

Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists was held from September 6th-8th, 2012 at the University of Nebraska, Cedar Point Biological Station located on the south shore of Lake Ogallala in western Nebraska.

A workshop considering the related topics of parasite biodiversity, climate change, and emerging diseases was organized by Dan Brooks, Scott Gardner, and Eric Hoberg. Workshop participants shared their collective expertise during the three days prior to the RMCP meeting. The RMCP membership was invited to a Thursday afternoon discussion led by Eric Hoberg in which he elaborated on some of the workshop findings.

The annual reception was held on Thursday evening in Goodall Lodge. Jon Garbisch and the Cedar Point staff, as usual, provided a tasty variety of hors d'oeuvres. President Scott Gardner welcomed all and called the meeting to order Friday morning. Paper and poster sessions were held all day Friday and Saturday morning. There were sixty five participants at the meeting, and 18 papers and two posters were presented. Seven papers were contributed by undergraduate students and another seven by graduate students. Both posters represented student research, one undergraduate and one graduate. In addition to his Thursday afternoon informal presentation, Eric Hoberg spoke about the U.S. National Parasite Collection and why it is important. Scott Gardner, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, presented the Newton Kingston Memorial Lecture, and Walter Boeger, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil honored us by delivering the Gerald D. Schmidt Memorial Lecture.

Following the Saturday morning paper session, President Gardner called the annual business meeting to order. The membership unanimously elected Karl Reinhard, University of Nebraska-Lincoln to the Office of President-Elect. At the end of the business meeting, the Marquardt gavel was passed to our new President, Matt Bolek, Oklahoma State University.

Student awards of \$100 and an engraved plaque were given as follows: Datus M. Hammond Award for Best Paper Presentation by a Graduate Student—Sarah A. Orlofske, University of Colorado; William C. Marquardt Award for Best Paper Presentation by an Undergraduate Student—Alison Eckert, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Datus M. Hammond Award for Best Poster Presentation by a Graduate Student—Crystal Wiles, Oklahoma State University; William C. Marquardt Award for Best Poster Presentation by an Undergraduate Student—Ryan Shannon, Oklahoma State University. The membership voted to award RMCP Honorary Membership to Walter Boeger, and Life Membership to Ron Hathaway.

The 2013 annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists will again be held at the University of Nebraska, Cedar Point Biological Station during the 5th, 6th, and 7th of September.

Submitted by Ron Hathaway, Secretary and Treasurer, RMCP

