

NEWS AND NOTES

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WELL NOW WE CAN TELL YOU ABOUT THE MEETINGS IN CHICAGO ABOUT WHICH ALL WE COULD SAY BEFORE WAS THAT WE HEARD THEY WERE SPLENDID—THEY WERE MORE THAN THAT—THEY WERE PROFITABLE! Not showing in the annual report but too good to keep, said DON MURRAY, and we agree, is the check ERNEST FETZER sent Don in the amount of \$2,194.59, representing a split of funds between IMCA and AMCA, plus a split of a last-minute exhibitor's check for another \$125.00. (We don't know if that remark means a last minute check or a last minute contributor. We once called our butcher's wife "Billie the Beautiful Butcher's Wife" and we can still hear her plaintive, "Do you mean beautiful wife or beatiful butcher, Auski?")

BUT WE HAVE MORE. . . . BECAUSE ERNEST SENT US A LO-O-ONG LETTER AS SOON AS HE REALIZED NO ONE ELSE HAD. There were 351 AMCA member deligates with 58 companions. Eighty-one attended the trustees' breakfast and 54 attended the managers' breakfast. In addition to the matutinal coffee, the breakfasters got open discussion topics and topical speakers, arranged by GLENN STOKES. There were 27 exhibitors' booths and advertisers took 12 pages in the programs, which just about paid for them. Nine special sponsors contributed \$2625.00 to various functions (but 2 of them still owe \$750; just the same, \$1875.00 ain't hay.) SO-O-o-o. . . . many thanks and bows to the IMCA and we wish even more we could have been there!

BRUCE EZELL RECENTLY SENT US A COPY OF *DREDGED MATERIAL RESEARCH*, THE INFORMATION EXCHANGE BULLETIN OF THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS CONTAINING A SUMMARY OF SOME OF Bruce's work on the breeding and development of mosquitoes in dredge spoil areas. He noted that he is feeling gratified that some mosquito control ideas are filtering down into some of the Corps' publications. As one who was OF but not IN the Corps (civilian), WE will be gratified if we discern a consequent filtering of the information into the "thinking" of the dredgers. because that was a hope dear to our heart during our long association with them both as engineer (civilian) and medic (uniformed).

THE BULLETIN HAS AS A FRONT PAGE LEAD, A SCHEMATIC DRAWING OF AN AREA BOUNDED BY

THE ATLANTIC INTER-COASTAL WATERWAY AND DIKED AGAINST A MARSH. Various larval habitats are illustrated and described. The article then proceeds to discuss each, and the studies of the associated plants and birds and the control methods appropriate to the various situations. It's a thorough and scholarly, yet simply-written, presentation and reflects great credit on Bruce and his Citadel team.

MIKE LOVING AND "HIS" SOUTH CAROLINA MCA LOOKED BACK WITH SOME PRIDE ON THE INVOLVEMENT WITH ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS SHOWN BY THE MEMBERS, AND ESPECIALLY THE NEWER ONES, who often tend to hang back bashfully in any organization. Their annual meeting was held at the Thunderbird Motel in Greenville on 2 and 3 November. The program covered fire ants, mosquito biology in the area, the still-with-us *Aedes aegypti* problem, duck ponds and much more.

THE SOCIETY OF VECTOR ECOLOGISTS' *VECTOR ECOLOGY NEWSLETTER*, of which HARV MAGY is Editor, compiled some figures on the effect of Proposition 13 on vector and mosquito control agencies, notably those associated with local health departments. It seems that, as has been so glaringly apparent in most of the political divisions of California, the pols have either failed to get the message or have deliberately tried to make the effects onerous. In other words, almost everywhere they've cut, not the fat, but the lean. The highly-paid PR types have not been thrown out of City Hall but the police, firemen, school teachers, museum and park personnel. . . . and vector control cadres have felt the bite. Not that people are taking this lying down but the chances of showing displeasure with it are so far between. El Dorado County voters got the point across in a hurry, though, as a good example, and MARY CHRISTIANSEN's program was found to be not so expendable after all. We predict others will be heard from, too. People are M-A-A-A-D.

HARRY PRATT HAD THE SIGNAL HONOR OF HAVING THE 1977 FERNALD CLUB YEARBOOK (Univ. of Mass.) dedicated to him. The roster of distinguished alumni of this earliest (with Cornell) of entomology schools, includes, besides Harry, who is not the least distinguished by a long ways, such names as STAN FREEBORN,

DICK HOLWAY, HUGO JAMBACK, DAVE PIMENTEL, ALLEN WEST and many others.

