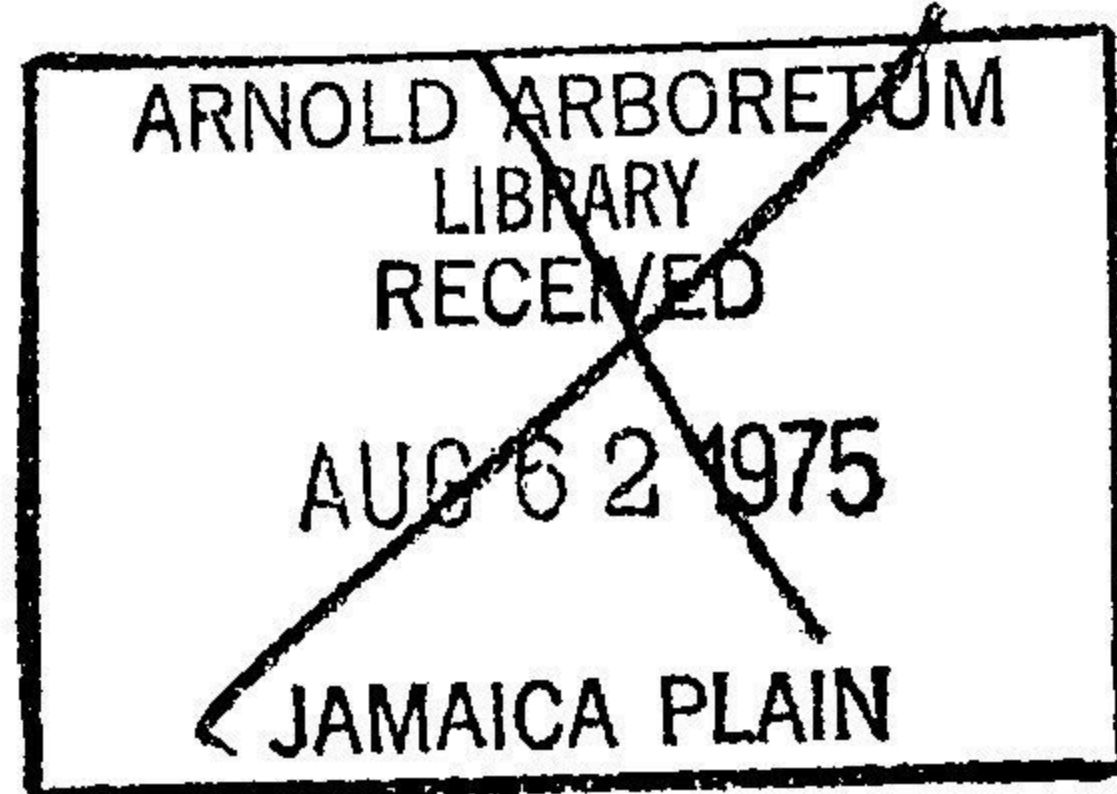


U.S.
A-39.5
GA

THE HYACINTH CONTROL SOCIETY, Incorporated
to become
THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, Incorporated
on January 1, 1976

POST OFFICE BOX 2237
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33902



ADDRESS REPLY TO:

Alva P. Burkhalter
Department of Natural Resources
Crown Building, 202 Blount Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32304

NEWSLETTER [25]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1974-75

OFFICERS

- L. V. GUERRA, PRESIDENT
TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
134 BRANIFF
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78204
- RAY A. SPIRNOCK, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
CENTRAL & SOUTHERN FLORIDA FLOOD
CONTROL DISTRICT
7259 OAKMONT DRIVE
LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA 33460
- DR. ROBERT W. GEIGER, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
THE SM COMPANY
400 N. E. 27TH STREET
POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA 33064
- DR. ALVA P. BURKHALTER, PAST PRESIDENT
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LARSON BUILDING, ROOM 595
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32304
- BRANDT. G. WATSON, TREASURER
NAPLES MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT
POST OFFICE BOX 725
NAPLES, FLORIDA 33940
- DR. DAVID L. SUTTON, EDITOR
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
3205 S. W. 70TH AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33300
- T. W. MILLER, JR., SECRETARY
LEE COUNTY HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICT
POST OFFICE BOX 2237
FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33902

DIRECTORS

- J. CLARKE HUDSON
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
4849 BRITTANY BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32303
- DONALD V. LEE
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE & FISHERIES
836 MAXINE DRIVE
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70808
- W. L. MCCLINTOCK
CITY OF WINTER PARK
1815 PINEVIEW CIRCLE
WINTER PARK, FLORIDA 32789
- JULIAN J. RAYNES
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1567 KNOB HILL DRIVE, N. E.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30329
- KERRY K. STEWARD
USDA, ARS, SRAO
3205 S. W. 70TH AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33314
- NELSON VIRDEN
VIRDEN WEED CONTROL SERVICE
ROUTE 3, BOX 414
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39213

