**
3:00 CHEMICAL CONTROL
3:45 EQUIPMENT CALIBRATION
4:00 SAFETY AND HANDLING OF CHEMICALS

Wednesday, March 13

7:30-8:30 **Breakfast**
8:00-12:00 **Registration**
8:30-12:00 **First Program Series**
8:30 WELCOMING
REMARKS/INVOCATION
8:45 WORKSHOP INTRODUCTION – INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT
9:00 MOSQUITO BIOLOGY
10:00 **Break**
10:30 MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES
11:45 EXHIBITOR INTRO/PRESENTATION
12:00-13:00 **Lunch**
1:00-4:00 **Second Program Series**
1:00 SURVEILLANCE

Thursday, March 14

7:00-8:30 **Breakfast**
8:30-11:30 **Third Program Series**
8:30 PUBLIC RELATIONS
9:00 INSECTICIDE RESISTANCE
MANAGEMENT
9:30 PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER – THE PLAN OF ACTION
10:00 **Break**
10:30 ROUND TABLE QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION
11:00 UPDATE ON RULES AND REGULATIONS
12:00 **Adjourn Workshop Program**

TEXAS MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION
2019 Spring Workshop
March 13-14, 2019, Waxahachie, Texas
PRE- REGISTRATION FORM
Registration is free; Membership in TMCA is \$30
5 TDA CEUs are free to members, \$100 for non-members
Pre-Registration Deadline is March 6, 2019

Please type or print clearly! We must be able to read your information!

Name: _____ TDA License #: _____

Employer: _____ Position: _____

Work Street Address (or PO Box): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Work Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

I wish to receive CEUs: YES / NO 5 TDA Pest Control Operator CEUs are pending at this Workshop – free to members, \$100 for non-members).

I wish to become a member: YES / NO (\$30 for calendar year 2019) (Memberships are on a calendar-year basis. New memberships are retroactive to Jan.1, 2019 and expire Dec. 31, 2019.)

I want a Certificate of Attendance: YES / NO (if not receiving CEUs)

Total fee submitted: _____ *Checks payable to TMCA*

It is not necessary to send any payment due with pre-registration, you can pre-register, then pay at the door. If you are unsure of your membership status, call or email me.

Gregory M. Marciniak
Jefferson County Mosquito Control
8905 First Street, Beaumont, TX 77705 Phone (409)719-5927 Fax (409)727-4176
Email: membership@texasmosquito.org



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TMCA Administrative Notes

Publishing in the TMCA Newsletter. The TMCA newsletter is a medium for getting information to TMCA members. Newsletter content is based upon contributions from TMCA officers and members, and whatever the editor can come up with to fill blank spaces and make the newsletter fun and informative. If you have information that would benefit TMCA members feel free to submit that information to the TMCA Editor or one of the several Assistant Editors. Normally, we print 4 issues per year with each issue coming out shortly after the quarterly Board of Directors meeting. Ideally, newsletters are sent in January, May, August, and November. Photos and mosquito related-humor are also welcomed. Have artistic talent? Consider drawing a design for the cover.

Advertise in the TMCA Newsletter. Advertising rates are \$50 for a whole letter-sized (8.5 x 11 inches) page ad. Half page ads are \$30 (8.5 x 5.5) Submit copy ready artwork to the TMCA Editor. Electronic files in MS Word or PDF are preferred.

AMCA Annual Meeting, February 25 – March 1, 2019, Caribe Royal Resort, Orlando, FL.

TMCA Committees. Interested in serving on a TMCA Committee? If yes, please contact the Committee Chair, let them know you want to be on the committee and ask what you can do to get involved and help the TMCA.

Help! Information Needed from You!

The TMCA and Louisiana Mosquito Control Association (LMCA) are planning a Joint LMCA/TMCA Annual Meeting in as early as the fall of 2020 with the first of these joint meetings being in Louisiana (possibly Lake Charles or other location close to the Texas state line). A question arose about how this might affect travel funds for city, county, or state officials (some may not allow travel across state lines).

Ask you travel department if they will fund your attendance at a Joint LMCA/TMCA meeting IF the meeting location is in Louisiana and let me know what they say.

Send replies to Bill Sames – mosquitodoctor@yahoo.com

Thanks!

Heavy Rains in Hill Country Strand TMCA President



After a drought for most of 2018, more-abundant-than-usual rains fell in the hill country west of Austin and northwest of San Antonio. The washout of the Llano River Bridge on FM 2900 near Kingsland made

national news and many people were affected by flash flooding in other creeks and rivers.

