



Volume 40, Number 1
May 2011

Horticultural

INSPECTION SOCIETY

CENTRAL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Photo Tim Boyle, WI

In attendance from left to right: David Simmons (MN), Dave Johnson (MO), Steven Shimek (MN), Casey Jo Kellner (MO), Laurinda Ramonda (KS), Robert Phillips (MO), Todd Voss (IA), John Bock (MI), Carrie Andrich (MI), Ryan Krull (IA), Mandy Franklin (MO), Catherine Smith (MO), Bob Buhler (KS), Kallie Bontrager (IN), Susan Ehlenbeck (MO), Joann Dunlevey (OH), Lenny Weiss (WI). Not pictured, Tim Boyle (WI).

2010 Horticultural Inspection Society Annual Meeting Celebrates 40th Anniversary

The Horticultural Inspection Society was founded in the autumn of 1970 by inspectors representing seven states gathered at the Kingwood Center in Mansfield, Ohio. They were assured of support by the Central Plant Board through its Resolution No. 1 adopted at its 46th annual meeting in Minneapolis, February 1, 1970.

The first group was designated "Central Chapter" and has 13 member states. The Eastern Chapter was organized in 1974 and the Southern and Western Chapters in 1999. Each Chapter works closely with their respective regional plant boards.

See Page 8 for "History of the Horticultural Inspection Society" written by Bill Hilbert.

Front : Dennis Anderson (IL), Fred Rockwell (IL), Bob McAdams (IL), Unidentified, Unidentified, Unidentified, Stan Smith (IL), Unidentified, Unidentified,
Standing: Unidentified, Don Orton (IL), Unidentified, Lee Burgess (MO), Steve Sturgeon (IL), Norm Seaberg (IL), Virgil Knapp (IN), Unidentified, Harry Bollinger (IN), Bruce Cummings (IN), Unidentified, Sam Ferguson (WI), Unidentified, Dave Madison (OH), Ron Priest (MI), Unidentified, Unidentified.



2010 HIS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

INNSBROOK, MISSOURI, OCTOBER 18TH - 21ST, 2010

Monday October 18, 2010

Arrival - evening gathering at Innsbrook, Geneva Center

Tuesday-October 19, 2010

Judy Grundler, MDA-Plant Industries Division Director "Welcome to Missouri"

Simeon Wright, Missouri Department of Conservation, "Thousand Cankers Disease of Walnuts"

Chris Starbuck, Horticulture Professional - University of Missouri, Columbia - "Missouri Gravel Bed"

Tom Riley, Retired Entomology Professor - current Photographer/Researcher - "Insect & Field Photography for Professional Presentations & Distance Diagnosis & Identification"

Richard Houseman - Entomologist-University of Missouri, "Keeping Inspectors Safe" (Ticks/Mosquitoes/Bedbugs)

Detective Darryl Balleydier to discuss "Meth Production Recognition" (for Inspector Safety when traveling alone)

Dave Johnson/Julia Thompson, MDA, & Simeon Wright, MO Dept of Conservation - "Dueling Diagnosticians"

Ted Macrea, Monsanto Entomologist (Previous MDA inspector) "Recognition of Wood Boring Insects in Missouri Nurseries....and Beyond"

Wednesday-October 20, 2010

Margery Daughtery - Plant Pathologist, Cornell University, "D.E.A.D.: Disease Excitement And Diagnosis" (Important Diseases of Annuals, Perennials, and Flowering Potted Plants)

Andy Seckinger - OHP Products- "Chemical Class Chart Review"

Industry Members-Panel Discussion -
Vic Jost of Jost Greenhouses
Mike Rood of Pea Ridge Tree Farm
Pat Belrose of Fahr Greenhouses
Bill Spradley of Trees, Forests and Landscapes

Roof top Garden and Air-spade demonstration.
Diagnostics tour of Innsbrook neighborhood.

Thursday October 21, 2010

Business Meeting of the Central Chapter HIS at Conference Center.

