



Skeeter Scanner

January, 2014

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INFORMATION
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COMMITTEE



www.mimosq.org

President's Message

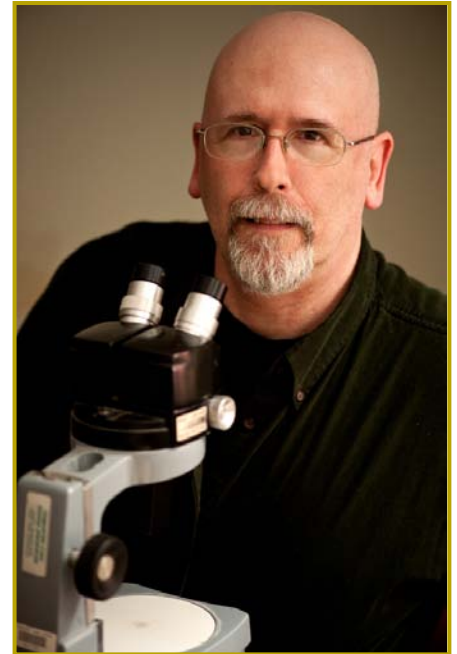
Winter is here with the opportunity to do some deep thinking and reflecting on where we plan to go this upcoming season. Have we learned lessons from past seasons or do we just keep repeating our seasons hoping the mosquitoes will finally get it right? Remember, even if we don't want to change, mosquitoes adapt and so should we. Our winter time can be put to good use refining our methods and thinking to address the ever challenging job of mosquito control.

In October MMCA pulled off another successful 7F training session. This event allows MMCA to reach out to a range of people we don't see on a regular basis. Yet these people are associated with mosquito control and we should reach out to them. Thanks are due to the speakers and attendees. Special thanks go to the Wilmots, Dr. Tom and Gail, for all of their work in planning and organizing this event.

I would like to express my well wishes to Randy Knepper and Tom Anderson as they begin their retirements. Their contributions to MMCA and Michigan mosquito control are many and much appreciated. We wish you the very best.

The various committees have been working very hard preparing for the upcoming conference to be held in Lansing, February 19-20. Take advantage of this annual event to listen to some great talks and network with knowledgeable people from around the industry. Register before January 26 to be assured of the conference room rate. On a final note, I would like to thank MMCA for giving me the opportunity to serve as President with a special thanks to the MMCA Board, you are the best board ever.

Peace,



Dr. Tom Wilmot, Thoughts from the AMCA Board

Dr. Tom Wilmot is the Director of Midland County Mosquito Control and currently serves as Past-President of the American Mosquito Control Association. Tom has served the MMCA for thirty years in various roles, including President and more recently has served the AMCA as Vice-President, President-Elect, President, and Past-President. Anyone who has worked with Tom over the years can attest to the fact that he is an incredible representative for the mosquito control community and is one of just a few individuals who has become our go-to person for any question on mosquitoes, mosquito biology, or mosquito epidemiology. In addition to that, he was the impetus for the MMCA beginning the popular 7F Training Session, an annual event that recently celebrated its fifth anniversary!

Since Dr. Tom's AMCA commitment will soon come to an end, we thought it would be a nice time for an interview to see how he was influenced by this experience.

MMCA: Serving the AMCA as you have (currently completing your Past-President function), means taking on a major leadership role. What were some of the duties expected of you and what has the experience been like as a whole?

Dr. Tom: On the whole, this has been the most rewarding experience of my career. The AMCA Presidency is a four year journey. One of the biggest tasks comes in your first year (Vice-President) as Chair of the Annual Meeting Program Committee. The Association Headquarters team and other volunteers are very helpful so the job is easier than it was many years ago, but it still takes a big time commitment. It can be a very rewarding experience, though. The more time you dedicate to getting people to develop quality presentations and symposia the better will be the program for our annual conference. My biggest headache came from working hard to get as many great presentations as possible and then having to schedule concurrent sessions with all these presentations in effect competing for your attendance.

The President-Elect is chairman of the full Annual Meeting Committee. Again, there is a great group of staff and volunteers to help, but directing the entire affair is both challenging and extremely rewarding.