The night before the start of the TMCA Annual Meeting, the Frio River and the creek going by the house of 2018 TMCA President, Bill Sames, flooded and remained impassible for 4 days. The flood covered the dirt road with 4 feet of water at its highest point, washed out several creek crossings and moved large rocks into the roadway.

With Bill Sames stranded behind floodwaters, President-Elect Mike Nichols took charge and conducted the Annual Meeting.



Protecting Public Health Together

ADAPCO supports you in your mission to protect public health. We partner with the leading manufacturers in the industry to provide you with trusted products and innovative mosquito control solutions. Complemented by superior technical expertise, our technically-trained sales force and quality products and logistics, we provide unsurpassed value to our suppliers and customers. Backed by the global network and industry excellence of Azelis, ADAPCO is ready to solve any and all of your mosquito control needs. Call Larry Heller today at (877) 923-2726.

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Texas Department of State Health Services

Arbovirus Surveillance Program

The primary objective of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Arbovirus Laboratory surveillance program is to detect the presence of arboviruses in mosquito populations prior to the development of human disease. Mosquito specimens are collected by various city and county health departments, health service regions, military installations, universities, and local mosquito control programs in Texas and submitted to the Arbovirus Laboratory for species identification and arbovirus testing. Arbovirus testing is routinely conducted from May through November of each year, but this period may be extended in the event of an outbreak. Mosquitoes received at other times of the year are counted and identified to species, but not tested. Testing is conducted using molecular-based assays, which target human pathogens of public health importance in Texas: West Nile, St. Louis encephalitis, Eastern and Western equine encephalitis, Zika, chikungunya, and dengue viruses. The molecular-based testing includes multiplex and single-plex real-time RT-PCR assays. In addition to the molecular testing, cell culture-based surveillance testing is conducted on a proportion (~10-15%) of submitted mosquitoes in order to screen for newly emerging arboviruses. During the testing season, when an arbovirus-positive mosquito pool is detected, laboratory personnel notify the agency that submitted the specimens and the appropriate DSHS Public Health Region (PHR), as well as the Zoonosis Control Branch. The responsible PHR works with the submitting agency to help assess any health threats and determine mosquito control measures that need to be initiated based on the virus detected.

If you are interested in participating in our surveillance program or have questions, please contact Bethany Bolling at 512.776.2442 or bethany.bolling@dshs.texas.gov. We encourage your continued efforts towards elimination of potential mosquito breeding areas, especially near homes and communities, as an effective way to protect against all mosquito-borne diseases. These are the recommended actions that can help protect communities:

- Initiate or enhance monitoring and surveillance of mosquito activity.
- Accelerate mosquito abatement efforts.
- Develop a local contingency plan for mosquito abatement and surveillance; plan for additional control measures if needed.
- Encourage people to report illegal dumpsites and standing water; respond quickly to these complaints.
- Implement efforts to clean up illegal dumpsites and collect heavy trash.
- Keep public drains and ditches clear of weeds and trash so water will not collect.
- Treat standing water with larvicide (such as mosquito “dunks”) when it cannot be drained and the water will be present for more than seven days.
- Conduct neighborhood outreach about precautions people can take to protect themselves and their families from mosquito bites.

Bethany Bolling MS, PhD
Texas Department of State Health Services
Laboratory Services Section
Arbovirus-Entomology Laboratory
P.O. Box 149347
Austin, TX 78714-9347
Office: 512-776-2442
Lab: 512-776-2731



WORKSHOP INFORMATION

This Workshop is designed to train personnel in cities and municipalities that are in the field of mosquito abatement or are working on setting up a mosquito control program. The workshop will educate personnel on mosquito identification, biology, ecology, control tactics, trap use, surveillance, virus testing, Zika and mosquito control.

LOCATIONS:

Rosenberg - Feb 19th
Victoria - Feb 20th
Abilene - March 8th
Grapevine - March 20th
(registration will be through Municipal Mosquito - there will be a fee at this location)
Tyler - March 29th
Weslaco - April 3rd
Round Rock - April 10th
San Antonio - April 30th
Houston - May 1st
(registration will be through Harris County MCD)
El Paso - May 9th
Lubbock - May 14th
Wichita Falls - TBD

**NO CHARGE FOR
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5 AGRICULTURE:

3 STRUCTURAL:

AND

**ANIMAL
CONTROL CE'S**



Register Online FREE OF CHARGE at
<http://livestockvetento.tamu.edu/workshop-registration>
Or Call Heidi Nivens @ 254-968-4144 ext. 225

TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION



Preparation for the TDA Non-Commercial Political Pesticide Applicator License General Standards & Category 12 Public Health

The following courses will be held for people wanting to obtain a Noncommercial political subdivision (NCPS) License Category 12, Public Health. Which is an applicator employed by a political subdivision of the state of Texas or a federal agency operating in Texas.