Adjourn.



Simeon Wright, MO Dept of Conservation discusses disease samples with Carrie Andrich and John Bock (MI).

Membership Challenge

As new staff is hired, staffing changes occur or budget shortfalls or retirements happen, many potential and past members become uninvolved and uninformed. **This is a challenge to HIS members in each state to make sure all staff committed to "Making Professionalism a Part of Every Effort" update their contact information and pay their HIS-Central membership dues.** Please invest in your profession and encourage your colleagues to do the same.

HIS CENTRAL CHAPTER MEETING LOCATIONS

- 1970 - Ohio Founders Meeting
- 1971 - Wisconsin, November 8-10, 1971
- 1972 - Missouri, November 13-15, 1972
- 1973 - Indiana, November 12-14, 1973
- 1974 - Michigan, January 14-16, 1975
- 1975 - Illinois, November 18-20, 1975
- 1976 - Ohio, November 8-11, 1976
- 1977 - Minnesota, November 1-3, 1977
- 1978 - Missouri, November 6-9, 1978
- 1979 - Wisconsin, February 19-21, 1980
- 1980 - Kansas, October 28-30, 1980
- 1981 - Indiana, November 17-19, 1981
- 1982 - Nebraska, November 9-11, 1982
- 1983 - Michigan, February 7-9, 1983
- 1984 - Iowa, November 6-8, 1984
- 1985 - Ohio, November 19-21, 1985
- 1986 - Missouri, November 18-20, 1986
- 1987 - South Dakota, November 16-19, 1987
- 1988 - Illinois, October 31-Nov. 3, 1988
- 1989 - Kansas, October 30-Nov. 2, 1989
- 1990 - Minnesota, October 29-Nov. 1, 1990
- 1991 - Wisconsin, October 28-31, 1991
- 1992 - Indiana, October 26-29, 1992
- 1993 - Nebraska, October 25-28, 1993
- 1994 - Michigan, October 24-27, 1994
- 1995 - Iowa, October 23-26, 1995
- *25th Anniversary Meeting
- 1996 - Ohio, October 21-24, 1996
- 1997 - Missouri, October 20-23, 1997
- 1998 - Kentucky, October 26-29, 1998
- 1999 - South Dakota, October 25-28, 1999
- 2000 - Illinois, October 23-26, 2000
- 2001 - Kansas, October 22-25, 2001
- 2002 - Minnesota, October 21-24, 2002
- 2003 - Wisconsin, October 20-23, 2003
- 2004 - Indiana, October 25-28, 2004
- 2005 - Nebraska, October 17-20, 2005
- 2006 - Michigan, October 16 -19, 2006
- 2007 - North Dakota, October 15 - 18, 2007
- 2008 - Ohio, October 14 - 16, 2008
- 2009 - Iowa, October 18 -22, 2009
- 2010 - Missouri, October 18-24, 2010
- *40th Anniversary Meeting
- 2011 - Planned for South Dakota



Julia Thompson and Dave Johnson focus in on disease samples during “*Dueling Diagnosticians*”.

2010 HIS CENTRAL CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Ryan Krull, HIS Central Chapter President, called the 2010 business meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Roll call was given by Casey Jo Kellner, Missouri, HIS Secretary.

States present: Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

States not present: Illinois, Nebraska and North Dakota

Minutes from the 2009 HIS business meeting were distributed. The Treasurer's Report was given by Robert Buhler, Kansas, HIS Treasurer.

A motion was made by Mandy Franklin, Missouri and seconded by Tim Boyle, Wisconsin to accept the Minutes and Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

HIS CENTRAL CHAPTER NURSERY INSPECTORS GUIDE (MANUAL)

Robert Buhler, Kansas is the financial manager of the inspectors guide. Todd Voss, Iowa is the editor. Sixteen CD's and zero paper manuals remain in inventory. Discussion followed regarding reprinting. JoAnn Dunlevey offered to get an estimate from the Ohio prison system for printing additional manuals. A total of 20 manuals are needed by the following states: Minnesota, Indiana and Ohio. Bill McAdams noted some photos need to be updated. Todd Voss will get a group together to work on updates, revisions and new additions to the manual. Mandy Franklin, Missouri and Bill McAdams offered to assist. Todd will discuss the process for submitting/adding new pests to the manual and how that works with Central Plant Board.