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

- DR. ALVA P. BURKHALTER
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LARSON BUILDING, ROOM 595
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32304

Bob Blackburn passes NEWSLETTER along

I suppose many of you may be wondering why you do not see Bob Blackburn's name at the top of the NEWSLETTER. Bob, for many years, has served as the editor of the NEWSLETTER and has supplied you with juicy tidbits. Bob recently gave up his job at the U. S. Department of Agriculture and has gone into private business. It is my understanding that he went into both the consultation and application business, but he has been doing so well in consultation that he has decided to sell his application business and go into full-time consulting. We do wish Bob a lot of success in his new venture and are sure that he will do as well in this phase of his life as he has done as a researcher with USDA. I am sure, too, that the Society extends thanks to him for his many years of service on the NEWSLETTER.

Now that time means money in private consultation life, he has passed along the job of NEWSLETTER editor to someone else; and since when this subject was brought up everyone looked at me, I graciously volunteered to try to spread some of the local changes, events, and gossip around to you--possibly in not as colorful a manner as Bob did; but at least I'll try to keep you abreast of some of the changes that are going on in aquatic weed control science.

Handwritten signature/initials

Hyacinth Control Society Meeting - 1975

First let me talk a little bit about the Hyacinth Control Society meeting that is coming up in 1975, and I can start off by saying that anyone who misses this meeting is probably going to be mad at himself for years to come. I have been conversing with Lou Guerra, your President, about the meeting coming up and can assure you that it is going to be a real wingding. The meeting, as I understand it, will start July 6, that's a Sunday evening, with a cocktail party. We'll move into papers and discussions on the following Monday, and about 3 o'clock on Monday evening; it seems Lou has some friends who own a brewery somewhere near San Antonio. Therefore, we are going to be invited out to a little barbecue "Texas style" with a whole lot of beer available; and I'm sure that, knowing the consumption rate of alcoholic beverages of the Hyacinth Control Society, this little wingding will be enjoyed and attended by most everyone.

Tuesday, we will get back into the grind a little bit with some more papers. Then Tuesday evening comes our annual banquet, and I understand that there will be a band available with some real belly-rubbing music. They promised to play all the "oldies" and "goodies"; so bring your wives (or girlfriends) along to the meeting. It smells of a very joyous affair.

Wednesday, we will finish up with the remainder of the meeting and then Lou has a special treat in store for those who want to remain and pay a little extra money. He is getting together a trip down into Mexico City. As I understand, the plans are to leave early Thursday and head for Mexico City for six days and five nights. Further information will be supplied on the trip to you by the President, but he has assured me that he will be our local guide. Seeing as how his second hobby seems to be speaking Spanish and Mexican history, I would think it will be a most colorful six days. I do plan to attend, provided the bridge don't wash out and the creek rise, but I would encourage all those who can to take part in this event.

Meeting Site 1976

Mr Ray Spirnock, the chairman of the site selection and site preparation committee for 1976, has contacted and informed me that the 1976 meeting will be held in Fort Lauderdale at a place called the Bahia Mar. The dates that have been tentatively set for the meeting are July 11-14. Ray says that this facility is one of the newest ones in the area, and he feels that we will be completely pleased with the accommodations offered by the motel.

Hydrilla

Of course, in any newsletter, it is very necessary to report on the latest movement of hydrilla around the United States. Most of you are probably aware that Louisiana discovered hydrilla in several of their reservoir systems last year. I understand that they have done some control and feel that

Hydrilla (Continued)

they have done so very successfully. However, they do report that in the areas where they have not got around to treating, as yet, the plant is surviving and seems to be doing exceedingly well. It is also my understanding, in talking with your President, that this plant has now moved into the State of Texas, (he says it grows bigger there than in Florida) and everywhere he looks he finds a little more of it. He has found it in some potable water reservoirs. I understand that one of them is a lake near Houston that encompasses about 90,000 acres. It has also been positively identified by Dr. Kerry Steward in a sample that he obtained from the San Marcos River. As an old Florida "Cracker" who has fought this weed for a considerably long time now, I would like to extend congratulations to the states of Texas and Louisiana and assure them that they now have weed problems!

Of course these are not the only states that have received donations of hydrilla. We in Florida have stopped sale, shipment and growth of the plant within our state; and of course as quick as we did most of our wild plant pickers ran up into the state of Georgia and Alabama. And although it has not been identified positively in Alabama, it has been identified in some of the Georgia lakes, and I feel most certain has gotten into the State of Alabama. Although many of the states in the southeast have not positively identified this plant within their water systems, it would not surprise me if any day we hear of this plant being distributed throughout most of these states. Movement now seems to be occurring much more prolifically and much more rapidly than in times past. We hopefully, however, can expect some participation and some help from the federal government.

