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NORTHEASTERN MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

the NORTHEASTER

April 2007 ★ No. 20

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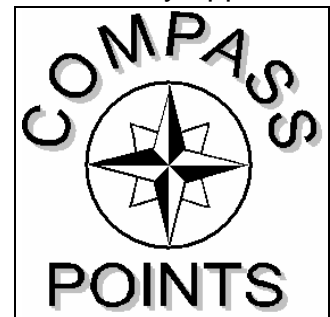
next deadline: July 1, 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hard to believe but it must be April already. I know this because as I was driving down the road the other day I could virtually hear the frenzy of *canadensis* eggs cracking. Did anyone else hear it?

The Executive Board has been hard at work during the off months – does anybody have such time anymore? Committee revitalization has been one focus for the Board and if you have not done so already I would encourage any of you to knock on our door and put your name in the hat for participation on any of the NMCA Committees. There is a wide array of opportunity to suit anyone's interest. These groups are ultimately responsible for developing and coordinating all aspects of the NMCA's Annual Meeting as well as other pertinent

business. We are always looking for fresh ideas. Some of the recent topics of discussion: our recently appointed Editor, Tim Deschamps has been hard at work on developing guidelines for a list serv where members will be able to readily access and share articles and other recommended reading materials, conference and meeting announcements, up to date information regarding the latest techniques and trends, obstacles or challenges to our industry and an overall place where members can contribute to or corroborate with the mosquito control community. Our newly appointed Outreach and Education Committee will be investigating ways in which to enrich the NMCA's role in the Public Relations department and will also be forming a Web Committee to field and post information / links of interest on the Association's web site – www.nmca.org. Check it out and let us know what you would like to see. The Advisory Committee will shortly be put to the test as we have been requested to present position



(continued on page 3)

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FOR A LIST OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND
ASSIGNMENTS, AND OTHER
INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE THE NMCA
WEBSITE AT www.nmca.org

~ NEWS YOU CAN USE ~

Check this issue for information on the 2007 Annual Meeting in Plymouth, MA.

Send your comments to: newsletter@nmca.org

SUPPORT NMCA

The NMCA Editorial Staff would like to thank the sponsors of this issue, and would like to ask the membership to take notice of the advertisements in this issue and please support our sponsors.

~ NOTE FROM THE EDITOR ~

THIS COULD BE YOUR LAST ISSUE!! That's right.....did you receive a **round, red sticker** near your address label? This means you're not current on our membership roster - but not to worry.....fill out the enclosed dues form and send it in - and we'll keep you on our mailing list!! While we're on the subject, does this newsletter reach you at the address you desire?? Is your name spelled correctly?? Do you know of someone that should receive it, and doesn't?? Do you know someone who receives it and doesn't want to?? Let me know at [<info@nmca.org>](mailto:info@nmca.org), or send a short note via fax or mail at the address on the last page of this issue.

Please note: registration at any annual meeting includes your annual dues....so come on out to the annual meetings!!

**RENEW
TODAY**

statements on two very hot topics at this time: EEE Strategy Policy and Response Protocols as well as a Mechanized Wetlands Management Policy. More to come. Believe it or not, the Program Committee is already brainstorming about this year's upcoming Program. With travel authorization issues and credit board review requirements for early agendas the Program will fill up quickly so please do not hesitate to make contact with the Committee. The Executive Board has also been discussing potential meeting places and Sturbridge, MA and Providence RI are well in the running for future Annual Meetings. The Board is happy to consider recommendations for other locations but one priority is to stay fairly central so that as many members or potential members as possible have an opportunity to attend and participate in this great event. I personally opted for British Columbia but was quickly reminded that not everyone enjoys skiing, winter or mountains as much as I do. My second choice – Hawaii was similarly rejected. John and Walter; sorry but - I tried.

As we all approach the upcoming season may I offer you this – Be well, be safe, be happy and above all hold onto your hats because... here we go again!

