

## The Skeeter



Newsletter of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association

Volume 71, No. I April 2011

## President's Message

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Have something for the Summer edition of The Skeeter?
Submission deadline:
July 1, 2011

15

Organizational Members

I'd like to thank everyone who participated and attended the 2011 VMCA Annual Meeting. I think it was a success, and the education that we get from great presenters helps us substantially in our jobs. The VMCA is excited for this coming year. I'd also like to congratulate and welcome two new faces to the executive board, our new Vice President Joe Simmons and 1st Vice President James Will. I know they will contribute greatly to the progression of the organization. The VMCA committee chairs have been picked and the wheels have been turning constantly since hitting the ground. If any of you members have an inter-



Charles Abadam VMCA President 2011

est in any of the committees please contact the chair of that committee. A listing of the committees and their respective chairs are on the "Links & Information" page of the VMCA website. Please get involved; we always need extra help.

Each March/April the VMCA chooses a location for the next annual meeting that will be held the following year. The Annual Meeting (Facility and Arrangements) committee, chaired by George Wojcik, has been working hard on this task and we are closing in on a new location. We will be notifying our members as soon as the decision is made.

A consistently pressing issue that we are dealing with is the status of the NPDES / VPDES issue. The Ad Hoc Legislative Committee, chaired by Randy Buchanan, has been busy updating us about any new developments. See Pages 8, 9, and 11 for a summary of the current events taking place on this issue.

Our Education Committee, chaired by Lisa Wagenbrenner, is excited to offer a free adult ID course in May. Organizational members are guaranteed that one of their employees that is a regular member of the VMCA receives a seat in the class. We will take other participants on a first-come first-serve basis. Please sign up early. See Page 4 for details.

I would like to congratulate Dr. Jorge Arias for selection for the American Mosquito Control Association's 2011 Volunteer of the Year Award. What a great honor it is to have the recipient of this award be one of Virginia's very own! Dr. Arias and his team are doing a wonderful job in Fairfax reaching out to their community with mosquito education at its core. Looking at all of the brochures, calendars and books that they have developed, it is not a surprise that this award was bestowed upon him. Again I congratulate Dr. Arias and the outstanding job he has done.

Finally I would like to wish Jim Rindfleisch congratulations for being the recipient of the R.E. Dorer award at the 2011 VMCA Annual Meeting and also for a happy retirement. I haven't known you for long but I think it's safe for me to say that you revel in your eccentricity and that is a characteristic that I've come to respect. (If it's not safe for me to say then I guess I'll have to watch my back until you forget me.) I thank you for the interesting Jim Rindfleisch VMCA presentations that I've had the pleasure of watching/listening/experiencing. Have a great retirement and keep on keeping on!

#### 2011 Awards

#### Jim Rindfleish awarded the R.E. Dorer Award

Jim Rindfleisch, York County Biologist, has played a major role in the business of mosquito control for the past 30 years. As such he has been a major player in the success of the VMCA. Jim also gained mosquito control experience while serving in the Peace Corps.

As a Past President and long time member of the VMCA, Jim's efforts have been applauded. At the 50th VMCA annual meeting, he was bestowed recognition by then-President, Commander Joe Conlon, for his outstanding efforts since 1991 as editor of the highly acclaimed quarterly VMCA newsletter. As an added kudos, Bill Jany of Clarke Mosquito Control, in a1998 letter stated that "The Skeeter was one of the more informative publications currently available for mosquito control in the USA and that it had gained a level of respect within our industry". These same sentiments have been echoed by many others involved in the mosquito control com-



munity. It was all a result of Jim's creativity and dedication to the betterment of the VMCA.

Jim was intimately involved for several years with the VMCA's Pesticide Review Committee and was appointed the prime point of contact for questions pertaining to mosquitoes, pesticides and their proper usage. As a recognized expert, Jim fielded questions from many sources, and continues to do so. On many occasions he participated as a speaker at the VMCA-sponsored pesticide applicator recertification course. As always, his presentations were informative and well received.

Being a celebrity of sorts, Jim received letters of appreciation for his voluntary participation as speaker at the Tidewater Environmental Health Association's Conference and also at Hampton University's Medical Entomology class for graduate students. Jim's expertise was recommended in 1999 to serve as a member of Virginia Department of Health's West Nile Virus task force to address plans for crisis and contingency management. As always, he played a significant role in their development and received a letter of appreciation from the State Health Commissioner.

During Hurricane Floyd FEMA asked Jim, being the recognized guru on mosquito control, to provide surveil-lance on post-storm mosquito outbreaks in the Franklin area. He also assisted FEMA in providing needed mapping information to the Air Force aerial spray team so they could treat the hard-hit areas. As a follow-on initiative Jim assisted FEMA in devising aerial guidelines for such future vector emergency responses.