The AMCA President leads the Board through the year and serves as the face of AMCA to many audiences, most importantly news outlets and other mosquito control organizations. Thankfully I was never asked to appear on national TV (they told me I had a face made for radio). It is interesting, though, to see yourself quoted in national news stories. The most enjoyable part of the four years of service is attending State and Regional association meetings (more on that later). Some Presidents have specific goals for their year in office such as reorganizing the administrative structure; my goal was simply to keep people interested in and informed about mosquito control to help stop or adjust to an increased regulatory environment. It is hard to tell how much success I achieved toward this goal; the association survived the year but we are still waiting to hear about a legislative fix for NPDES.

As Past-President I led the awards and nominating committees which continue the "challenging but rewarding" theme. My final job will be to organize the program for our 2014 Washington D.C. conference. That one is more challenging than rewarding. With a four year term, one important responsibility is to provide some institutional memory and to help maintain continuity and stability on the Board of Directors. This was especially important during my term as we had significant turnover of Board members over the last two years.

Much of what is accomplished by AMCA is done by individuals and committees rather than the Board itself. It is enlightening and encouraging as President to get a better look at all that is done on our behalf but it is difficult when you are asked to look at all that is going on and answer, "So where does AMCA stand on this today?"

MMCA: As AMCA President, I'm sure you were invited to many state association meetings. Can you tell us about some of the cities you travelled to and what you were hearing from folks regarding

what they would most like to see happen to help the field of mosquito control now and in the future?

Dr. Tom: As mentioned above, representing AMCA at State and Regional meetings was by far the most enjoyable part of my service. I got to visit again with my friends from the northwest region and California and to meet many new friends around the country. The most exciting trip was returning to Great Falls, Montana (where my mosquito control career began) to address the Montana MCA. I got to visit cities that I had never seen before such as Mystic, CT and Lafayette, LA and I particularly enjoyed the scenery in West Yellowstone and Destin, FL. I enjoyed getting a better understanding of the different mosquito control programs around the country. For example, most mosquito control/surveillance in Indiana is done by local health department personnel so there were more presentations on rats than mosquitoes at the Indiana meeting. It was quite surprising to hear from many programs at the Northeastern MCA meeting that most or all of what they do is source reduction. Compared to the reaction you get around here, regulators there are quite cooperative because 1) they know people could not live there without control of the salt marsh mosquitoes and 2) the mosquito control work is compatible with marsh management for their own goals (e.g. encouraging native fish species). Speaking of salt marsh mosquitoes, the pictures and stories at the LMCA meeting of mosquitoes along the Louisiana coast overflowing from light trap nets put even our worst spring *Aedes* sites to shame.

The primary request of mosquito control professionals was consistent around the country: just let us do our job. People wanted to see as many different pesticides as possible remain available and have regulators leave commonsense, environmentally-sound activities alone.

MMCA: Can you tell us a bit about the AMCA and what kind of impacts it creates?

Dr. Tom: The AMCA is an organization dedicated to providing information, education and leadership for control of mosquitoes and other vectors around the world. The main point that I tried to convey during my travels around the country is that the emphasis is on you doing your job. We don't want

to provide a journal just to fill your library; we want to provide information that helps you better control mosquitoes. We don't host a conference to make money; we want you to meet people, see equipment & products and hear presentations that help you become more proficient. Hopefully we have helped just a bit at least over the last four years.

MMCA: What was your most memorable experience with AMCA?

Dr. Tom: The most memorable experience over my career was attending my first AMCA conference (Salt Lake City, 1980). As a relatively new mosquito control director, it was amazing to see all that was included in mosquito control around the world and all the products and people available to help me in my program. I still have some of the business cards collected that week. The most memorable experience of these last four years was probably my Presidential Address at the conference in Atlantic City. It was humbling to lay out a vision of goals for the industry and to discuss the achievements to date and challenges yet to be faced. I was grateful to have Randy, Charles, Doug and others from MMCA there in the audience to help calm the nerves.

MMCA: Your biography is of someone who has been involved in many facets of mosquito control, including startup, daily operations, funding and budgets. What is it you like best about the wide range of things you do?