DAVE BAERG HAS LEFT THE CANAL ZONE HEALTH BUREAU FOR THE GREENER FIELDS OF THE PANAMA CANAL COMPANY, where he will be Environmental and Energy Control Officer of the Executive Planning Staff. His address remains the same: P.O. Box 3333, Balboa, Canal Zone and we wish him well in his new and larger duties.

BILL REEVES AND ASSOCIATE JAMES HARDY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA have developed a strain of mosquitoes that is genetically incapable of carrying encephalitis! WEE, that is. An intestinal "block" prevents it from becoming infected by the virus. They're hoping to develop one now that is resistant to St. Louis virus. Of course, the next step of changing the field populations into the new one isn't *instantly* at hand but it may be closer than we think. At least, now we know it's THERE.

THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW HAD A SUMMARY OF A NEW BOOK ON MALARIA, "Mosquitoes, Malaria and Man," by Gordon Harrison, which you may have seen and found as intriguing as we did. The review illustrated how facts are filtered in the public mind through the distorting glass of unfamiliarity. (How's that for a mixed metaphor?) Where the reviewer (and to some extent Mr. Harrison) saw "a misconceived assault on the environment itself" in the malaria eradication effort, we see the sad result of political financial withdrawal at a premature time and the effects of uninformed meddling by "environmentalists" which halted many efforts short of the goal. The cases of the Philippines and India come readily to mind, as do the chilling effect of the knee-jerk anti-DDT campaigns here at home. Anyway, if your local library has \$15.00, you can read it yourself.

DON JOHNSON WROTE US A NICE, LONG CHATTY LETTER WE'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU OLD-TIMERS who remember the Great Old Days. DON and HARRY PRATT, PAUL RICE, CARL MOHR, KENT LITIG, NEWELL GOOD, JOHN HUGHES and LES BEADLE went over to Rome (Georgia) to visit GEORGE BRADLEY and his wife Nancy who have just bought a lovely "new" home at 103 Lake Shore Drive (30161). "Both seem to be in the best of health—and George at age 85 still drives in to Atlanta for shopping," says Don. (Must have been some-

thing in those cigars, WE say. We knew they didn't smell like twofers.)

"We all had lunch at Berry College," Don continued, "With Dr. JOHN McDOWELL, formerly with USPHS—now Prof. of Biology. John had just returned from a 7 week trip to Asia to review malaria program training requirements. (ED SMITH and JALIL KARAM in A.I.D./Washington set up this consultant travel, as a joint AID/WHO venture). JOHN SCANLON was along too but had to return early from India mid-way in the trip because of a medical problem. McDowell ran into RUSS FONTAINE in Rangoon, Burma, where Russ was doing a two-month vector control stint for WHO." "P.S.," he adds, "I suppose you know that DON PLETSCII has returned from a one-year tour with A.I.D. in Indonesia where Don did training work in the 'Outer Islands' for the malaria program. Don should be back in Mexico by now."

DON (JOHNSON) IS STILL DOING CONSIDERABLE CONSULTANT WORK AND ENCLOSED A NICE 8-PAGE BOOKLET he put together as a consultant on an environmental problems assignment. It goes succinctly and forcefully into the past, present and probable future effects of the knee-jerk "environmentalist" movement and is a cogent and readable (and quotable) document. It's entitled, "Humanity and Environmental Harmony" and Don has extra copies "if anyone is interested." We think a lot of you will be.

A DOUBLE-DIPPER ACQUAINTANCE OF OURS WHO WORKS FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT but also writes a news-letter *attacking* Federal programs (how he do dat?), recently had an item about a PCO who was sued for injuries supposedly received from a pesticide. . . . and had to PAY damages, even though the evidence was ludicrous, the testimony of experts was uniformly in his favor and the whole thing was as unrealistic as the claims of Viet Nam vets that they are suffering from herbicide sprayed in areas they claim they later may have entered. With the doctrinaire article-of-faith approach by knee-jerk "environmentalists" still swaying the courts, this is something *ANY vector controller might face and is an ominous threat to us all. Insurance, anyone?*

YE OLDE HARRY (STAGE, FOR YOUNG TYPES WHO DON'T KNOW HIM) HAS AN UNDIMINISHED PERIPATICHITY THOUGH HE SAYS HE'S JUST ABOUT TRAVELLED OUT. He and "his" group of 22 returned from the Caribbean in late July from an orchid scouting expedition, with a stop in

Washington D.C. en route down, a stop which encompassed both orchid and peanut fanciers. One of Harry's rarer lady-slipper types from the Philippines was nominated for the national award for best culture. It will now compete with 10 others across the U.S. for a cash prize of \$250.00. This is approximately 5% of its appraised value as a plant, incidentally. Not that Harry has the slightest intention of selling. What's money?