Jim Rindfleisch continues to be featured in the local media and previously appeared on the CBS evening news in a story about various commercial mosquito traps. Based on the many and various contributions on behalf of mosquito control, he is recognized by the VMCA with the 2011 R. E. Dorer Award.

#### About the R. E. Dorer Award

The R.E. Dorer Award is the highest achievement award of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association. Mr. Dorer graduated from Rutgers University in 1932 and moved to Virginia in 1933. From his position at the Virginia State Department of Health he spearheaded mosquito control efforts for over 50 years.

Mr. Dorer's success in mosquito control came through the State Health Department and as a Commissioner to the Virginia Beach Mosquito Commission for many years. He served as an unpaid technical advisor after his retirement. Mr. Dorer was an active member and past president of each of the following associations: Virginia Public Health Association, Virginia Mosquito Control Association, Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association, and the American Mosquito Control Association. Mr. Dorer received the highest AMCA award, the Medal of Honor Award in 1981 for his exceptional contributions to mosquito control.

## 2011 Awards (continued)

#### Randy Buchanan receives Outstanding Service Award

As the VMCA's Legislative Committee Chairperson, Randy has dedicated a lot of time and effort in keeping members informed about new and pending VPDES regulations. His coordination, communication and persistence with the regulatory agencies resulted in a state-wide draft VPDES permit that will actually be quite manageable and better than any of us expected. He was an integral part of the technical advisory committee (TAC) formed by the DEQ and was successful at rallying others from the VMCA to be active on the TAC. His efforts resulted in solid VMCA representation on the TAC.



#### CAPT Stan Cope receives Outstanding Service Award

As Mid-Atlantic director of the AMCA, CAPT Stan Cope has made positive contributions to the VMCA. Most recently noted is his commitment to communication. Since becoming the Mid-Atlantic AMCA Director, Stan has provided regular updates to the VMCA Executive Committee, appropriately titled "MARGrams". He has also been a reliable and consistent contributor to the Skeeter; keeping VMCA members informed about what's going on at the national level. He has donated dozens of high quality and informative Identification DVDs to participants at the annual meeting. This was a voluntary and unsolicited contribution that has certainly enhanced the reference libraries of



many local mosquito control districts. His participation as a regular speaker at the annual meeting is a high-light to many, and he is very helpful in recruiting new speakers each year who often provide something new and different.

#### Jason Pevear receives Outstanding Service Award

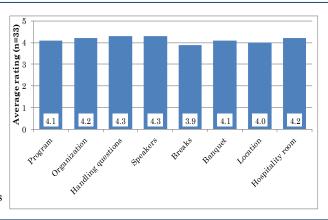
For the past few years, Jason has graciously and without any complaints agreed to be the audio visual coordinator at the annual meeting. This role requires a massive amount of coordination, responsibility and organization and is crucial to the success of the annual meeting. The role of the "AV guy" is somewhat behind the scenes and unless you have done this job before, it's truly difficult to understand what it takes to make sure everything runs smoothly throughout each day. Technical difficulties are an inevitable occurrence at any annual meeting and the AV person is the one people rely on to fix it (and fix it fast). The VMCA is grateful for his contribution.



## **2011 Meeting Survey Results**

Thirty-three surveys were returned, with continued high scores for the meeting. The following were the most common comments:

- Have the meeting on the beach
- Hold speakers to their allotted time
- Different menu/hospitality room options



Submitted by Joe Simmons

#### **Announcements**

Wednesday, April 13, 11:00 am TMVCC meeting, Norfolk

I would like to welcome everyone out to our first TMVCC meeting for the 2011 season. The meeting will take place on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Norfolk Golden Corral located at the Military and Norview intersection just off of I-64. Our sponsor will be Jim Andrews from Valent Biosciences.

Contact Tim DuBois at tdubois@hampton.gov.

Wednesday, May 11, 11:00 am TMVCC Sprayer Calibration, Hampton

The sprayer calibration this year will be on May 11<sup>th</sup> at Gosnold's Hope Park in Hampton. Jeff Hottenstein from Clarke will be out at the park and ready to calibrate at 11 a.m., and our meeting will take place immediately following. Please email me at <a href="mailto:tdubois@hampton.gov">tdubois@hampton.gov</a> if you are attending with an approximate number of sprayers that will need to be calibrated.

