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THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, Incorporated

formerly

THE HYACINTH CONTROL SOCIETY, Incorporated

on January 1, 1976

POST OFFICE BOX 2237

FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33902

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32304

Robert D. Blackburn
Joyce Environmental
Consultants, Inc.
414 Live Oaks Blvd.
Casselberry, Fla. 32707

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 1

Up and Away: Today, Candy Joyce and I boarded Delta's 747 for a flight to Dallas, Texas, to attend the annual meeting of the Southern Weed Science Society. I could think of no better time to start the first Newsletter for the APMS. Yesterday, our Company completed the final report for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers on the present and projected problems of aquatic plant management for the Cross Florida Barge Canal Project. It has been one of the highlights of my career working on this project. I realized while working on this project our profession is important and our role in the future use of water resources will be an important one. How important this role may be could be determined by those concerned with this Society. With that in mind, I would like to suggest the theme for our 1976 meeting be "The New Frontier in Aquatic Plant Management." There is no better time to begin than this year. Our problems are many, we have a new Society and our water resources are in great demand. We have the opportunity to be the leader or we can be second best. Personally, I have never felt that second best is a winner when you can be first with a little more effort. The Weed Science Society of America made "Water Management", the theme of their 1976 meeting. This alone should tell you that our future is important but will APMS be the leader? Only our membership can answer this question. Let 1976 or America's Bicentennial year be APMS year of progress. Our role in the Bicentennial celebration could be "aquatic plant management for the next century".

PLAN TO PARTICIPATE! Annual Meeting, Bahia Mar Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, July 11 - 14, 1976

We Survived: Aquatic plant management programs have survived one of their most difficult years. Budgets in 1975 were reduced, products were expensive and in short supply and new state and federal regulations made our task more difficult. Not since the 1930's or great depression has the world economy been so bleak. Many economists feel that we have survived and brighter days are ahead. Regardless of the future, we have had the opportunity to closely observe our efficiency in program operations. We needed this but I'm afraid we may quickly forget the past year should the economy recover rapidly.

1976 Meeting: Many of our members have had the opportunity to visit Fort Lauderdale, Florida, but there may be some that have not had this enjoyment. To the new visitors, as a resident of the area for 14 years before moving to Casselberry, I can attest to the beauty of the area. The city, beaches, restaurants and tourist attractions are some of the most beautiful in the world. Located 200 miles south of Walt Disney World, 20 miles north of Miami, 180 miles north of Key West and one hour flight away from the Bahamas; you will have the opportunity to truly make this annual meeting a combination business and vacation trip. Our hotel accommodations are the best in the area and the management has rolled out the red carpet for the APMS. If you have not made plans to attend you should do so now. I assure you it will be an enjoyable meeting and vacation. Your Local Arrangements Committee met at the Bahia Mar Hotel in January to finalize plans for the meeting. As a member of this committee, I can tell each of you the 1976 arrangements are in excellent order for your arrival in July. Be a part of the first meeting of APMS. Your attendance and participation in this meeting will be a valuable contribution to the Society.

Southern Weed Science Society: The aquatic weed program was small but those present seemed to enjoy the presentations. The section chairman and the majority of the authors presenting papers were members of APMS. It is obvious that APMS has had an impact on the aquatic section of SWSS in the last decade. The 1965 meeting of SWSS was also held in Dallas, Texas and 38 papers were presented in the aquatic weed section and in 1975 there were 7 papers presented. I believe the impact of the old HCS on the SWSS has been shown but this impact has not been extended into other sections of the United States. We congratulate Lou Richardson, chairman of SWSS aquatic section, for assembling an interesting program. We recognize his many problems in obtaining papers for the session. Travel restrictions and competition with the Weed Science Society meeting made his task very difficult. The meeting will return to Dallas, Texas next year.

Call for Papers: Enclosed with the Newsletter is a call for papers. The Program Committee would like for you to get your title in early. The Committee is expecting a large response from the membership. An early response will assure you of a place on the program. In the last Newsletter I emphasized the need for a balance in this Society between research and operations. To accomplish this there must be a response from both groups for time on the pro-

gram. I think the research group will respond, but I'm concerned about operational papers. Many operational agencies have valuable information on techniques of application, herbicidal uses, unusual equipment, economics of operations, and total plant management programs that would make excellent presentations and supply valuable data to the membership. Remember, poor results are as important as successful ones. If you have an idea for a paper or know of someone that can present one of interest to the membership, please contact the Program Committee. They need all of your suggestions to give you the desired program. Remember, you are the APMS. Exercise this privilege.

Board Meeting: The President has called a Board Meeting for March 17, 1976. If you desire to have something discussed at the meeting please contact the President. I'm sure he will have it placed on the agenda for discussion. Should you desire to appear before the Board to discuss a subject, request the time. It is only fair that you contact the Board beforehand to obtain a time and place on the agenda. Somehow, I keep getting the idea that certain members have subjects that they would like to discuss, but never take it to the Board of Directors. We can't blame the Board if we never step forward and express our opinion. The president has informed your Newsletter Editor that he plans to operate APMS by the rules of government in the sunshine. If you have time and wish to sit in on the meeting, contact him.

