February, 1976

EDITOR'S NOTES

Looking out of the window as I write this, it's hard to think about studying and enjoying insects, when it's getting to be a major undertaking just to stay reasonably warm. Temperatures have been below zero so much this winter, with little snow cover, that frost depths are plunging to all time record levels. What all this will do to our native insects next growing season, especially after the severe drought conditions of last year, is anybody's guess. All I know is that the -76° wind chill the other morning was plenty cold enough for me, and I like winter!

To change the subject (drastically!), I guess I'll say a few words about my recent experiences trying to collect specimens in Hawaii. This was my first real opportunity to collect in a tropical area, and I guess I expected more than I should have. Of course, I wasn't there primarily to collect, but did so in conjunction with attendance at the Entomological Society of America meetings and a subsequent tourystic swing through three islands beyond Oahu; and, after all, it was winter! I did bring back a bit over 50 specimens; nothing very spectacular, but interesting. Among lessons I learned are that Hawaii (at least when and how I did it) is not particularly a collector's paradise, and perhaps this is illustrative of a frequently mentioned principle in ecological literature that the fauna of tropical areas is usually quite diverse, but abundance of any single species is usually an exception (i.e. a few pests).

Finally, a special word of welcome to all the new members since the last NEWSLETTER (see p.3). Our membership drive is going very well, especially on the University campus, and we now have nearly 120 members. Those of you who are not recent new members will find your 1977 dues notice in this issue of the NEWSLETTER. Please pay as soon as possible, so you don't forget (remember, we're tax deductible). A few additional words on the financial status of the Society from our recent-past Treasurer appear on the last page of this issue.

NOTICES

For sale. Fine insect and spider photographs, mounted and ready to frame. Representatives from most of your favorite orders, all in natural settings, feeding, mating, etc. Black and white, $15.00 to $40.00. Ask about specific families, genera, species. Charles Behnke, Rt. 2 Box 152, Dodgeville, WI 53533

Wanted. Collecting data (identification, locality, date) for specimens of sphinx moths collected in Wisconsin. Information to be used in a soon to be completed publication on the "Sphingidae of Wisconsin". Send to Bill Sieker, 2633 Stevens St., Madison, WI 53705.

The NEWSLETTER of the Wisconsin Entomological Society is published two to four times yearly at irregular intervals. Please send all news, notes, contributions, and other items for the NEWSLETTER to the Editor, Department of Entomology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.
NOTICES (cont.)

Wanted. Collecting data and/or specimens of tortoise beetles (Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae), especially those taken in Wisconsin. Trading material is available. Contact John or Carolyn Baker, Insectarium, Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wis., Madison, WI 53706.

Wanted. Records for all Wisconsin Aegeiidae (clear-winged moths) with information on county, host plant, etc., if possible. Will accept any specimens you don't want, or have some lesser peach tree borers (male and female), S. picipes, for trade. Clyde Corsuch, Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wis., Madison, WI 53706.

For sale. Very large selection of foreign exotic insects, especially butterflies, moths, and beetles. Many large showy species. Inquiries and correspondence welcome. I will also consider trades for certain species. Please contact Dan Capps, 231 Powers Ave., Madison, WI 53714 (tel. 249-7271, evenings).

Wanted to trade. Native or exotic foreign beetles; have numerous perfect mounted Catocala moths (mostly duplicates) for exchange. John Hempel, 1516 Sherman, Janesville, WI 53545.

Wanted. Records by county for all Wisconsin Rhopalocera, Sphingidae, Saturniidae, and Catocala. For more details write Roger Kuehn, 5055 N. 54 St., Milwaukee, WI 53218.

SPECIAL NOTICE

(The following announcement was received recently from the Editors of Insect World Digest)

$1,000 IN PRIZES
WRITING CONTEST FOR INSECT WORLD DIGEST

Data Courier, Inc., publishers of Insect World Digest, a bimonthly magazine devoted to popular articles on insects and insect life, is sponsoring a writing competition for articles on any entomological subject. The prize winning articles will be published in the magazine. All articles submitted will be considered for purchase by the magazine.