As a reminder, all TMVCC meeting locations and dates can be found at the VMCA website (<a href="www.mosquito-va.org">www.mosquito-va.org</a>) following the TMVCC link on the left side. Be sure to check on a routine basis as the meetings are subject to change based on location or sponsor availability. I hope to see you all at the meetings and look forward to a productive season!

Wednesday-Thursday, May 18-19 Adult Mosquito ID Course, Chesapeake

The VMCA is holding a FREE adult mosquito ID course on May 18th and 19th. It will be conducted by the combined efforts of local mosquito control biologists. This is not taxonomy or a refresher course but a more practical training geared toward seasonal interns, summer part-time biology positions or mosquito biologists new to the area. Class size is limited to 20, so please make every effort to send eligible participants. Organizational members are guaranteed that one of their employee's that is a regular member of the VMCA receives a seat in the class. We will take other participants on a first come first serve basis. Please sign up early. This information is also posted on the VMCA website (<a href="http://www.mosquito-va.org/formstraining.htm">http://www.mosquito-va.org/formstraining.htm</a>).

Supplies and microscopes are limited but we will have a few extras on hand. If possible, please bring the following items: microscope with lamp, power strip, extension cord, forceps, Petri dish, wipes, alcohol, notebook. The course will be held at Chesapeake Mosquito Control Commission, 900 Hollowell Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23320. Please e-mail Lisa Wagenbrenner (<a href="liwagenbrenner@cityofchesapeake.net">lwagenbrenner@cityofchesapeake.net</a>) with participant's name and city or county and what supplies you lack from the provided list.

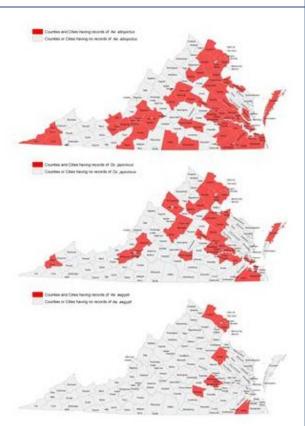
#### Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, May 18, 2011		2:20-2:30	Break
7:30-8:30	Light refreshments	2:30-3:00	Mid to late summer species
8:30-8:45	Overview of Course	3:00-3:20	Mid to late summer species (Anopheles)
8:45-10:00	General mosquito information	3:20-4:00	Rural Species
10:00-10:10	Break		
10:10-10:40	Diseases / economic impact of mosquitoes	Thursday- May	v 19. 2011
10:40-11:10	Introduce traps and setup demo	7:30-8:30	Light refreshments
11:10-11:40	Environmental concerns with field work	8:30-9:30	Field Trip
11:40-12:00	Lab protocol	9:30-9:45	Prepare specimens
12:00-1:00	Lunch (on your own)	9:45-12:00	Identify mosquitoes
1:00-1:30	Early spring species	12:00-1:00	Lunch (on your own)
1:30-2:00	Early summer species	1:00-4:00	Identify mosquitoes
2:00-2:20	Summer urban species		

## Virginia's Exotic Mosquito Vector Survey

The purpose of the Exotic Vectors Database is to collect information at the county level or lower on the distribution of three vector mosquito species of potential public health importance. The three species include: (1) the Asian tiger mosquito (Aedes albopictus) which was first found in Virginia in 1991; (2) the vellow fever mosquito (Aedes aegypti) which was once common in Virginia and might become common again; and (3) the Asian bush mosquito (Ochlerotatus japonicus) which was first found in Virginia in 2000. Updated county or city collection data and maps will be posted monthly by the Virginia Mosquito Control Association, and will be shared with the CDC to help create National Exotic Species Maps. Updated National distribution maps are posted at multiple sites on the Worldwide Web, including the CDC/DVBID website <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/arbor/">http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/arbor/</a> albopic\_97\_sm.htm>.

Persons wanting to contribute collection records to the Exotic Mosquito Vector Survey should **report data within one week of collection** to David Gaines (VDH - State Public Health Entomologist; <a href="mailto:david.gaines@vdh.virginia.gov">david.gaines@vdh.virginia.gov</a>, Tel. 804-864-8141). Collectors who are unsure of their mosquito identifica-



Current distribution of *Aedes albopictus* (top), *Ochlerotatus japonicus* (middle), and *Aedes aegypti* (bottom).

tions can contact David Gaines to arrange for shipment of mosquito samples for species identification/confirmation.