Weslaco - Feb 12 & 13, 2019
San Antonio - April 23 & 24, 2019
Round Rock - May 29 & 30, 2019
Fort Bend - July 16 & 17, 2019
Tyler - August 27 & 28, 2019
Victoria - September 10 & 11, 2019

Register at
livestockvetento.tamu.edu
or
254-968-4144 ext 225

Classes from 8 - 5 - Attendance mandatory for both days
Manuals and all preparation for testing provided
FREE OF CHARGE - includes lunch and continental breakfast

Funded by:



TMCA Board of Directors - October 2018 – October 2019



L to R seated: Nina Dacko – 2nd Vice President, Mike Nichols – President, Salvador Rico – President Elect, Rick Duhrkopf – Treasurer, Megan Wise de Valdez – Secretary, Back Row L to R: James Garcia - Director, Larry Heller - Director, Greg Marciniak – 1st Vice President. Not pictured: Bill Sames – Past President.

TMCA Committee & Subcommittee Chairs

October 2018 – October 2019



L to R seated: Meagan McNairn (Website), Nina Dacko (Program; Publicity, Newsletter, and Media); Kyndall Braumueller (Young Professionals); Patrick Beebe (Financial Support); Salvador Rico (Social Media); L to R backrow: Jeff Flosi (Awards and Scholarships; Systematics); James Garcia (Newsletter); Mike Nichols (Legislative; Auditing); Greg Marciniak (Membership), Rick Duhrkopf (Local Arrangements; Workshop CEUs); Not Pictured: Bill Sames (Nominating; Constitution and By-Laws)

2018 TMCA Annual Meeting Vendor Support

The companies listed on these pages exhibited at the TMCA Annual Meeting in Victoria. Sponsoring companies are acknowledged in parenthesis. Please remember those who support TMCA when you seek mosquito surveillance and control products.

Photos by Salvador Rico.



John Hatcher for City Solution Services.
(Exhibitor)



Mike Nichols for Target Specialty Products.
(Exhibitor, Sponsored Coffee Break)



Mike Theriot, Keith Haas, and Ron Dedeke (not pictured) for Univar Environmental Services. (Exhibitor, Sponsored Coffee Break)



Larry Heller for ADAPCO.
(Exhibitor, Sponsored Lunch and Key Note Speaker)



Doug Carroll for Clarke Mosquito Control Products (Exhibitor, Contributing Sponsor & Hospitality Hour)



Donnie Powers for FMC (Fyfanon).
(Exhibitor)

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The companies listed on these pages exhibited at the TMCA Annual Meeting in Victoria. Sponsoring companies are acknowledged in parenthesis. Please remember those who support TMCA when you seek mosquito surveillance and control products.

Photos by Salvador Rico.



Dean May for AMVAC.
(Exhibitor, Contributing Sponsor & Lunch)



Jason Williams for VDCI.
(Exhibitor, Sponsored Coffee Break)



Sydney Morris for Leading Edge Associates.
(Exhibitor)



Candace Royals for Valent BioSciences
(Exhibitor, Contributing Sponsor)



Daniel Portillo and Jackie Surls for Pro Lab Diagnostics
(Picture not available) (Exhibitor)



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- Full range of identification
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Larval Control

- Truck/UTV Liquid Larviciding
- Intensive inspection and treatment



Adult Control

- Truck Mounted ULV Fogging
- Off-road UTV Fogging
- ULV/Backpack ULV Fogging
- Barrier Spray



Consulting

- Insecticide Resistance Testing
- Mosquito insectorly
- Staff training/PPE/Safety



2018 TMCA Annual Meeting: Young Professionals Activities

by Kyndall Dye-Braumuller

The 2018 Young Professionals Committee comprised 6 members: Kyndall Dye-Braumuller (Chair), Elaine Chu, Eleanor Kirkscey, Erin Plaisance, Steve Peper, and Katie Haydett.