- Emily Sullivan, NMCA President

~ IN MEMORY OF ~

MEDFIELD - **Albert W. Heuser**, 87, of Medfield, died Sunday, March 25, 2007, at the Thomas Upham House in Medfield.

Born on June 16, 1919, in Dedham, he was a son of the late William and Hannah (Billard) Heuser and was a 1937 graduate of Dedham High School. He served with the Navy during World War II.

Mr. Heuser retired as Superintendent of Norfolk County Mosquito Control after thirty years of service. He had previously worked as a rate setter with the Bethlehem Steel Company's Shipbuilding Division for twenty years at the Fore River Shipyard. A great lover of the ocean and fishing, actually having spent some time in his youth as a lobster fisherman, Mr. Heuser enjoyed model ship building and listening to Louis Armstrong. He was a forty nine year member of the Daniel Webster Lodge AF&AM of Marshfield a member of the Marshfield American Legion.



Predeceased by his wife of 59 years, Barbara (Nay) Heuser, and a daughter, Linda Blass, he is survived by two daughters, Carol Yeager and husband Skip of Millis and Barbara Grainger and her fiancé Kevin Cuzzi of Norfolk, a brother Charles Heuser of Oregon, seven grandchildren, Kenneth Blass, David Blass, Kristen Giglio, Laura Neill, Sherry Moses, Alissa Grainger and Julianne Grainger, and four great grandchildren.

A private burial, with Military Honors, will take place at Brookdale Cemetery, Dedham, at the convenience of the family. A Memorial Service was held on Saturday, March 31, 2007, at 11:00am in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 59 Court Street, Dedham.

If desired, contributions in Al's memory may be made to the Thomas Upham House Patient Activities Fund, 519 Main Street, Medfield, MA 02052.

2007 ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

The 53rd Annual NMCA Meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel at Plymouth Harbor in Plymouth, MA from **December 3-5, 2007**. Room cost for NMCA will be **\$98 per night** (single rate – plus 5.7% Mass tax and 4% local tax) - please specify the "Northeastern Mosquito Control Association Annual Meeting" when you book your room. This special rate is only effective until Nov. 19, 2007 so please book soon!!

The Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor



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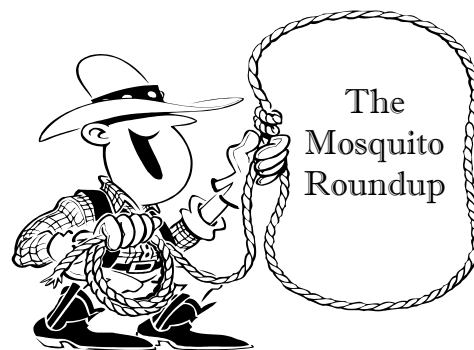
~ NMCA SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS ~

The NMCA Executive Board wants to remind everyone it's not too soon to consider candidates for the various scholarships, grants and awards that the NMCA offers to the membership each year.

- ♦ **The Bob Armstrong Award:** is given to a NMCA member for meritorious service to NMCA and mosquito control
- ♦ **The McColgan Grant-in-Aid:** will go to an individual whose work is directly related to the advancement of operational mosquito control.
- ♦ **The Jobbins Scholarship:** will go to a student whose work is in an area relevant to mosquito or biting-fly control in the Northeast.
- ♦ **The Dave Scott Memorial Award:** This award may acknowledge an improvement in a procedure, a practice, any of the many operational strategies that we perform in mosquito control on a day-to-day basis.
- ♦ **The David H. Colburn Award:** This award is dedicated to David H. Colburn, charter member of NMCA, in recognition of his service to mosquito control and his perfect attendance for the first 50 NMCA Annual Meetings. NMCA members in good standing for at least 2 years and with 20 years consecutive or cumulative in mosquito control are eligible.

For more information on these awards, please contact **Emily Sullivan**, Scholarship/Awards Chair at **(978) 474-4640** or check the website at **<www.nmca.org>** on the Annual Meeting page.