## **Exotic Vector Mosquito Collection Data Requirements**

### All mosquito collections must be reported with the following information:

- 1. **Genus & species:** Be sure to indicate which species you are reporting (*Ae. albopictus, Oc. japonicus,* or *Ae. aegypti* [we would also like to learn of any other unusual or important exotic vector species finds, e.g., collections of *Culex tarsalis*).
- Collection State (e.g., VA for Virginia)
- 3. Collection County or City: (e.g., Roanoke County, Roanoke City, etc.).
- Collection Location: Specific place of mosquito collection (e.g., address, or street/road name, town name, or nearest road intersection, or name of place [i.e., name of park, neighborhood, or geographic area], or when available, GPS coordinates [i.e., Latitude and Longitude – preferably in decimal degrees]).
- 5. **Stages collected:** Please use a single letter code to indicate the stage(s) collected (e.g., Eggs = E, Larvae = L, Pupae = P, or Adults = A), or multiple letters if multiple stages were collected (e.g., L, P, A).
- 6. **Collection method:** (e.g., landing collection, dipping collection, ovitrap, light trap, gravid trap, BG Sentinel trap, etc.).
- 7. **Date Collected:** Enter the month, day, and year the sample was collected.
- 8. Name of Collector or Person that Identified the Specimen(s).
- 9. Name of Collector's or Identifier's Organization/Affiliation.
- 10. Collector's or Identifier's Phone Number

### **MAMCA** Update

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Wilmington, North Carolina was a huge success. The meeting met or exceeded the attendance projections. For those that were unable to make the meeting; copies of the presentations can be found on the MAMCA website (<a href="www.mamca.org">www.mamca.org</a>). Included in this years meeting was a round table discussion about the upcoming NPDES permitting processes given by a representative from each state followed by a short open discussion. Also presented in the 2011 Annual Meeting was the R.E. Dorer award that went to Nolan H. Newton from North Carolina for numerous contributions to the Mid-Atlantic region. Joe Andrews (NC) was elected as president, Anita Ray (WV) for vice president, Jasper Varn (SC) for 1<sup>st</sup> vice president; new state directors included Jeff Heusel (GA), Anthony Dewitt (MD), Mike Hutchenson (PA).

Anita Ray had to step down from vice president, a special election was held and Mike Hutchenson (PA) will be the vice president.

Now that the North Carolina meeting is over we turn our attention to the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will be held February 21-24, 2012 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The spring planning meeting will be in late April or early May. Part of my job as state director is to bring at least 3 possible speakers/topics to the spring planning meeting. Anyone interested in presenting at the 2012 meeting needs to contact me ASAP. I hope to see all of you who are able to attend, as the meeting is definitely worth the drive.

Submitted by Tim DuBois

#### What's that?

As Editor, I'd like to introduce a new item to the Skeeter. Each issue I'll include a photo of an unknown object for you to identify. Please send any photographs and a description of what it is for consideration for this column. These may include vectors or other interesting organisms, equipment, people, or anything else. Our inaugural photo and answer description comes courtesy of Andy Lima.



Answer on Page 11.

Presentations from the 2011 Virginia Mosquito Control Association annual meeting are now available in PDF format at:

http://www.mosquito-va.org/2011ppt.htm

Not a member? Join us at:

http://www.mosquito-va.org/membership.htm

Annual dues for 2011 are:

Regular member	\$15
Organizational member	\$20
Associate member	\$10
Student member	\$10
Sustaining member	\$400

## Dr. Jorge Arias Receives AMCA's Volunteer of the Year Recognition

On April 19th, Dr. Jorge Arias received AMCA's Volunteer of the Year Recognition. The award was presented by Dr. Stanton E. Cope, Director, AMCA's Mid-Atlantic Region. Approximately 65 of Jorge's friends, colleagues and family attended. Dr. Arias was commended for his outstanding contributions to the furtherance of mosquito control education and outreach programs in Fairfax County, Virginia, and to communities around the world. The Fairfax County program has an outstanding education and outreach program comprised of committed biologists, entomologists, and community outreach staff. This team has developed outstanding brochures, calendars and books used for community education efforts. In March of 2011, Fairfax County joined with the AMCA to provide their educational materials to all communities and non-profits to personalize and use in their communities, without the upfront design and development costs.



Left to right: Dr. Cope, Sharon Bulova (Fairfax Co.), Dr. Arias, Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu (Fairfax Co. Health), Rosalyn Foroobar (Fairfax Co. Health), Anthony Griffin (Fairfax Co. Executive)

## York County Update

York County sends this letter to its 80 Homeowners' Associations every year as part of their awareness and prevention outreach program.

Submitted by Tom Gallagher

Department of Environmental and Development Services

Director John Hudgins



Utilities Engineering and Operations
Development and Compliance
Stormwater Management
Building Regulation
Waste Management
Mosquito Control

March 17, 2011

Homeowner Association Representative

Hear ye! Hear ye! The mosquito season will soon be upon us in the next couple of months. As part of our outreach initiatives as to mosquito awareness and prevention, information is sent to HOAs to share and encourage constituents to become mosquito preventers by dumping out standing water in yard receptacles at least once a week. In other words mosquito prevention all starts at home.