Dr. Tom: Through my own work experiences and through visiting with others in the field, I have come to a greater appreciation of how many different aspects there are to what we do, and how they can (and must) fit together. The story is the same everywhere: from a one person program in Jackrabbit, Idaho to a country-wide malaria control program in Africa. No matter how hard he or she works, the technician in the field cannot achieve much without a program built up to provide support and direction. No matter how much University scholars and industry chemists learn about mosquito biology and toxicology, it does no good until it provides products or knowledge that the biologist or health department can use to better identify problems and that technicians can actually use in the field. As the director of a mosquito control

program, I have to transfer the knowledge and technology from afar to field application, remembering as we go the challenges of carrying a backpack in 100 degree weather with stinging nettles, rattlesnakes, swarms of mosquitoes and angry residents just waiting for you to walk by.

MMCA: What advice do you have for those who may be hesitant to serve their association either at the state or national level?

Dr. Tom: *Get Involved!* Not just for the sake of it or for an excuse to attend a meeting, but so that you and your colleagues can provide better mosquito control service. When you help organize the MMCA conference or participate in an AMCA Committee, you are gaining knowledge and experience that can be translated to more effective mosquito control. And, truly, at the local level at least, you have no excuse not to get involved. With MMCA membership only \$15 and free registration for speakers at our MMCA conference, everyone should be able participate. Once you get started, you will soon see the difference in what can be accomplished and will want to do even more.

MMCA: Which are, if any, the main weaknesses and current problems that AMCA has to face?

Dr. Tom: The major concern for AMCA, as with Rotary Clubs and so many other organizations today is getting enough young people involved to sustain the group. People of my generation were “joiners” and sought out personal interaction, so things like AMCA membership and service were basic to us. People today have many different things vying for their attention and are more inclined to send a tweet than attend a meeting halfway across the state or the U.S. This problem is exacerbated by the shrinking budgets of many programs today. We not only need to demonstrate to potential members the benefit of participation in our Association, but these people also then have to convince their supervisors and employers that this participation benefits the organization as a whole. I firmly believe that the case can be made on both counts. I just hope that the ultimate goal of protecting public health is important enough to people that they will continue the effort.

Thank you very much, Tom, for sharing with us your thoughts and experiences. Please accept our sincere thanks for taking on these impressive roles and for representing Michigan in the best possible light. Best wishes as you complete your AMCA presidential duties!

West Nile Virus Blamed For Death of Dozens of Bald Eagles in Utah

An unprecedented wintertime outbreak of West Nile virus has killed more than two dozen bald eagles in Utah and thousands of water birds around the Great Salt Lake, state wildlife officials said on Tuesday.

At least 27 bald eagles have died this month in the northern and central parts of Utah from the blood-borne virus, and state biologists reported that five more ailing eagles were responding to treatment at rehabilitation centers.

Additionally, some 20,000 water birds have died in and around the Great Salt Lake since November in an outbreak that may be a record in North America.

7F Training Review

On October 22, 2013 MMCA held it 5th 7F recertification training session. Organized by Dr. Tom Wilmot and taught by members of MMCA, this is a well-received program providing a valuable service to Michigan mosquito controllers across the state.



The session was held at the Bay County Mosquito Control facility and attendees traveled from as far away as Kalamazoo! In all, 54 people were able to receive their recertification credits in one day of training.

MMCA itself benefits from this program. It brings in an amount of useful revenue, allows for networking with people not often seen and makes us think about what we do and why we do it.

Board Meeting Highlights

MMCA Membership has grown to 126 members

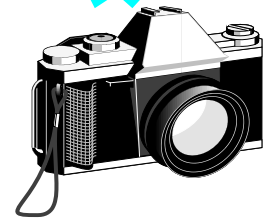
A donation has been made to the Mosquito Research Foundation on behalf of MMCA. The Mosquito Research Foundation's mission is to fund research to increase the understanding of mosquitoes and the diseases they transmit and to develop tools for their surveillance and control.

Robert Peterson of Montana State University will be the Keynote Speaker for the 2014 MMCA conference in Lansing, speaking on the topic of mosquito management and

MMCA is in the process of creating an outreach brochure for public health officials to assist with media requests about mosquitoes. The flyer will promote MMCA as a source for accurate and up-to-date information and validate the importance of mosquitoes as a public health concern. This flyer will be available on our website and emailed to various public health officials.