Noxious Weed Bill

In January 1975, President Ford signed into effect the Noxious Weed Bill. This bill is aimed at preventing the introduction and spread of noxious weeds into the United States. Those of us in aquatics are very appreciative of this bill and have worked hard for its passage. The careless release of exotic plants into our state has been one of the primary reasons for our severe aquatic plant problems. We do appreciate any help that Uncle Sam can extend to us in relieving this burdensome problem. Those of you who are not familiar with this bill probably should write your Congressman and obtain copies of it and read it thoroughly. It is a good bill and it does have a lot of teeth to it. I would plead with you that we all cooperate with the federal government and assure ourselves that we can halt some of this careless release and trade in exotic aquatic plants, particularly those species that might be of harm to us if released in our natural environment.

Watered-Down Diquat

I would like to bring one other point to mind to many of you. You may or may not have encountered this problem. I will have to handle this subject very delicately for fear that I may be sued by someone. As most of you know, the diquat formulation being sold by Chevron and Company contains two pounds of active ingredients per gallon, and sells, according to your neighborhood, around \$40.00 per gallon. There are some various watered-down solutions of diquat being sold - some with below .2 pounds of diquat per gallon for an exorbitant price of \$14.00 to \$15.00 per gallon for this material. If you read the label you will find the label is absolutely correct, and so are the recommendations; but you are paying for this material probably six to ten times the cost for the unwatered diquat. This points out that there are still industries who are operating on the principal that "a sucker is born every minute;" and I am sorry to say many of these industries are thriving and doing fine, because even in our modern times, W. C. Fields is probably correct. In fact, today there may be even more suckers born than when W. C. Fields made his statement. But I do caution you about this, not from the standpoint that these materials are incorrectly registered or incorrectly labeled; but they are being sold to you at exorbitant costs by various enterprises.

New Industries and Compounds in the Aquatic Field

I would like to welcome a couple of new industries and materials to the aquatic field. Many of you may be familiar with a copper-based product called Komeen. Komeen has been registered for use on hydrilla, and is utilized commonly by itself and in combination with either endothal or diquat for control of hydrilla. Komeen was handled originally by the Kennecott Copper Corporation. This division was sold to the Kocide Chemical Corporation recently, and the Kocide Chemical Corporation sold their aquatic materials to Sandoz-Wander Inc.; therefore, Sandoz is now handling the Komeen and K-lox products that were formerly under the Kocide Chemical Corporation. We want to welcome Sandoz-Wander into the aquatic field, and I'm sure if their representatives have not contacted you, they will be contacting you in the near future.

Another company that we in Florida have welcomed into the aquatic field, is Velsicol Chemical Company. We recently (in Florida) have granted a state registration to Banvel 720, which is a combination of 2, 4-D and dicamba for use on aquatic and ditchbank weeds. Again, we welcome Velsicol Chemical Company to the aquatic field, and hope they will find the hospitality pleasing and the area very profitable.

News from EPA

Some of our moans and groans about EPA and their knowledge of aquatic herbicides evidently have been heard. It is my understanding that Mr. John Rish has tried very hard to cooperate with us and has now hired a

News from EPA (continued)

new man who will be placed in charge of aquatic materials. The fellow's name is Dr. Jim Ackerman. Dr. Ackerman will handle and will be EPA's man in aquatics; therefore, we welcome Jim to this field and trust that he will be as happy within it as the rest of us. Hopefully, Jim will be able to make the Hyacinth Control meeting, and I encourage you to meet and welcome him to the field of aquatics. Let him know of both your needs and your problems so that EPA may effectively represent you in registration of materials.

Bio-Control - Insects on Water Hyacinth

On the biological control scene, we recently received federal clearance for an additional insect to be introduced as a biological control on water hyacinths. This insect is a weevil, scientifically called Neochetina bruchi. As many of you may know, one insect had previously been cleared, and to my knowledge had been released in most of the southeastern states where water hyacinth is a problem. The new insect has received federal clearance, and I believe has also received clearance in Texas, Louisiana and possibly other states for use as a biological control on water hyacinths.

Committee Appointments

Enclosed in this report please find notice of the various committee appointments made by your President. I am sure that each of you who have been appointed to these committees will be happy to function in those places, but I encourage those of you who have not been appointed to committees - do not feel that you have been left out of the Society. You are an integral part of the Society and have a lot of input in this Society. I encourage you to work hard, become a part - and a very active part of this Society.

News for the Newsletter

Just one tidbit before I sign off. A NEWSLETTER can only be as good as the news it reports, and I can only report news that I hear about. So if you have any news that you feel is worthy of the NEWSLETTER, please send this to me. My address is Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Aquatic Plant Research and Control, Crown Building, 202 Blount Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32304.

Well folks, that's all the news for now--I'll see you at the Hyacinth Control Society meeting in San Antonio. So long!