CENTRAL PLANT BOARD (CPB) 86th ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

Steven Shimek, Minnesota reported that he gave a presentation at the Central Plant Board meeting in Minneapolis March 8-11, 2010. He did not get to stay for other presentations. There is general support from CPB for HIS. Most issues are about funding.

ROBERT MCADAMS AWARD NOMINATION/CARL CARLSON AWARD

John Bock, Michigan will present the 2009 Robert McAdams award to Barry Menser, Michigan.

One nomination was presented to the chapter for 2010. Todd Voss, Iowa was the nominee.

Steven Shimek, Minnesota made a motion to accept the 2010 Robert McAdams Award nomination. Mandy Franklin, Missouri seconded. Motion Carried. Todd's name will be forwarded to the CPB Awards Committee Chair as our suggested nomination for the Carl Carlson Award.

HONORARY MEMBERS

Barry Menser, Michigan retired in 2010. John Bock, Michigan made a motion to nominate Barry as an Honorary Member. Mandy Franklin, Missouri seconded. Motion carried.

2010 INTERSTATE GROUP INSPECTION

Nebraska and Iowa had a unofficial group inspection at a perennial grower in Iowa.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The 2010 Audit Committee was comprised of Dale Anderson, South Dakota, Todd Voss, Iowa, and John Bock, Michigan. John reported that the books were balanced, well maintained, organized, clear and easy to understand. The Audit Committee thanked Bob for his hard work. The committee suggested developing a procedures manual and to track accounts receivables in a separate spreadsheet.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE AND 2011 HOST STATE

The 2010 Nominations Committee (JoAnn Dunlevey, Ohio, Jessica Schuthe, Nebraska and Kay Kromm, Nebraska) presented the following list of suggested officers for next year:

President: Susan Ehlenbeck, Missouri
Vice President: Dale Anderson, South Dakota
Secretary: John Bock, Michigan
Treasurer: Bob Buhler, Kansas
Editor: Steven Shimek, Minnesota

Mandy Franklin, Missouri made a motion to accept the nominations of officers and the panel as 2010-2011 officers as presented by the committee. Todd Voss, Iowa seconded. Motion carried.

Dale Anderson, South Dakota in accepting the Vice Presidents role agreed to host the 2011 meeting in South Dakota.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The 2010 Resolutions Committee was comprised of Lenny Weiss, Wisconsin, David Simmons, Minnesota, Kallie Bontrager, Indiana, and Chelsea Mills, Nebraska. The following resolutions were read:

RESOLUTION #1

Whereas, the 40th annual in-service training of the Horticultural Inspection Society, Central Chapter was held in Innsbrook, Missouri, on the 18th-21st of October, and whereas, the program was well organized and of excellent quality, and whereas, the Missouri Department of Agriculture graciously hosted the meeting, providing a hospitality room and transportation during the meeting. Therefore be it resolved that the Horticulture Inspection Society, Central Chapter wishes to express its appreciation to the Missouri Department of Agriculture who made the 40th meeting a success. Adopted: October 21, 2010

RESOLUTION #2

Whereas, the 40th annual in-service training of the Horticultural Inspection Society, Central Chapter was held in Innsbrook, Missouri, on the 18th-21st of October, and whereas, the state of Missouri graciously provided transportation and drivers during the annual meeting. Therefore, be it resolved that the Horticultural Inspection Society, Central Chapter wishes to express its appreciation and sincere thanks to Missouri Department of Agriculture and Bill and Susan Ehlenbeck. Adopted: October 21, 2010

H.I.S. CENTRAL CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CENTRAL PLANT BOARD MEETING

The 2011 CPB Meeting will be held in Missouri. One of the Missouri HIS Central Chapter members will attend the meeting and give a presentation on the HIS Central Chapter.