Photo Salon - 2014



The Michigan Mosquito Control Association would like to request submission of photographs for presentation during the Awards Banquet at our 2014 Conference. All shutterbugs are invited to submit digital photos, slides or prints to Photo Salon organizer Tom Wilmot [2180 N Meridian, Sanford, MI 48657 or email: mosquito@co.midland.mi.us] by January 31, 2014. Please, do not submit photos that have been shown at previous MMCA salons.



If a sufficient number of photos are received, cash and prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Mosquitoes, Operations, Surveillance, Mosquito Habitat and Nature/Wildlife. A prize will also be offered for the most amusing title or intriguing story to accompany a slide.



Michigan Mosquito Control Conference February 19 – 20, 2014



Guestrooms

The Radisson Hotel Lansing at the Capitol is pleased to host the 2014 Michigan Mosquito Control Conference. Attendees are offered a discounted room rate of **\$99.00/night**. Hotel room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes (currently 13%) in effect at the time of check in.

Parking

The Radisson Hotel is pleased to offer all overnight and temporary guests **valet parking** for a reduced fee of \$5.00 per night, per vehicle.

Parking yourself will cost you more than \$5.00/night (parking garage rates)!

Should guests wish to self-park they may do so at their convenience however, the hotel *does not* validate parking vouchers as they are not affiliated with the parking garage next door.

Method of Reservations

Individual attendees should make reservations for the event directly with Radisson reservations at: 1-800-333-3333 or with the hotel at 517-482-0188. Reservations may also be made by logging on to our web address at www.radisson.com/lansingmi. Use the **Promotional Code: MMCA14** to receive your discounted group rate.

Guaranteed Reservations

All reservations must be accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card. Hotel will not hold any reservations unless secured by one of the above methods.

Cut-Off Date

Reservations by attendees must be received on or before **January 26, 2014**. The Hotel will review the reservation pick up for the event, release the unreserved rooms for general sale, and determine whether or not it can accept reservations based on a space-available basis at the MI Mosquito Control Association group rate after this date.

Radisson Hotel Lansing at the Capitol
111 N. Grand Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933
Direct Line: 517-267-3441
Fax Line: 517-487-6646

Michigan Mosquito Control Association 28th Annual Conference Tentative Agenda February 19-20, 2014

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

8:00am	Registration	Refreshments
9:00am	Welcome	Doug Allen, 2013 MMCA President
9:15am	Keynote	Robert Peterson, Ph.D. - Montana State University
10:15am	AMCA Update	Mike Szyska, AMCA
10:30am	Mid-Morning Break	
William J. Lechel, II Memorial Scholarship Student Presentations		
11:00am	<i>Coprohagous</i> Beetles	Rachel Rounds – Ferris State University
11:10am	Evaluation of <i>Acilius</i> Larvae	Nicholas Deason – University of Notre Dame
11:20am	Odonata – Lenawee County	Chas Frey – Sienna Heights University
11:30am	Blacklegged Tick Survivorship	Genevieve Pang – Michigan State University
11:40am	Vitamin/Garlic as Mosquito Repellent	Courtney Weatherbee – Michigan State University
11:50am	Deer and <i>Borrelia Miyamotoi</i>	Seungeun Han – Michigan State University
12:00pm	Culicidae in Franklin Township	Eric Wilson – Sienna Heights University
12:10pm	Lunch Break and MMCA Business Meeting	
1:45pm	Mosquiron- Larvae Control	Thomas Wilmot, Ph.D. – Midland County
2:00pm	Malaria Elimination	Edward Walker, Ph.D. – Michigan State University
2:30pm	Public Health Diseases –Mich. Update	Erik Foster – Mich. Dept. of Community Health
3:10pm	Vendor Introductions/Presentations	
3:20pm	Break	
3:40pm	NPDES Pesticide Permit Update	Amanda Whitscell - MDEQ
4:00pm	Spiders, Friend or Foe	Ralph Gorton – AJ Cook Arthropod Research, MSU
4:20pm	Microbial Food Sources for Larvae	Michael Kaufman, Ph.D.- Michigan State University
4:40pm	Accomplishments of Dr. H.D. Newson	John Kaneene, Ph.D. , Michigan State University