After a year of planning and ‘advertising’ to the TMCA membership about the new Young Professionals group, the TMCA YP Committee is proud to say that our first annual meeting as a legitimate group was a success. We are the first official ‘off-shoot’ state group of the AMCA Young Professionals, and we planned and executed the first TMCA Student Competition since the 1990s, in which we had 3 strong competitors:

Lisset Martinez-Berman (Texas A&M University-San Antonio): Knowledge, Attributes, and Practices Survey Associated with Mosquito-Borne Diseases, and the Premise Condition Index

Steve T. Peper (Texas Tech University): Modeling Human West Nile Virus Cases from Lubbock County, Texas

Amy Senger (Texas A&M University-San Antonio): Attitudes and Personality Associated with Mosquitoes and Mosquito-Borne Diseases

Lisset Martinez-Berman won first place in the competition, including a \$500 reward, and Steve Peper won second place and a \$200 reward. Congratulations to all of our participants!!!

In addition to the amazing talks given by our students, we also organized a YP Dinner during the annual meeting. All of the Young Professionals were invited to meet at a local restaurant, and TMCA President-Elect, Mike Nichols, even joined in on the fun to get to know the YPs a little better. We had approximately 15 YPs in attendance at dinner, and we had a great time getting to know each other and talking about the future for the TMCA YP group.

Lastly, we were told on the last day of the conference that AMVAC would like to commit \$1,000 to the TMCA Young Professionals every year, and we are beyond excited to be able to use this for the professional development and future activities for the TMCA Young Professionals.

THANK YOU to all the seasoned professionals who supported the Young Professionals by sending students, advertising, volunteering as judges, or even expressing your excitement for our group. We could not have been able to establish this group without all of you. Please encourage your students, new employees, and young professionals to become involved—we would love to see them at future meetings!!

Calling all Vector Control Department Directors!

In an effort to investigate the vector control capabilities throughout the State of Texas, we are conducting a survey to gather data such as capabilities including mosquito surveillance/treatment operations, disease testing and notifications, jurisdiction size, etc. If you are in charge of a vector control department, please consider completing this brief survey (link below). Ideally, the results of this study will bring insight and attention into the status of our state-wide vector control operations.

If you have any questions regarding this study, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Steve Peper (steve.peper@ttu.edu; 806-834-6646) or Dr. Steve Presley (steve.presley@ttu.edu; 806-885-0236).

Please follow this link to take the survey: <https://evaluate.ttu.edu/surveys/?s=W8HRACFMAY>

TMCA Young Professionals Student Paper Competition



First Place – Lisset Martinez-Berman, Texas A&M University at San Antonio (L to R: Dr. Megan Wise de Valdez, Kendall Dye-Braumuller, Lisset Martinez-Berman, Mike Nichols, President-Elect)



Second Place – Steve Peper, Texas Tech University (L to R: Steve Peper, Mike Nichols, President-Elect)

2018 SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATIONS

One scholarship, the James D. Long Undergraduate Scholarship, was awarded at the TMCA Annual Meeting held in Victoria, Texas. The recipient was Ms. Cierra Briggs, an entomology and biomedical sciences double major at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. Working under the direction of Dr. Gabe Hamer, Cierra's research will involve the use of DNAtrox as a potential new technique to mark mosquitoes for a variety of research applications. DNAtrox is a unique non-coding DNA fragment encapsulate by a sugar that was developed at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory for the purpose of assessing aerosol transport in an indoor environment. Research objectives include testing the ability of mosquitoes to pick up DNAtrox at different concentrations and simulations of the field environment to evaluate the stability of DNAtrox over time.

In addition to the scholarship, the TMCA also awarded two research incentive awards in the amount of \$500 each to two undergraduate students at Texas A&M University San Antonio. The recipients were Ms. Amy R. Senger and Ms. Lisset Martinez-Berman who are working under the direction of Dr. Megan Wise de Valdez.



Dr. Jeff Flosi with Lisset Martinez-Berman and Amy Senger, recipients of research incentive awards in the amount of \$500.

ADAPCO Keynote Speaker – Michael Doyle

“The History and Challenges of Container Breeding Mosquitoes”



Michael Doyle receives the ADAPCO Keynote Speaker Award from ADAPCO Representative Larry Heller

Michael Doyle of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Resources was this year's ADAPCO Keynote Speaker. He spoke about “The History and Challenges of Container Breeding Mosquitoes” and for those who missed his presentation, here is a condensed version of his presentation for your reading pleasure.