Five prizes are offered: First prize, $500; second prize, $200; and three prizes of $100 each. The winning articles will be used in the Jan/Feb, 1978 and following issues. The deadline for submission of articles is September 1, 1977.

The competition is open to any person in the world (except staff members and employees of Data Courier, Inc.). All articles must be illustrated with color and/or black and white photographs, drawings and diagrams. All articles submitted must be offered for sale and will be purchased at published rates if accepted. No article will be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (Foreign entries: send international money order for postage, or indicate that you will accept a bill for return postage.)

The articles will be judged by a panel of writers and editors consisting of: Dr. James S. Packer, Managing Editor, Entomological Society of America; Mr. Kenneth F. Weaver, Assistant Editor, National Geographic Magazine; Dr. Howard E. Evans, natural history author, Colorado State University; Mr. Robert Boyle, Senior Writer, Sports Illustrated; and Dr. Ross H. Arnett, Jr., Editor, Insect World Digest.

For detailed information, entry blanks, and Author Guidelines, write to the Editor, Dr. Ross H. Arnett, Jr., P.O. Box 505, Kinderhook, NY 12106. For sample copies (prepaid $2.00 ea.) of the magazine, write to Data Courier, Inc., 620 S. 5 St., Louisville, KY 40202.
NEWS OF MEMBERS

(Please submit items of interest about yourself or other members for this column.)

In late November and early December, 1976, the Entomological Society of America held its annual meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, the first such meeting to be held off the North American Continent. WES members in attendance were: John All, G. M. Boush, W. Burkholder, Gene DeFoliart, Eric Erickson, Paul Grimstad, Bill Hilsenhoff, Mike Karandinos, Chuck Koval, E. P. Lichtenstein, and Jim Mertins.

After the Honoloulu meetings, Prof. Wendell Burkholder took an extended trip to Japan for an additional 8 days paid by the Japanese government. While there, he attended a government sponsored symposium on Insect Pheromones and their Applications, and delivered papers in both Tokyo and Nagaoka on "Application of Pheromones for Manipulating Insect Pests of Stored Products".

Dr. Ralph Howard, member and Past-President of WES now residing in Gulfport, MS, is visiting Madison the first week in February for various consultations, some research, and to present a seminar on the "Chemical Ecology of Subterranean Termites".

Jim Mertins has been invited to sit on the Photo Salon Committee for the Annual Meeting of the North Central Branch of ESA to be held in 1978 in Madison, WI (Maybe now he can do better in the competition!)

Dr. Michael Klein at the Japanese Beetle Investigations Laboratory in Wooster, Ohio, has come up with another interesting discovery. It was recently announced that he had isolated a new strain of the bacterial milky disease organism of the Japanese beetle from beetles collected in Connecticut. Although populations of the beetle have been suppressed for the last 25 years by the disease, this new strain appears to be far less effective in killing the beetle grubs. Indications are that resistance to the disease may be developing, a condition that could be of utmost concern to infested areas in the Northeast.

New Members

Carolyn Baker ......................... Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Carolyn is employed part-time in the U.W. Insectarium, and is particularly interested in tortoise beetles. A fast starter, she is already WES Sec.

Thomas Burkot .......................... Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Tom is a graduate student interested in collecting and insect photography. Specific interest: Culicidae.

Noel Friederichs ....................... 930 Emerald St., Madison, WI 53715

An undergrad at U.W., Noel is interested in collecting, and especially in aquatic entomology.

Sarah Gerould .......................... Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Sarah is a graduate student with wide-ranging interests including aquatic insects, photography, life history and biology, apiculture, and a specific interest in 2 genera of beetles in the family Elmidae -- Optioservus and Stenelmus.
NEWS OF MEMBERS (cont.)