In this column, you will find **mosquito** and **arbovirus news** from the membership, from New England to New Jersey. Haven't submitted anything for this issue? Look for the contact information at the end of this newsletter and submit news from your organization next time. A paragraph or two is all that's needed. Give it some thought.



Northeast Mass. Mosquito Control & Wetlands Mgmt. District – I will begin my contribution to this spring's newsletter by quoting the last sentence of my newsletter from last spring. "As I write this it is very dry, as you well know that can change quickly, but at least for the moment I am optimistic that perhaps EEE will just go away". Boy was I wrong, and man how things do change. To steal a phrase from Forrest Gump, *"mosquito control is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're gonna get"*. I will venture a guess (you'd think I'd learn my lesson) that this season EEE will not go away even if we don't actually have any.

If you haven't noticed the network news is already talking about EEE. And in light of last year's events, activists and politicians from both sides of the argument are making headlines. Currently the pro mosquito control forces seem to have the upper hand, but that could change anytime.

We are hiring two retired persons to help with our surveillance program. They will work until the end of September rather than the third week in August as is typically the case with college students. Good luck with the upcoming season.

- Walter Montgomery, Supt.

Norfolk County MCP – We have had a 'normal' winter season with its share of follow-up from last season, and preparation for the upcoming season.

Our field crew has continued to work on hand and culvert cleaning, as well as many water management jobs, including 2 OMWM sites in Quincy.

Caroline has also been diligently working on a 404/401 Fresh-water water management permit. This will hopefully be valid once the Water Management BMP's are solidified, which has also been an ongoing task.

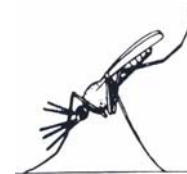
We are currently gearing up for our Spring Aerial larvicide which is again planned for vacation week – April 17-20. Every year this task seems to go smoother as we gain experience.

The summer is slated to be a busy one as we are still coming off the consequences of a heavy disease season. Increases in surveillance are planned.

We have three new sprayers to replace 3 of our aging LECO's. We are entering the new age in ULV as we utilize the GPS technology. Hopefully we will be able to avoid any major pitfalls.

The wetlands are holding water and we don't seem to be in a short term drought like last year. We only hope that we do not get all the rain after our aerial larvicide like we have in many of the past few years.

- Dave Lawson, Asst. Director



TIME AND MEASUREMENTS TRIVIA: "Fortnight" is a contraction of "fourteen nights." In the US "two weeks" is more commonly used...A bathometer is an instrument for indicating the depth of the sea beneath a moving vessel...A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second...A Sphgmomanometer measures blood pressure...A typical lightning bolt is two to four inches wide and two miles long...A wind with a speed of 74 miles or more is designated a hurricane...Any month that starts on a Sunday will have a Friday the 13th in it...At 4,145 miles, the Nile River is the longest in the world...Each unit on the Richter Scale is equivalent to a power factor of about 32. So a 6 is 32 times more powerful than a 5...Easter is the first Sunday after the first Full Moon on the March 21. England and the American colonies adopted the Gregorian calendar on September 14th, 1752. 11 days disappeared.