5:00 – 6:00pm Cash Bar

6:00 – 10:00pm Banquet, Awards & Entertainment

Thursday, February 20, 2014

8:30am	Budget Impacts Due to Climate Change	Stephen Manweiler , Ph.D.– Metropolitan MCD
8:50am	Traptech Mosquito Lure	William Stanuszek – Saginaw County MAC
9:10am	Targeting Mosquitoes with Vector Index	Patrick Irwin – Northwest MAD
9:30am	The Pareto Principle	Mike McGinnis – Colorado Mosquito Control, Inc.
9:50am	Understanding Hazcon 2012	Dave Driver, Univar USA
10:05am	Break	
10:30am	Curtail Expenses in Tough Times	Randy Knepper- Saginaw County MAC
10:50am	Insects, Disease, and Military History	Robert Peterson, Ph.D. – Montana State University
11:10am	Surveillance on a Shoe String	Sara Simmonds, MPS, REHS/RS – Kent County HD
Back-to-Basics Presentations		
11:30am	“Big City” Catch Basin Treatment	Kirk Johnson - Metropolitan MCD
11:45am	GIS and Mosquito Control	Allison Langworthy – Midland County MC
12:00pm	Mosquito Bay, New Bay County Habitat	Rebecca Brandt, Bay County Mosquito Control
12:15pm	Concluding Remarks	William Stanuszek – 2014 MMCA President



News From Around The Districts

TUSCOLA

At this time we are busy with the customary off-season activities. We are awaiting bids on two new trucks. Records are being stored and forms updated. The Annual Reports are being prepared and we will soon have our new database and operating system installed.

The process of hiring our 2014 seasonal staff will begin along with plans for training and testing.

We have the new addition of a full time Garage and Equipment Repair Technician, Larry Zapfe. As well we look forward to the return of Biologist, Rich Colopy in the spring.

This winter we will also be making plans for the addition to the garage and insecticide storage area. We will begin those renovations in the fall of 2014.

It's once again time to both look back at our fourth quarter accomplishments and think about the upcoming year. The last treatment date of the 2013 season was September 20 (about a week ahead of schedule) due to the dry conditions and virtual lack of mosquitoes. The season wrapped up on September 27 when we finished the last of our clean-up. The second scrap tire drive of the season was held September 7 and 1,071 tires were collected. In total for the year, 3,671 scrap tires were collected. Which is 3.5% more than what was collected in 2012. Since then we've been busy with invoices, correspondence, cleaning, inventories, orders, equipment and vehicle repairs/maintenance, and preparations for the 2014 season. The 2013 Annual Report has also been completed and will be presented to the Board of Commissioners as well as to the Mid-Michigan Technical Advisory Committee in March, 2013. It will soon be available for viewing at our website www.baycounty-mi.gov/MosquitoControl under the "Resources-Reports, Brochures, Flyers" link.

We happily took part in the MMCA's 7F Training Session in October, giving several presentations to the attendees. At this, our fifth annual training session, there seems to be continued interest in having recertification seminars in the future – this year there were 54 attendees! Not only are we providing a service to others, but our own staff benefits by attending and qualifying for recertification credits.

The 2014 chemical order was compiled and bid specifications were sent out to vendors in early December in conjunction with Midland County Mosquito Control and Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement. Chemical bids will be opened in Midland in mid-January and vendors will be notified.

We continue our community-outreach efforts, which include presentations at local elementary schools and developing new information for Bay3TV. Database and map updates continue to take place. On November 14, staff listened in to an American Mosquito Control Association webinar – Effective Presentations – A Primer, which was hosted by the AMCA's Technical Director, Joe Conlon.

The MDEQ's NPDES annual report was due November 30, which was the first year we were required to submit a report in order to be in compliance. In December we met with representatives from the Bay City State Recreation Area on 2014 permits. We expect to hear that treatment of the park property will continue as it was set up in 2013.

We look forward to meeting with colleagues and listening to presentations at the upcoming MMCA Conference February 18-20 (held at the Radisson Lansing at the Capitol). In the next few months we'll be working on MMCA annual meeting plans, the 2014 program plan, hiring of new seasonal staff – always a challenge, and continuing our mission of the promotion of mosquito education. Before we all know it April and the spring treat campaign will be upon us!