Michael Greenfield ................................ Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Mike is a graduate student interested in collecting, taxonomy, life history and biology of sessiid moths.

Robert L. Jeanne .................................. Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

A recently arrived Asst. Prof. of Entomology at U.W. Madison, Dr. Jeanne is interested in the biology and behavior of vespid wasps, and willing to help members identify Wisconsin specimens of Polistes & Vespula

Barry Miller ..................................... Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Barry is a graduate student interested in collecting and aquatic insects, especially mosquitoes.

Patti Novak ....................................... 1628 Adams St., Madison, WI 53711

Patti is interested in pest control and the biology and life history of Lepidoptera.

James Pea ......................................... Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Jim claims to be a "professional" student. He is interested in aquatics and collecting "critters of any size, shape, or color". Jim promises to "have the world's largest collection of common insects" when he's finished--but nothing rare or unusual.

Phillip J. Fellitteri ............................... Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Phil is a graduate student with a special interest in Coleoptera, and will help members with identifications of their Wisconsin specimens. He is also interested in aquatics, general collecting, life history and biology.

Joseph Piotrowski ................................. Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Joe is a graduate student interested in collecting, physiology, and insect photography.

Donna Price ....................................... 1027 N. Lark, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Donna is interested in collecting, life history, and biology studies.

Bonnie L. Ravy .................................... 1013 N. Lark, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Bonnie is also interested in collecting and life history and biology studies.
NEWS OF MEMBERS (cont.)

Philip Scholl ........................................ Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Phil is a graduate student who celebrated passing his prelims in November by joining WES (among other things). He is interested in medical entomology, aquatics, and life history studies.

James Stevens ........................................ 312 Ohio St., Decorah, IA 52101

A past member of WES, Jim recently remembered to pay his dues and returns to us. He's still particularly interested in apiculture.

Mark Struve ........................................ 4829 Sheboygan Ave. #313, Madison, WI 53705

Mark is an undergraduate student interested in collecting, apiculture, and pest control.

Doug Thiessen ........................................ 2506 High Ridge Tr., Madison, WI 53713

Doug is an undergraduate interested in collecting Lepidoptera.

Michael R. Wagner .................................. Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of Wisconsin

Mike is a graduate student interested in insect photography and forest entomology.

Changes of Address

Marlin Conrad ........................................ 2230 Muller Rd. Rt. 2, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Roger M. Kuehn ...................................... 5055 N. 54 St., Milwaukee, WI 53218

Kenneth Lange ........................................ Devil's Lake State Park, Baraboo, WI 53913

James C. Parkinson .................................. 4207 Alderson St. #6, Schofield, WI 54476

Lost Member

For the second issue in a row we have a lost member whose mail keeps coming back undelivered. Does anyone know where Jackie Ackerman is now? or how about John Masters from last issue? Please...for your own sake, and the Society's, tell us when you move, or you may not receive all your rightful correspondence. In addition, the Postal Service charges WES 25¢ apiece to return correspondence, and tell us your not there anymore.

Jaqueline K. Ackerman ...............(last known address) either: 1122 S. 12 St., Manitowoc, WI 54220, or Rt. 3 #7, Plymouth, WI 53073.

HISTORY OF WISCONSIN ENTOMOLOGY - XI

The next phase in the development of entomological science in Madison took place during the late 1940s through the 1950s, and is characterized by an increase in space occupied and a greater than 100% growth in the number of staff members in the Department of Entomology. At the helm of the Department during this period of rapid expansion was
Professor Thomas C. Allen, a man known as an exceptional investigator, coordinator, and leader.

Dr. Allen arrived in Madison from Oregon in late 1929 at the behest of Prof. Wilson. He had just completed a Master's degree at Oregon State with a research project concerning the Chinese pheasant. In Wisconsin, Allen was assigned to study the biology and control of the apple maggot under A. A. Granovsky and C. L. Fluke. In cooperation with his minor professor, A. J. Riker, Allen succeeded in isolating, describing, and naming a new rot-producing bacterium, *Pseudomonas melophthora*. The bacterium was found associated with all stages of the apple maggot, and proved to be the first bacterium known to be a primary invader of fruit. For his work with the transmission of apple rot by insects, Allen earned the Ph.D. from U.W. in entomology and plant pathology in 1932.