Connecticut Mosquito Mgmt - News from the Nutmeg State: As I write this, it's a cold, cloudy, damp day and I'm thinking that spring has come in like a lion and (if this weather keeps up) will go out like a wet dog (with plenty of mosquitoes!). Meanwhile, Paul Cap, who's at the AMCA meeting in Orlando, is probably on his 2nd mimosa and teeing off the 9th hole while discussing mosquito issues with others from around the globe (strictly business, mind you!). I shouldn't feel sorry for myself though, because I was able to attend the New Jersey MCA's annual meeting in Atlantic City. It was good to see folks from the mid-Atlantic (and a few from the northeast). The meeting and venue were another success and my hat's off to the organizers of this year's conference. I was privileged to be asked to participate in an Open Marsh Water Management (OMWM) symposium with others from MA, NY, NJ, DE and MD. This symposium was organized largely in response to a 5-year salt marsh study by the USFWS (due to release later this year) that looked at the impacts of various marsh management activities, including OMWM, on several marsh metrics. Many mosquito control folks had concerns with the methodology used in this study and certainly the results which concluded that OMWM did not function as purported and in fact, may be detrimental to some marsh functions. Although not published yet, much of this information has reached the eager ears of several groups that do not think very highly of mosquito control. Those of us involved in OMWM in the northeast will be discussing this study in the upcoming months with the USFWS, mid-Atlantic mosquito control agencies and the AMCA. We each have our own unique wetlands and programmatic issues but there is enough commonality in the northeast region in regard to OMWM that we can, and should, unite to collectively be able to address this topic before we have our backs against the wall (do I detect a "white paper" in the making?). In the words of "W", "stay the course!" (Disclaimer: this should in no way, be misconstrued as a political endorsement).

Closer to home, our WHAMM Program has spent the winter repairing, replacing and recharging for the new year. Our ASV Posi-Trak has been rebuilt, we've bought new equipment and supplies for the shop and field, and we recently picked up a surplus military dump truck that is being used (with several other pieces of equipment) to transport sand from a wetland restoration sight to replenish the beach at Hammonasset Beach State Park (CT's largest state park). We also put in for a \$900,000 grant (part of a \$million PCB contamination settlement) for 600+ acres of Phragmites control. With this grant would we would purchase a Piston Bully lgp unit and/or MarshMaster amphibious unit to spray and mow Phrag. We'll have to see if our wishes come true. Also this winter our crew has been mowing shrubs and invasive plants on many of our state wildlife areas. This is done to remove exotic/invasives and promote grassland cover. While having nothing to do directly with mosquito control, it is a nice change and is really appreciated by our under-staffed wildlife area managers. Furthermore, we'll start work soon on a 7-acre OMWM project along the coast (more pre- and post-treatment data to refute the fed study; don't get me started again!), and we have a freshwater wetland enhancement project we hope to start soon in conjunction with NRCS and CT Audubon.

Hope all have a good summer. Till then, keep your dippers clean (I'm not sure what that means, but it sounds like good advice).

- Roger Wolfe, Mosquito Management Coordinator



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Due to overwhelming demand, the NMCA list serv is now active!! This list is for the discussion of topics related to mosquitoes in the Northeast and topics relevant to the Northeastern Mosquito Control Association. Membership to this list is not limited to NMCA members at this time, but membership is encouraged.

This listserv is a moderated list and any inappropriate or irrelevant subject matter will not be disseminated to members. This listserv is a forum for discussion on mosquito matters in the northeast specifically, and not a forum for sales or marketing schemes.

Please keep your posts brief and to the point, and don't pontificate or you may be edited by the moderator. You may upload files and graphics under 1Mb in size if it is relevant to your point or informative to the membership. Larger files will need permission from the moderator. For more information log on here: <http://www.nmca.org/listserv.htm>



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**NOTICE: PLEASE CHECK YOUR JULY ISSUE
OF THE NMCA NEWSLETTER FOR A
CALL FOR PAPERS
AND GET THEM IN EARLY – WE ANTICIPATE A
TENTATIVE AGENDA TO BE READY SOMETIME IN
OCTOBER – DON'T DELAY!!**



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~ SUBMISSION INFORMATION ~

Do you have news about your program, interest in writing a column, or any type of submission for the newsletter? Please send it in any one of these ways:

- **E-mail:** newsletter@nmca.org
- **Fax:** 508.393.8492
- **Phone:** 508.393.3055
- **Postal Mail:** c/o CMMCP 111 Otis St. Northboro, MA 01532
Attn. Tim Deschamps, NMCA Editor

*Thank you in advance for any and all ideas - **Ed.***



NORTHEASTERN MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION

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