OTHER BUSINESS

Todd Voss, Iowa is interested in getting an interstate group inspection together. Mandy Franklin, Missouri said she would let everyone know when her Kansas City area group inspection is scheduled. David Simmons, Minnesota, said the Cedar Rapids area might work for them.

Ryan Krull, Iowa thanked all the representatives from Missouri. It was a good location, great presentations and good food.

Mandy Franklin, Missouri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kallie Bontrager, Indiana seconded. Motion carried. The 2010 H.I.S. Central Chapter Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Casey Jo Kellner, HIS Central Chapter Secretary

DOES QUALITY REALLY MATTER ANYMORE?



The last few years have been nothing short of brutal for the nursery industry. During all of my years of working with Illinois nursery growers and landscapers, I have never experienced any economy which has been nearly as severe as this current crisis. As prospective buyers call area growers and ask for plant availability, the growers are confronted with “grow it” and “sell it” pricing comparisons, which are completely irrespective of any of the basic attributes of plant quality. As area growers try to survive the current economic climate, the question is beginning to arise, “Does quality really matter anymore?”

Should we worry about branch structures? Should we worry if trees have good central leaders? Should we worry about the condition of the root systems? Should we care if insects and diseases are present? We ALL know the correct answers.

Chicago area growers are highly respected as having some of, if not the best, plant quality in the country. This reputation was “not” just superficially credited but it was “earned” through decades of “consistent” hard work, dedication, and professionalism. So with the current economic crisis should growers succumb to “grow it” and “sell it” pricing? Do the cheapest trees on the market really constitute the best value?

I don’t think so. Each shipment of plants which are loaded out is a testimony of a grower’s reputation. Recession or not, like it or not, that reputation will stick. However, it is ALSO true, that each plant installation of a prospective job site is a testimony of landscaper’s professionalism. If substandard plants are installed, there is a much higher likelihood of plant decline, not to mention additional maintenance issues and costs. Do plantings enhance a property or do they become an eyesore as they progressively dilapidate? Do you think the clients notice? And if so, do you think that reputation might stick with the company that performed the installation?

Quality plants “do” cost more but that is because they have “much” more to offer. However, in order for a grower to provide the basic attributes of quality, there are additional costs that they must endure. Are they worth it? Visit a few job sites a few years after installation and ask the clients. They sure will give you the answer. Have you ever had to visit a job site a few years after a poor installation and listen to the client rant about the poor plant quality?

Yes, plant quality “does” matter.

William R. McAdams
McAdams Consulting, Inc.

EXTRAORDINARY TALE OF INTERSTATE AND INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Early last November I got a call from one of my Michigan Christmas Tree Growers, saying he had a load of Christmas trees destined for Manitoba, Canada that were stuck at a border crossing in Pembina, North Dakota. He wanted to know what I could do about it.

First a little background. I have been inspecting this firm's Christmas tree operations for about 10 years, certifying them for Gypsy Moth and Pine Shoot Beetle for interstate shipping. I also certify some of their conifer stock for B&B shipping to both domestic and Canadian destinations. The firm has not previously shipped cut Christmas trees out of the country. In conversations with the Canadian importer, my grower understood that the only paperwork he would need to ship to Canada was the domestic Christmas tree certification paperwork he already had. I had inspected the field more than 30 days prior, and had not specifically inspected this lot of Christmas trees. This meant I could not write a phytosanitary certificate after the fact, which would meet the Canadian import requirements. An additional inspection would be required.

The load consisted of a full semi-trailer with 710 baled Canaan fir trees. It would have cost my grower \$4,000.00 just to bring the truck back to Michigan for me to inspect. This wouldn't include unloading the truck, inspecting the trees, reloading the truck and reshipping the trees. He wanted to know what other options he had.