HARRY'S RETIREMENT ISN'T EXACTLY THAT OF AN ANCHORITE, WE GATHER, for he entertained numerous visitors once he got back to Coos Bay (Oregon). These included BILL REEVES and his wife and the GLEN COLLETTs, from Salt Lake City. He had had a nice long lunch with HELEN SOLLERS-RIEDEL in Washington, D.C., we neglected to say. So he Keeps in Touch and we envy him both the visitors and the visits. As a prematurely grounded traveller, it makes our mouth water!

TOM LAURET SENT US SOME TANTALIZING NOTES ON MILITARY SWITCHINGS AROUND which we haven't had time to verify (or even to check whether we read his on-the-fly notations properly) but here they are and if we got 'em wrong, sorry! CAPTAIN Sheldon White is now on the BuMed IG and JOHNNY MULRENNAN JR. is doing a hornpipe to Zocon. (How can our CHILDREN be retiring already?) LARRY LEWIS goes to be OIC at the DVCC in Alameda (Calif.), LANCE SCHOLDT to EPMU at Jacksonville (Fla.), as OIC, JACK McDONALD goes to EPMU in Norfolk (Va.), STAN HUSTED is gathering snorkle, fins and SCUBA gear for a session at EMPM 6 (Honolulu) and FRED SANTANA is back gratefully in Research. Meanwhile, in the civilian position so sadly vacated by BUDDY SIMS, DAN MAIELLO will be carrying on. And BOB, Tom wrote, "is going to Bureau." PETERSON?

TWO OTHER UNHERALDED TRAVELLERS, WHO LONG AGO FORBADE US TO MENTION THEM BUT WHOM WE THINK YOU DO CARE TO KNOW ABOUT are Ye Ed and our faithful and super-industrious Editorial Assistant, MARGARET SLATER. BILL retired some months ago and says, "Retirement is wonderful" and saying that he took off for Italy in the Autumn. Margaret likewise "off the record" (Ha!) went to England and once there went as far back as one can go on land. . . . to the Cornish Coast, where

she mailed us a note from Land's End in Penzance, a postmark which thrilled us. She got there from Dartmoor in Devon, and went on to St. Ives. Does all this recall your youth, Gilbert and Sullivan and Mother Goose? Fore and aft, she had 15 days in London and we are absolutely green with envy and shall stay so for some time. We are additionally green at the three weeks Ye Ed. spent in Italy, envisioning the quiet, restful aperitif in the Piazza di San Marco with the Venetian orchestra embroidering the lack of traffic noises, or the wonderful feeling of spiritual nourishment at being able actually to TOUCH the David or an unfinished Michaelangelo in the Academia in Florence. Well, GOSH!

SOME OTHER TRAVEL WE ENVIED WAS OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING which was held in conjunction with the meetings of the Louisiana MCA held on 24 and 25 October in the Fountain Bay Club Hotel in New Orleans. (We hope no Fem-Lib types got the announcement, though, for it was headed by a picture of a personable but obdurate young man being absolutely PLED with by two lovely ladies looking for a date! . . . the dates being 24 and 25 October, you understand.) Needless to say, a meeting in that locale didn't overlook the deLIGHTful food one can get there, or the New Orleans Jazz, but they did have a full program, too!

FRED ROBERTS AND HIS ALAMEDA COUNTY (Calif.) MAD DIDN'T TAKE PROP 13 LYING DOWN AND IN ADDITION WAS ALL SET FOR AN ENCEPHALITIS SEASON which fortunately didn't materialize. This consisted of already-set-up control plans in conjunction with large source owners. Otherwise, they went into an "implementation phase" of already commenced programs such as an increased legal abatement, source elimination, fish planting, and responding to service requests only after at least one (1) biting specimen had been collected for demonstration by the complainant. Worked well, too.

WELL, CHAPS, IT'S BEEN FUN AND WE'VE ENJOYED EVERY MINUTE OF IT, don't think we haven't. But the time has come to pass the torch. We do appreciate all the good letters full of news and notes you've sent us and we even more (being a mite vain) appreciate all the nice things you've said to us over the years. We'll be in touch. "30"