Dr. Allen served as instructor in entomology from 1932-37, Asst. Prof., 1937-42, Assoc. Prof., 1942-44, Prof., 1944-46, Acting Department Chairman, 1946, and Chairman of the department from 1946-59. Upon the sudden illness of Prof. Fluke in early 1946, Dr. Allen temporarily assumed the chairmanship of the department, and when Fluke's health had not improved by later that year, Allen was prevailed upon to continue in the position permanently.

During the period 1946-60, fully 14 faculty members were added to the staff of the U.W.-Madison Department of Entomology, including (in order of their arrival), R. D. Shenefelt, J. W. Apple, R. K. Chapman, S. D. Beck, D. M. Benjamin, J. L. Casida, E. R. Oatman, E. P. Lichtenstein, H. C. Coppel, D. H. Norris, G. R. DeFoliart, J. M. Wright, D. F. Peer, and Floyd Andre. A number of other people contributed to the progress of the department during this period as well. C. S. Kido came to Wisconsin in 1946 to work on studies relating to DDT preparations, and eventually moved on to the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation where he developed and took charge of a research and testing laboratory. James Dogger, an instructor, worked on taxonomy of wireworms, William Roberts, on queen bee breeding, John Callenbach, on fruit insects and later June beetle research, and Floyd Moeller contributed significantly to the success of the Wisconsin bee culture program, of which he later became leader.

The advent of a rapidly expanding staff was accompanied by greater student enrollment, and the two combined to create a constant struggle for building space. But many other departments and groups on campus had similar and competitive needs, so that favorable recognition by campus administration required superior contributions by their respective staffs in research, teaching, and extension. Although for a time only old and recently vacated accommodations were delegated to entomology, the acceptance and full utilization of this space was no doubt most helpful in demonstrating the need for the eventual consolidation of the department into a single new structure.

**WISCONSIN INSECT NOTES**

Further news on the gypsy moth situation in Wisconsin confirms the presence of the first known infestation in the State. Reports recently appeared in the "Summary of Wisconsin Insect Conditions-1976" from the State Department of Agriculture, and in the "Cooperative Plant Pest Report" published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and both indicate that an empty pupal case and 3 cast larval skins were discovered on Nov. 9, 1976, in Appleton. The finds were made during an egg survey conducted as a result of the 10 male gypsy moths trapped in the area during the summer of 1976. Although no eggs were found, the presence of the 3 other stages in the Outagamie County site would seem to confirm the presence of at least an incipient infestation.

The interpretation of Wisconsin State Food Processing Laws by the State Department of Agriculture has caused quite a buzz lately. As currently understood, the law requires beekeepers who extract and sell honey in bulk for wholesale use to buy a $20.00 license as a food processor. The Wisconsin Honey Producers Association, which claims to represent 20,000 state beekeepers, fears the effects of the law which allows licensing for the
simple harvesting of a raw unprocessed crop. Claiming the law affects some 3000 of its members, the Association is pushing for legal exemption of beekeepers from the food processing law by classifying them only as farmers and agriculturalists. The State feels that the law currently applies only to about 300 beekeepers in Wisconsin, and until it is changed, licenses will be required. Beekeepers who sell their honey retail or keep it for personal use are not affected, only those who sell in bulk to other firms for bottling and resale.

The November, 1976 issue of "The World of Agricultural Aviation" magazine (vol.3#11) has an article by Prof. Dan Benjamin on the first use of an airplane for suppression of a forest insect pest. This event occurred in Wisconsin on July 13, 1926, in Door County. A total of 1000 pounds of calcium arsenate dust was applied to hemlock forests in Peninsula State Park for suppression of the hemlock looper, Lambdina (Ellopa) fissellaria. For whatever reason, these loopers have not returned as a problem in the park for the last 50 years.