In York County we live in a mosquito enriched environment due to the many miles of fresh and salt water breeding opportunities. In essence, there is no such thing as a "mosquito free environment" in the County. To reduce their number, mosquito control utilizes an integrated management program that focuses on breeding habitats along with control of adult flying mosquitoes. Please be aware that we stock with fish and or biologically treat all known BMP ponds that breed mosquitoes. We start below and finish above for effective control.

As you may know, we had a "Mosquito Control Needs Your Help" article recently published in the County's Spring Citizen News that solicits mosquito volunteers to assist in surveillance activities, along with how to obtain offered biological larvicide/mosquito fish. Also mentioned was the mosquito spray hotline (890-3793) to be activated on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

If interested in finding more about our program as to what we do and how we do it, check out our new and improved web site at www.yorkcounty.gov/ after the / in the address bar at the top type mosquito control. The York County calendar for 2011 in the month of July contains "Let's Be Skeeter Beater" information that includes frequently asked questions by our citizens along with answers to them. Lastly, please share this information in your association's newsletter and call me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Gallagher

Superintendent

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Tom Gallagher celebrating between two Irish Colleens, Cora Saunders & Laurie Halperin, who is threatening the leprechaun with a shillelagh club.

## Legislative Update

#### **NPDES Pesticide General Permit**

In February of 2011, the Virginia version of the NPDES Pesticide General Permit was approved by the EPA..

Shortly thereafter it was adopted by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

On March 28, 2011, the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals granted EPA's request for a further extension of the effective date of the Court's ruling and deadline for when permits will be required for pesticide discharges from April 9, 2011 to October 31, 2011. (See VDPES Change, Page 10)

On March 29, 2011 Virginia DEQ announced that although the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court has granted a federal extension to obtain an NPDES discharge permit for pesticide applications to surface water, the Virginia pesticide general permit will still go into effect on April 10, 2011."

In a response to requests to reconsider the effective date, and in an effort of cooperation, VDEQ was able to suspend the initial effective date of April 10, 2011 while keeping the permit in place and have a new effective date established to coincide with the EPA's effective date of October 31, 2011. This took considerable effort on the part of VDEQ and saved us many hours of committee work. We commend DEQ's Fred Cunningham and his staff that worked so diligently to make this happen in a timely manner.

Around the same time the U.S. House of Representatives passed a legislative fix that would clarify that pesticide applications fall under the auspices of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide& Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and are not governed under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

There is now a companion bill that has been introduced in the U.S. Senate; bill S. 718 that is the beginning of efforts to complete the legislative fix for this highly misunderstood issue.

Please take the time to read the AMCA's Status of Efforts to Address NPDES through Legislation and get involved.

#### Gypsy Moth Program Information

There currently is a petition requesting the exemption for gypsy moth trappers working under the auspices of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

The petitioner is requesting that the Pesticide Control Board exempt gypsy moth trappers working under the auspices of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services from having to hold or obtain pesticide applicator or registered technician certification.

The Pesticide Control Board will consider this request at its next quarterly meeting following the public comment period.

Public comment period will begin 4/25/2011 and end on 5/16/2011.

For more details check out <a href="http://www.townhall.virginia.gov/l/viewpetition.cfm?petitionid=134">http://www.townhall.virginia.gov/l/viewpetition.cfm?petitionid=134</a>

#### Ad hoc: Legislative Committee

Anyone interested in participating in the legislative efforts or interested in serving on other Ad hoc committees please e-mail <a href="mailto:buc06@co.henrico.va.us">buc06@co.henrico.va.us</a> with your contact information.

Submitted by Randy B. Buchanan VMCA Ad hoc Committee Chair

## Status of Efforts to Address NDPES through Legislation

The AMCA Legislative and Regulatory Chair, Dave Brown, and our legislative counsel, Ed Ruckert, have been working diligently behind the scenes with a coalition of stakeholders in the agricultural sectors to explore means by which a legislative fix to the Clean Water Act problem can be obtained. This is where we stand at present.