The history of invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes, such *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*, spans hundreds of years in the Americas. But this history took an abrupt turn when Dr. Fred Soper and others from the Rockefeller Foundation made an attempt to totally eradicate another disease vector, *Anopheles gambiae*, from Brazil

in the early twentieth century. To the amazement of many, it worked. The idea that a mosquito species could be eradicated from a city or country took hold, and with the introduction of DDT, resulted in *Aedes aegypti*'s disappearance (or very nearly so) from 20 South and Central American countries. The number of lives saved was astounding. Had these efforts continued, the world would likely not have experienced the resurgence of dengue, yellow fever, and the more recent Zika epidemic. Could this idea of eradication be practical in the present for *Ae. aegypti* or *Ae. albopictus* today? *Aedes albopictus*, which remained in Asia and adjacent areas from the 1950's to 1980, spread rapidly into the U.S. and Brazil in the 1980's, then throughout South America and into Australia and Europe in the 1990's and 2000's. The current tools against these species are many, but none have the unique knockdown speed, nor persistence, of DDT. The current tools include educating the public to remove water sources, hand and area-wide larval control, auto-dissemination traps, and adulticiding. While all of these, singly and in combination, show promise in reducing these species to low levels, none show the eradication potential of a combination of nationwide, highly disciplined control efforts using a persistent insecticide like DDT. The only current technique which even has the potential for eradication is the Sterile Insect Technique, using irradiation, bacterial infection, genetic modification, or a combination of these techniques. This method has been used successfully against other insects and needs to be attempted over large areas before we will know its full potential against mosquitoes. As Fred Soper advocated, *Ae. aegypti* (and likely *Ae. albopictus* as well) must be viewed “as a long-term, national, regional and worldwide problem rather than a temporary local threat to the communities suffering at any given moment from yellow fever, dengue, or other *aegypti*-borne disease. No one can foresee the extent of the future threat of *Aedes aegypti* to mankind as a vector of known virus diseases; and none can foretell what other virus diseases may yet affect regions where *Ae. aegypti* is permitted to remain.”



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2018 TMCA Annual Meeting Pictures by Salvador Rico!



2018 TMCA Annual Meeting Pictures *by Salvador Rico!*



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Texas Mosquito Control Association

Membership Application

Purpose: To assist in promoting public health and comfort through the control of disease transmitting and pestiferous mosquitoes, to provide for the scientific advancement of Association members, and to stimulate public interest in mosquito control activities.

Publications: A Newsletter is published quarterly and emailed to active members. The Association web site is located at <http://www.texasmosquito.org>

TMCA Annual Fall Meeting: Held each year during October at an announced site within the state. Papers presented at this meeting are primarily technical reports dealing with new and improved methods of mosquito control, new insecticides and application techniques. Basic research related to mosquito life cycles, bionomics, diseases, and natural histories are also presented. Distributors are present to display and answer questions about their equipment and chemicals. A registration fee is required to attend.

TMCA Spring Workshop: Held each year during February or March at an announced site within the state. This is a basic training workshop on the operational aspects of mosquito control. Topics include general mosquito biology, mosquito borne diseases, sampling and surveillance techniques, methods of mosquito control, public relations, equipment maintenance, chemicals and chemical safety, record keeping, administrative problems, and advanced operational training in calibration, droplet size determination, mosquito identification, and surveillance devices and techniques. Distributors are present to display and demonstrate their products. Registration is free, and several meals are usually provided by the TMCA to help reduce costs to attendees.

CEU's: CEU's for the Texas Department of Health Vector Control Certified Applicator License are offered at the Spring Workshop. Fees are \$20 per hour of CEU requested for non-members, free to all TMCA members. A copy of the TDA regulations can be downloaded from the TMCA web site at <http://www.texasmosquito.org>

Annual Dues: Dues are payable on a calendar year basis. Active Memberships are \$30 per year, and Supporting Memberships are \$60 per year.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Affiliation: _____ Position: _____

Work Mailing Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Membership type applied for: Active (\$30): _____ Sustaining (\$60): _____

Make check payable to:

Texas Mosquito Control Association

Return application & remittance to:

Greg Marciniak, Membership Chairman
Jefferson County Mosquito Control District
8905 First Street
Beaumont, Texas 77705

Phone: 409-719-5927 Fax: 409-727-4176 Email: membership@texasmosquito.org