How do others see entomologists?; or, rather, how did they do so 100 years ago? Witness this news item from Entomological News 5:20, 1894.

In 1875, Gen. Geo. Custer, who encountered trouble with some Sioux Indians a year later, headed an expedition that toured the Yellowstone Valley. Several dozen scientists from Yale University and the Smithsonian Institution were inventorying the natural history of the area on foot, but were guarded by 3 companies of cavalry, one of infantry, and some artillery. Each professor had a 5-man bodyguard for protection from the Sioux. A Major in the entourage explained it thus:

"Those Yale professors just worried the life out of the soldiers. They would go around picking up bugs and chasing butterflies all over the prairie, and would break up rocks and pow-wow over them with magnifying glasses until the soldiers swore that every man of them was a howling idiot."

One of the profs managed to wander away from his detail into the prairie and was captured by the Indians. They were amazed by the contents of his collecting bag--pieces of clay, various rocks, lizards, etc., but when the old boy suddenly darted aside and caught a peculiar-looking bug and began to examine it with his magnifying glass, they were aghast. The Indians accorded reverence, bordering on absolute fear, to an insane person, and they politely took this "peculiar" white man by the hand to the top of a hill and pointed him back in the direction of the army encampment below. What would have happened at the Little Big Horn if Custer had taken a brace of entomologists along with him the next year?

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

Another big crop of beautiful books came to the shelves of bookstores around Christmas time, either newly published titles, or at reduced prices. Most of the picture books on butterflies and moths in the list were seen at the University bookstore and elsewhere in Madison.

The Rhopalocera Directory, compiled by John R. Beattie. 1976. Volume 1 of The Insecta Directory published by J. B. Indexes, Berkeley, CA. Contains 169,723 entries, 365 p., paper cover. $30.00. "A major new reference tool indispensable for working with the systematics literature in entomology...first in a series, (it) is a comprehensive index to all the butterfly and skipper names in the Systematics Indexes of the Zoological Record/Berichte...Entomologie for 1834-1971. ...the sole function of the (computerized printout) entries is to direct the user to the year and exact page location where each name appears in the Zoo. Record", avoiding countless tedious hours of poring through individual annual volumes of that publication.
PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST (cont.)


The Constant Pest by George Ordish. 1976. Charles Scribner's Sons. $12.95. A short history of pests and their control. The first book to comprehensively treat this subject; Ordish does his usual fine job, writing a fascinating history of a complex subject that is increasingly important as the world's need for food increases.


The Secret Life of Insects by P. Passarin d'Entreves and M. Zunino. 1976. Chartwell Books Inc. $12.98. Based on a French TV series (which I wish I could see!) called "The Strange and Unknown World of Insects", the book contains informative text, 400 color photos, and 50 black and white drawings (shares some photos with the following book).


Bzzz - a Beekeeper's Primer by Evelyn Fatigati. 1976. Rodale Press Inc. $4.95


The International Butterfly Book by Paul Smart. 1975. T.Y. Crowell Co. Recently reduced to $12.95 - a very good buy. 275 p. Over 100 photos of living insects in natural habitats, groupings to show evolution, sexual dimorphism, variation, and mimicry. Other plates show over 2000 species, all in color and life-size or larger. Useful systematic list of most of the world's known species of butterflies.

The World You Never See - Insect Life by Theodore Roland-Entwistle. 1976. Rand McNally & Co. $9.95, another good buy. 128 p. Perhaps more than other books of this type, photography is the star. About 300 remarkable color photos of representatives of most insect orders, some of them quite unusual.


PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST (cont.)

$18.50. 245 illustrations, mostly superb color photos covering adults and some immature forms, and the fine structure of butterfly anatomy. Accompanied by an informative text-176p.