Thank You: When was the last time you used this word or said to someone the job was well done. Try it sometime and see the response. In our daily operations we sometimes forget others and their efforts. If you think someone has done a good job let him know it. The response that you get may be surprising.

Commercial Members: I've been discussing APMS with various commercial people in the last month. I've tried to get their input on where they feel their role may be in the new Society. I'm going to continue to do this over the next few months and present it as a report at the Commercial Breakfast planned for the 1976 meeting in Fort Lauderdale. I would appreciate hearing from other commercial members that I do not have the opportunity to see. The report will not reveal those that I discussed the subject with nor their organization. I do believe this is an unused resource in APMS and we need to determine how we can correct the problem. Help me get the true facts, commercial members.

Commercial Exhibits: The 1976 meeting rooms have been arranged to obtain maximum exposure to those companies that have displays at the meeting. It is an excellent opportunity for our commercial companies to display their products and programs. I'm sure that Paul Brewer will work with all of the commercial companies to provide the needed display space. I would suggest you contact Paul in the near future and discuss your needs. Display space is provided free if you are a Commercial Sustaining Member. If you are not a member there is a fee for the display. Contact Paul Brewer, J & B Associates, P. O. Box 660493, Miami Springs, Florida 33166. Phone: 305-592-6239.

Correction: In the last Newsletter I discussed the recent problems that had developed on the issuance of aquatic permits for management operations in

Florida. The facts were correct at the time the letter was written but before you received the Newsletter, the information was "null and void". The issue has not been resolved and the draft of agreement between the various state agencies has not been signed. The reasons are many but the basis of the problem is the definition of "pollution". The laws of Florida defines pollution as "the presence in the outdoor atmosphere or waters of the state of any one or more substances, contaminants, or noise in quantities which are or may be potentially harmful or injurious to human health or welfare, animal or plant life, or property, or unreasonably interfere with the enjoyment of life or property, including outdoor recreation." It applies to all fresh, brackish, saline, tidal, surface or underground waters of the state. The discharge of toxic chemicals or substances which could harm or injure plant or aquatic life is a violation. This state statute has been present for several years, but was brought to light recently when a ruling was made by the Florida Attorney General. If it is injurious to plants or animals it is classified as a contaminant. I'm sorry about the mistake fellows: Permits for aquatic weed control operations are being issued, but the validity of the permit is questionable. APMS President, Newsletter Editor and a representative of Florida Aerial Applicators met on February 4th in Tallahassee to discuss the problem with the Florida Department of Agriculture, Department of Environmental Resources and Department of Natural Resources. APMS Legislative Committee Chairman missed the meeting because of illness. All of the state agencies express concern and a desire to assist in resolving the problem, but their ability to do so is regulated by state statute. Aquatic herbicides are approved by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and Florida Department of Agriculture, but the Florida Department of Environmental Resources has had to classify them as contaminants because they kill plants. The question arises as to the next step to resolve the problem. It appears our most rapid solution is mediation. My request is the various agencies meet face to face and discuss the problem. I believe the term "pollution" is similar in other states and federal legislation. You fellows in other states may wish to check on this point. The most definite point made by DER was there are "no acts of God" that will influence a fish kill. (This has already been established in the courts).

New Aquatic Herbicide: After many years of research (20 years) CIBA-Geigy Corporation has been issued a label for AquazineTM. The product has been cleared for use on algae and submersed weed control. A tolerance of 12 ppm of Aquazine and the two chlorinated metabolites in fish has been approved by EPA. Should you need additional information on the product you can contact Dick Conn, Registration and Toxicology Dept., CIBA-Geigy Corp., Greensboro, N. C. 27409.

Delayed: President Ford recently signed a law which contained provisions to delay for one year (10/21/77) the deadline for certification of applicators. How this will affect various state certification programs has not been decided as of this date.

S. O. L. Watch for this S. O. S. signal in the future. The letters will be explained in a future Newsletter. Should you see a bumper sticker with these letters on it be sure and wave. The first stickers have already been issued in the central Florida area. Several members in this Society played an important part in this movement. It directly concerns our industry.

We Need Help: I really wonder if the APMS membership is concerned with the future of the organization. In the last Newsletter I requested assistance on various newsworthy items that could be included in this Newsletter. You guessed it, not one response from the membership, but I did get criticized for reporting the incorrect information on the aquatic plant permits in Florida. I appreciate this, because it shows that some of you do read the Newsletter. I'm thankful for these small blessings.

2,4-D: EPA just recently issued a label for the use of Amchem's 2,4-D in flowing water. We congratulate Amchem in their continued effort in getting the product registered. We are a minor consumer and the problems of registering a herbicide for aquatic weed control is costly, time consuming and frustrating to the herbicidal industry.

We Are Trying: I'll try to keep you advised on APMS. The next Newsletter will be written in March. Help me make it a successful one.

AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY

CALL FOR PAPERS

Title of Paper:

Author:

Author's address:

Phone:

Paper to be presented by:

Session requested for paper to be presented in:

☐ Research

☐ Application

☐ Student

Brief abstract of paper:

The deadline for submission of papers has been scheduled for April 20, 1976, in order that the Program Committee can finalize the program in time to have the completed programs mailed to the membership by June 1, 1976.

Please return your paper to Ray Spirnock, 414 Live Oak Boulevard, Casselberry, Florida, 32707.