BAY

We began the New Year by saying goodbye to our Director, Randy Knepper and Operations Manager, Tom Anderson. We wish them the best in their well deserved retirements, and thank them for all they have done for our agency and the citizens of Saginaw County. I, Bill Stanuszek, have assumed the role of Director, and we will soon be filling the Operations Manager position. I have served as the Biologist with Saginaw for the past 8 seasons. With such a dedicated and skilled staff we will continue to meet our standards and the needs of Saginaw County residents.

As is typical for this time of year, staff are busy on winter projects which include: repair and maintenance of application equipment and vehicles; repair of adult mosquito traps; update sections of employee manual; body work on damaged vehicles; update various maps and data bases; updating yearly program plan and web page; sending our letters to citizens on our No Spray and Medical Certification lists; and the purchase and outfitting of two new half ton vehicles for our fleet.

Our 2013 annual report is complete and can be reviewed and printed from our website for those interested. If you would like a hard copy please call Gloria Katch at 989-755-5751 or email her at gkatch@scmac.org and let her know how many annual report/calendars you would like to receive.

School presentations by our education department continue to be in high demand, so far this school year our Education Coordinator has scheduled over 154. There has been an increase in the number of high school classroom presentations, which is bringing job applications in from these schools.

We have submitted permit applications to conduct our aerial larviciding program for spring mosquitoes for the Shiawassee River State Game Area, Gratiot-Saginaw State Game Area, and the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge. Since we had significant mosquito-borne disease detections last year in our county we do not anticipate problems securing permits for 2014.

Our agency is now in the hiring process for seasonal workers. We will be accepting summer job applications through Friday, January 31, 2014. Interviews will be in late February and early March with our yearly training session scheduled for March 21-22, 2014.

We are also preparing for our millage, which after 20 years is up for renewal this year. Our agency hopes to continue providing all the services our integrated mosquito management program offers. We anticipate some changes as revenue has fallen and costs have gone up. We appreciate all the support as we look toward the future.

“Polar Vortex”, enough said. I think we are all looking forward to spring. It won’t be long and we will be looking for larvae in those woodland pools.

As we sit in the polar express deep freeze, it is difficult to remember the summer of 2013 or envision a new mosquito control season to start in just a few months time. Mother Nature finds a way, however, and we will be wading through the swamps before you know it. With the snow we have received this winter I am glad that our Gator has a snow plow and that the snow blower is not working. I will be less excited around the end of March if all this snow means more water in the spring woodlands.

Wintertime is time for review of progress from previous years and plans to improve things next year. One thing being upgraded for 2014 is the Right-To-Know (or is it Right-To-Understand?) training program for seasonal employees. Our thanks go out to Univar, USA and Dave Driver in particular for providing us with helpful information. Our next big task will be to review bids for insecticides and complete plans/orders for 2014. Based on the very promising results from experiments conducted last year we are planning to use some Mosquiron pellets in tires and other container habitats. Results from our field trials will be presented at the MMCA conference in Lansing next month.

Speaking of the MMCA conference, you should have received your registration materials by now. I am sure that this will be another educational and enjoyable meeting and hope to see you all there.

We wish you the best of luck in 2014.

Kenley Farrel Memorial Scholarship Winners Announced

Kenley Farrel Memorial Scholarship winners for 2013 are:

- Paige McCarry 1st Place
- Colton Risner 2nd Place

Paige McCarry is a Senior at Bay City Western and also attends the Bay Arenac Career Center taking classes in the Nursing Assistant Program and currently serves as President of the school's chapter of Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA). Paige will be attending Saginaw Valley State University in the fall to pursue a degree in Athletic Training. In her spare time, she enjoys snowmobiling, playing softball, watching sports, and spending time with her friends.



Colton Risner is from Kentwood, MI and is a Senior at East Kentwood High School. He loves the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. Colton will pursue a degree in Conservation at Lake Superior State University next year.



**Michigan Mosquito
Control Association
P.O. Box 366
Bay City, MI 48707**

WINTER