A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Wisconsin Entomological Society is beginning its 8th year and its membership has grown from 53 to 118. We anticipate continued future growth, and I feel that perhaps we should begin to think about possible changes in the organization of the Society. Since its beginning, the Society has held monthly meetings in Russell Labs from October to May and has scheduled 1 or 2 annual summer collecting trips. The distance to Madison prevents many members from attending meetings although a large contingent is usually present from Milwaukee. Most other state entomological societies are organized into local chapters, which hold meetings and invite speakers, and then once a year the entire society gets together for an annual meeting. Perhaps the WES should consider having an annual meeting probably some Saturday in the Fall, at which members could present papers and we could all meet each other at a social hour and banquet. I would welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

The only other regular activity of the Society is its NEWSLETTER. This has grown and I hope it continues to grow, but this growth is dependent upon participation by the members of the Society. Jim Mertins has done an excellent job and is to be complimented, but he is always in need of news for the NEWSLETTER.

You will notice in the Treasurer's Report that the WES is losing money, mostly because of increased postage. Another problem is our increase in size to more than 100 members, which necessitates our having to order 200 copies of everything we have duplicated. Additional members would help cut costs, and I would like to urge all of you to promote membership in WES. We declined to raise dues from the present $2.00 per year and instead began a new "sustaining membership" category for $5.00 and designated a $25.00 membership as a "patron membership". We hope that through these new categories we will get enough additional revenue to support WES. Members who have contributed as Patron Members in the past include William Sieker, Robert Dicke, Randy Powers, and John Medler. Their support has been much appreciated.

If you have not already paid your 1977 dues, you will find an envelope and statement enclosed. If you wish to become a Sustaining Member, please add $3.00 to your dues and note it on the return envelope. If you have not paid your 1976 dues, your bill will be $4.00, and you will be dropped from membership if you do not remit. Dues may be mailed either to WES, Dep. of Entomology, Univ. of Wis., Madison, WI 53706, or to the Treasurer Robert Topczewski, 3261 S. 85 St., Milwaukee, WI 53227.-- William Hilsenhoff, President 1977

TREASURER'S REPORT - 1976

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<tr>
<th>Disbursements</th>
<th>Membership of WES as of Jan. 10,1977</th>
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<td>Balance in checking acct. Jan. 1,1976</td>
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<td>9 checks to Mertins &amp; DeSwarte</td>
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<td>for printing and postage costs, total $342.62</td>
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<td>(1 person paid $1.00 extra)</td>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot; 1978</td>
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<td>10.00</td>
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<td>Sustaining Memb. (Prof. John Medler) 25.00</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Membership 1/1/76</td>
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<td>Receipts in 1976 were $88.62 less than disbursements, but $71.10 was paid Jan. 30</td>
<td>95 libr.</td>
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<td>for expenses incurred the previous year. All expenses for 1976 have been paid, so the deficit for the year was only $17.52. --- William Hilsenhoff, Treasurer, 1976</td>
<td>&quot; increase 1976</td>
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9
WISCONSIN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please Print:

__________________________  ____________________________
Last Name                First Name

__________________________
Address:  

__________________________  ____________________________
Street                City                State                Zip

__________________________
Organization represented (if any)  

__________________________
Title or Occupation  

__________________________  ____________________________
Phone: (include area code)  

_______ individual membership ($2.00 per year)
_______ Organization membership ($10.00 per year)
_______ Sustaining membership ($25.00 or more per year)

General Interest Area

_______ Aquatic Insects
_______ 4-H or Scout Member
_______ Extension Worker
_______ Life History, Biology, & Behavior
_______ Other   

Specify

Specific Interests (Order, Family, Genus)

___ If you are an authority for certain insect taxa, would you be willing to identify Wisconsin specimens for members?   ___ Yes   ___ No

Make checks payable to Wisconsin Entomological Society and mail to the Treasurer, William Hilsenhoff, Dept. of Entomology, 237 Russell Labs., U. Wisc., Madison, Wisc. 53706.