- 1) It should be noted and understood that getting a piece of legislation that deals with pesticides, such as HR 872, placed on and adopted on the House suspension calendar is a tremendous feat in and of itself given historical legislative priorities.
- 2) As we move to the Senate, we will need to address issues that were brought up in the House Debates, particularly those mentioned by Representative Bishop regarding U.S. Geological Survey reports on pesticides in our nation's waters. CropLife America, a member of the coalition, has indicated they will take the lead on this. For consistency of message we will probably consider using their document modified with our perspective.
- 3) Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS) introduced the Senate Bill S 718, which amends FIFRA so that no further permit is required to legally apply a duly registered pesticide, as a place holder. A copy of the Bill can be found at <a href="http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c112:S.718">http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c112:S.718</a>. It is generally understood by legal authorities that the language in this bill alone may not fully address all the problems it is meant to solve. Nevertheless, it should should initiate some much-needed discussion in the Senate. In any case, AMCA should support the bill at this time, while acknowledging that it may not fully address our concerns and may require amending as other possibilities come into play.
- 4) There is some thought that the concern with addressing this issue within the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee, may not necessarily be attributable to Chairwoman Senator Boxer, but rather with the Committee staff. It is thus important to prompt Democratic Senators, particularly those on the EPW Committee, to reach out to her and garner her support for a legislative fix. (Editor's note: Names of senators on this committee have been deleted because Virginia is not represented.)
- 5) In addition, we need to renew efforts to getting the affected Governor offices involved. Please continue to contact their offices so that they might contact requisite members of the Senate committees with their concerns. In addition the National Association of States Departments of Agriculture is soliciting Governors to sign a letter that will outline everyone's concerns for more effect. AMCA will post the letter once it becomes available.
- 6) In sum, our talking points for congressional legislators and staff at this time are:
  - a) Please support S. 718 while recognizing that it may need some adjustment to fully address the issue.
  - b) Continue to get Governors to prompt their Senators to move this issue forward.
  - c) Continue to address Senators directly on this issue, especially the Senators on EPW.
  - d) Be prepared to be flexible...this process will change, and we need to be able to move with it.

Hopefully, the critical nature of this issue will prompt a number of you to become involved with your own legislators so that they can make informed decisions about the nature of our work. I would urge you to attend this year's Washington Legislative Conference May 9-11, 2011 at the Westin Alexandria, Virginia and participate in YOUR political process.

Submitted by Randy B. Buchanan

## Fairfax County Update

During the cool weather months the Fairfax County Disease Carrying Insects Program (DCIP) has been busy with a wide variety of projects. In the area of community education and outreach, the 2011-2012 Fight the Bite calendar is ready to go to press. This year we introduced a new cartoon character, our own Super Hero, called BITE BUSTER – we are certain you will enjoy this colorful and informative educational tool. Now in the final stages of development is DCIP's third children's book. This book gives the reader a view into the world of bugs and entomology. In an effort to supplement the tick displays, DCIP staff now has successfully embedded ticks in clear plastic blocks to allow people to look at ticks in different life stages.

Ada Garcia returned to her native county of El Salvador to meet with government officials for the purpose of gaining citizenship here in the United States. The path to US citizenship is not always quick or easy but in the end it is all worth it. We are all so proud of Ada for her commitment and determination to seek citizenship.

DCIP staff members John Orr, Sara Bennett, and Natalie Mendez have continued tick surveillance efforts through the winter months. The team continues to find ticks though numbers have decreased dramatically from their summertime peak. A warm winter day seems to be enough to bring the ticks out.

"It doesn't take much," said John Orr, "We've caught ticks with the temperature in the low 40s." Many people

do not consider the risk of tick bite during the winter but this work demonstrates the importance of protecting yourself against ticks at all times of the year. DCIP team member Carl Sivertsen wants to remind the Health Department that DEET makes a great gift for golfers, hikers and gardeners.

Sonya Graves was married in Chincoteague, VA on October 10th, 2010 and honeymooned in California late February with her husband who is on assignment with the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command division of the Navy in San Diego, CA.

Carl Sivertsen attended the MAMCA meeting in Wilmington N.C. and presented information about community education and outreach. Carl not only announced the new education and outreach partnership with AMCA, he reminded the group that mosquito control should not be a well kept secret. He encouraged conference attendees to keep your program message simple and in front of constituents all year round.

DCIP will be having a week long display at the Fairfax County Government Center during May as we recognize Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

Submitted by Carl Sivertsen



## City of Richmond Update

#### City of Richmond Avoids Mosquito Control Program Shutdown

The City of Richmond recently averted an across the board cut to their mosquito control program. The City's Department of Public Utilities was faced with a mandatory budget reduction, and it was proposed and internally announced that eliminating the mosquito program would achieve the necessary reduction. Collaboration amongst regional mosquito folks and administrators began immediately, and we are pleased to report that in the end, the City of Richmond will maintain their mosquito control program at full operating capacity. Horace Todd, the mosquito control supervisor, has made tremendous strides within the past 3 years in developing a program that helps to control the massive amount of *Culex* sp. production in the City's combined sewer, stormwater inlet basins. We commend his on-going efforts and passion to keep the City's mosquito control program alive. Key players in this collaborative approach also included the City's Department of Public Utilities, the Virginia Department of Health, and the Henrico County Engineering and Environmental Services Division.