I contacted my USDA Export Certification Specialist, Tina Bennett, and she indicated that the trees could be inspected at the border in North Dakota where the truck was located. We discussed the logistics and it wasn't pretty. We determined that given the inspection background of these trees, we could probably use the Hypergeometric Table in the Export Manual, which indicated that 'only' 28 trees would have to be unloaded, unbaled, inspected and reloaded onto the truck. Who could do this work? How could they do this work? There were no immediate answers.

Tina put me in touch with Mike Shuman in Kansas, the USDA Export Certification Specialist for North Dakota. He supported our plan and contacted Dave Nelson, State Entomologist of the North Dakota Department of Agriculture to see if Dave might buy into our plan. In the meantime, I contacted Carrie Larson in North Dakota to let her know what was afoot, to get her input as well. Carrie was then in touch with both Dave Nelson and Inspector Gwen Mars, since Gwen was the closest inspector to the stranded Christmas trees.

It turned out that Gwen had never done a Christmas tree inspection. Not to worry, as she was in close contact with Inspector Deb Hudak of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, who has done many Christmas tree inspections. For Deb to be able to do this inspection, we now had to bring the Minnesota Department of Agriculture into the mix. Dave Nelson was in touch with Supervisor, Mark Schreiber, in Minnesota. With the approval of both the North Dakota and Minnesota Departments of Agriculture Gwen and Deb were free to do the Christmas tree inspection and write the phytosanitary certificate for entry into Canada.

We're good to go right? Not so fast. Logistically, how would it be possible for Deb and Gwen to unload, inspect and reload 28 Canaan fir trees from a fully loaded semi-trailer by themselves? If they couldn't get all the trees back into the trailer, what would they do with the remaining trees? Good questions all, and Deb and Gwen were equal to the challenge. Deb was able to locate a firm, Tim Shea's Nursery, in Grand Forks, North Dakota and secure the help of the firm to unload and reload the semi-trailer. The firm was also willing to work out a deal with my Michigan firm to take any remaining trees that couldn't fit back on the truck. The trees were unloaded, inspected, the phytosanitary certificate written, and all but 11 trees (I believe) made it back on the truck and to their final destination in Canada.

There are not many fairy-tale endings in real life. Through the extraordinary efforts of USDA Export Certification Specialists Tina Bennett and Mike Shuman; North Dakota Department of Agriculture personnel Dave Nelson, Carrie Larson, and Gwen Mars; Minnesota Department of Agriculture personnel Mark Schreiber and Deb Hudak; and personnel of Tim Shea's Nursery of Grand Forks, North Dakota, my firm did have just such fairy-tale ending. Many thanks again to all the above mentioned folks, for their efforts above and beyond the call of duty to make this export happen. I hold this up as a great example of how interagency and interstate cooperation can accomplish great things!

Respectfully Submitted,

John Bock
Plant Industry Specialist
Michigan Department of Agriculture

HISTORY OF THE HORTICULTURAL INSPECTION SOCIETY - CENTRAL CHAPTER

BILL HILBERT - KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - RETIRED

The Horticultural Inspection Society began as an idea by state nursery inspectors to build on the efforts of the Central Plant Board to foster cooperation, share ideas, concerns and technical information regarding plant pests and regulatory programs. Creating an organization that would complement the Central plant Board, this group would include the inspectors who were working to implement the plant pest regulations and policies adopted by the Central Plant Board. Nursery inspectors from different states would meet annually to focus on technical aspects of plant pest detection, control and regulation, share their expertise and serve to improve the effectiveness of plant pest regulation.

In March of 1970, eighteen inspectors from five states met at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois to discuss the formation of a professional organization of nursery inspectors. They drafted a resolution to request that the Central Plant Board State representatives support the attendance of their respective plant pest inspectors to an annual fall meeting to be held at a central location within the Central Plant Board Region.