Submitted by Lane Carr

#### **VPDES Change**

The Director of the Department of Environmental Quality has suspended the effective date of 9VAC25-800, the Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) General Permit For Discharges Resulting From the Application of Pesticides to Surface Waters. This regulation was adopted by the State Water Control Board on February 4, 2011, with an effective date of April 10, 2011. It was published in the Virginia Register on February 28, 2011.

This Virginia VPDES general permit regulation was developed to comply with the 6th Circuit Court's ruling. On March 28, 2011, the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals granted EPA's request for a further extension of the effective date of the Court's ruling and deadline for when permits will be required for pesticide discharges from April 9, 2011 to October 31, 2011. The Director of the Department of Environmental Quality suspended the effective date of 9VAC25-800 to be consistent with the 6th Circuit Court's ruling. The Department will present an amended Pesticides General Permit Regulation with a revised effective date of October 31, 2011, and a revised expiration date of December 31, 2013, to the State Water Control Board for readoption at their April 14, 2011 meeting.

The suspension is posted on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website:

http://www.townhall.state.va.us/L/ViewChapter.cfm?chapterid=2418

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Fred

Fred K. Cunningham, Director Office of Water Permits & Compliance Assistance Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

phone: 804.698.4285

#### What's that? Answer

That is a 4th instar *Psorphora ciliata*. Although nitpickers will say it could potentially be a *Ps. howardii*, because the difference between these two species is a very small seta on the anal saddle, I checked under the scope, and it's a *Ps. ciliata*.

They are predacious as larvae and occur in sunny floodwater conditions. Like many *Psorophora*, they develop quicker than the *Aedes vexans* that they often cohabitate with, and can eat hundreds of larvae before pupating. The adults are large, vicious, and often day-biting. In Florida they're known as Gallinippers.

The squared-off head should give it away to most larval IDers.

Submitted by Andy Lima

#### VMCA Committees

Please join a committee and help strengthen your association.

#### **Annual Meeting:**

- Facilities & Arrangements: Chooses the location for the next annual meeting to be held. Negotiate the contract (food, space needs, room night stays, etc.) with the hotel. This committee works on several aspects of the Annual Meeting including: securing the correct space for the general meeting, breaks, vendor displays, the banquet and the afternoon/evening social events, obtaining audio & visual equipment, decisions on food/drink items for the banquet, breaks and socials, meeting setup, commencement and break down. They will act as the liaison between the hotel and the VMCA.
- Program Committee: Organizes and schedules the agenda for the next annual meeting by securing speakers and their time slots, accommodate the speakers special presentations needs, setting up break times, setting up banquet speaker if appropriate. This committee also secures that the VMCA annual meeting agenda requests is a VDACS approved recertification course. The President –Elect is always the chair of this committee, if you would like to help or have suggestions for this committee please contact the President-Elect.
- Commercial Planning: Works closely with our Sustaining Members (Commercial Vendors) to inform them of our annual meeting. Helps them get the necessary information to help them maintain their relationship with VMCA and their VMCA sustaining membership. Helps them setup/breakdown their displays at the annual meeting.

Audit: Audits the records of the VMCA Secretary/Treasurer

<u>Education</u>: Organizes the educational needs for VMCA, to include setting up recertification courses and identification courses.

Historian: Collects and keeps records and information on the history of VMCA.

<u>Information</u>: Develops the Quarterly VMCA Newsletter, "The Skeeter." The Skeeter delivers important information on our activities and interesting information that pertains to mosquito control biology and operations.

<u>Membership</u>: Organizes and maintains the VMCA membership lists, Award recipients, old members, sustaining members, and actively provides pertinent information about members. This committee provides information to the entire membership when necessary.

<u>Photography</u>: Takes pictures when attending VMCA events of mosquito related (recertification courses, identification courses, the Annual Meeting, TMVCC meetings, TRAST meetings, etc). These pictures put a face to the name of what we do and can be submitted to "The Skeeter" and committees when necessary.

<u>Public Relations</u>: Organizes VMCA public outreach activities, seeks any beneficial media coverage for VMCA activities, ensures a Mosquito Control Awareness Week is approved by the Governor, and helps to set up the display at the Annual Meeting.

Web Page: Designs, maintains, and updates the VMCA web page.