The resolution was submitted to the Central Plant Board at their annual meeting in Minneapolis in February of 1970. The resolution passed.

In November 1970, a founders meeting was held in Mansfield, Ohio. Twenty seven inspectors attended this meeting. States represented were: Illinois, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Also in attendance were inspectors from Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. At this meeting, the Horticultural Inspection Society (HIS) was born. The Central States Chapter was the first established. Since then the Central Chapter has served as a model and was followed by the Eastern Chapter in 1974, and the Southern and Western HIS Chapters in 1999.

The first official meeting was hosted by Wisconsin on November 8-10th, 1971. The HIS Central Chapter meeting held in Missouri, October 18-24th marked 40 years of meetings hosted by states on a rotating basis. In the 1980's the current rotation of host states was adopted to alternate between far eastern and western central chapter states to have a reasonable travel distance every other year. This worked well and still continues.

Over the years the number of states attending and the number of individuals allowed to attend has continued to grow. State budget considerations regularly have restricted out of state travel but states have supported members to attend when possible. Some years attendance would exceed 40 people with inspectors attending from the Southern and Western Plant Board Regions.

I attended my first HIS meeting in 1978 in St. Louis, Missouri and attended most of the annual meetings serving in different roles as an officer until my retirement in 2009

Two things stand out to me as the organization grew and evolved over the years. In the early years all of the members attending the annual meeting were from the male gender. Today half or more of the members attending the meeting are female. I feel this really has strengthened the organization.

Another contrast was in the early years the operating budget would be just a few hundred dollars and some years just barely make ends meet. This is in sharp contrast to the budget in later years. Costs for meetings typically are covered by registration fees of those attending.

Continued from page 8.

Meeting agendas focus on new and emerging plant pests of regulatory concern. Plant pathology, entomology and other plant science experts from host state Universities and agencies have provided the highest level of professional training. Members have shared their particular interest of special diagnostic insight elevating the skills of all who attend. Often the experts admit they learned more from the members than from their previous experience. Evening slide shows presented pests found in different areas resulting in valuable learning opportunities.

Nursery Inspectors Guide

During the first few years of existence the idea of developing an inspectors manual/pest guide was discussed. Throughout this time inspectors had written articles and shared their expertise on various aspects of plant insect and disease pests. A consistent format for articles was adopted by some of the members. The idea of having a published version of these various technical papers existed for several years but never came about until 1985.

At the 1984 annual meeting it was decided to have an official publication and the name would be Central States Nursery Inspectors Guide. During the business meeting there was considerable debate about to have or have not an official publication. It finally came down to each state voting. A motion carried to create the Inspectors Guide. The first year the Central Plant Board agreed to cover the initial cost of having 10 nursery pests which included the pest write-up and 3 X 5 colored pictures. The idea was that there would be a guide for each inspector within the Central Plant Board and each individual state would cover the cost for their respective inspectors.

This format continued for several years with new pest added each year. They were kept in plastic sleeves in a three ring binder notebook. I served as the Manual editor for a number of years, taking responsibility for printing and distribution as well as coordinating additions to the manual as new pests were introduced. The manual has become an essential tool for inspectors with detailed information on plant pest life cycles, identification and control and a standard regulatory action approved by the Central Plant Board to use as a guide for the appropriate response for stock found infested or infected.

In the early 1990's the format was changed from a three ring binder to color copy bound pages. The manual has been recognized as a quality publication resulting in several requests from nursery industry professionals, regulatory staff from across the country requesting copies for their reference collections. I don't know the number for sure but I would like to guess that close to half of the states have and use this Inspectors Guide today.

The HIS Central States Chapter has provided invaluable cooperation between state regulators, created a network of experts and connected some of the best plant pest diagnosticians with practitioners doing the inspection work in the field.

Bill Hilbert is a long time member of HIS. He has been awarded the Robert McAdams Award and the Carl Carlson Award in recognition of his excellence serving the State of Kansas and his contributions to the HIS.