## From the AMCA Director, Mid Atlantic Region ..... MARGram # 36 – Report on AMCA Annual Meeting

Greetings to All!!!

I have recently returned from the annual meeting of the American Mosquito Control

Association, held in Anaheim, CA (Disneyland) 20-24 March. It was an incredibly successful meeting in a number of ways. I have tried to capture some of the highlights below.

There were approximately 1,055 people who registered, representing 29 countries! This represented the second highest attendance in the past several years (the highest was in Orlando at Disneyworld – is there an emerging trend here???). There were 310 abstracts submitted for the oral and poster sessions. This represents another new record!

Once again, there was a student paper competition. The winner was Logan Minter from the University of Kentucky. He won \$2,000! Honorable Mention went to Jennifer Meckel Parker from San Diego State University. Please encourage any students you may have or know about to enter this competition next year. It is a very good experience for them, as they are scored in several areas by a panel of judges.

One of AMCA's newest initiatives is the "AMCA Young Professionals". This group is for people who are new to the field or who have approximately 5 years or less experience. We formally kicked it off in Anaheim with a symposium on career opportunities. We had over 60 in attendance. This was followed immediately by a social hour that was graciously sponsored by AMVAC. If you or someone you know are interested in learning more about the YPs, contact me or Alexandra Chaskopoulou at andahask@ufl.edu.

The following awards were given:

- Medal Of Honor Dave Brown, Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control, CA
- Belkin Award Dr. Rampa Rattanarithikul Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Thailand (she was nominated by Dr. Bruce Harrison)
- Presidential Citation Dr. Roxanne Connelly, Florida Medical Entomology Lab, FL; Angela Balint, Benton County Mosquito Control, WA
- Meritorious Service Award L.A. Williams, Department of Health and Environmental Control, SC; Dr. Harry Savage, CDC, CO
- Memorial Lecturer COL (retired) Terry Klein, PhD, honoring Dr. Harrison G. Dyar
- Industry Award David Sullivan, Belgrade, MT
- Boyd-Ariaz Grass Roots Award Russell Eck, NV; Phillip Henry, CA; Levi Zahn, ND; and David Bruget, CA
- Volunteer of the Year Recognition our very own Dr. Jorge Arias. Well done, sir!!!

I encourage you to consider your people for some of these awards, especially the Grass Roots award. This award is specifically designed for those people who do the day-to-day control work.

The AMCA website is undergoing significant revision and the changes/additions are all for the better. You can expect to see the new site up and running in about 4-6 weeks.

AMCA is offering a new type of membership, called the Transition Membership. It is for students who have recently graduated and are moving into the job market. It will cost ½ of a regular membership and is good for one year only.

Finally, next year's annual meeting is in Austin, Texas. Yeeee-haw!!! The dates are a bit earlier (February 26-March 1). More information is available on the AMCA website.



2011 American Mosquito Control Association Board of Directors, Anaheim, CA

## 2011 Sustaining Members

The VMCA gratefully acknowledges the support of the following sustaining members for 2011. Without their generous contributions, much of what we do would not be possible. Please do not hesitate to contact them. They are here to help you!



al.kent@univarusa.com

j.andrews@valent.com

## 2011 Organizational Members

Chesapeake Mosquito Control Commission Joe Simmons 900 Hollowell Lane, Chesapeake VA 23320 jsimmons@cityofchesapeake.net (757) 382-3450	City of Emporia Linwood Pope 201 S. Main Street Emporia, VA 23841 publicutilities@telpage.net (434) 634-4500	City of Hampton Timothy DuBois 419 N. Armistead Ave. Hampton, VA 23669 tdubois@hampton.gov (757) 727-2807
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Are you a director, manager, lead mosquito control person in your area? Consider signing up as an organizational member, the cost is only \$20 and includes one regular membership.

# VMCA organization mailing address Make sure you send all forms to the proper address.

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cabadam@city.suffolk.va.us

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### The Skeeter

## Newsletter of The Virginia Mosquito **Control Association**

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www.mosquito-va.org

Take the time to volunteer on a committee. An active membership makes for a stronger organization. Contact anyone on the Board to participate.

## 2011 Virginia Mosquito Control Association Officers

President: Charles Abadam

President-elect: Lisa Wagenbrenner Vice President: Joe Simmons 1st Vice President: James Will

Secretary / Treasurer:

Past President: LCDR Brian Prendergast

\*TMVCC Representative: Tim DuBois \*MAMCA Representative: Tim DuBois

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The Skeeter is the official publication of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association.

The VMCA membership is encouraged to submit articles, reviews, and any other interesting facts or tidbits for publication. Submissions can be sent to Justin Anderson at skeeter@radford.edu.

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