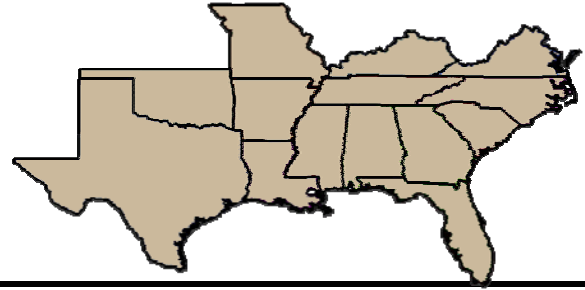


SWSS



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President's Message

Dr. Daniel B. Reynolds



The 2010 Program is shaping up to be an exciting one. Tom Holt and his committee have been working hard on the development of several symposia and general session speakers as well as the regular program. More details regarding the program should be available elsewhere within this newsletter. It is not often that we have the opportunity to hear a speaker with the notoriety that Patrick Moore brings. I am sure that you will want to encourage your colleagues and students to attend this session. Patrick was the original co-founder of Green Peace and he will share many insights into his current thoughts and philosophies.

I believe that you will enjoy the accommodations at the Peabody and I believe that Dick Oliver and his committee are making every effort for your stay in Little Rock to be an enjoyable one. The meeting rooms are very good and should offer ample choices for the program committee. Anyone needing special accommodations or hospitality suite information should contact Dick Oliver.

All too often in life we don't take the time to recognize those who have given so much of themselves to help others and the profession of Weed Science. I encourage you to nominate your deserving students and colleagues for the various awards. This is an important component of our annual meeting in which we all can and should participate. I am confident that Ann Thurston, chair of the Awards Committee, would welcome your nominations. Specific information for each award and submission deadline is available on the web.

I reported to you in my last message that Bob Schmidt was retiring in January 2010. After visiting with Bob at the summer board meeting he has agreed to stay on for two more years. During this time, the special committee comprised of Scott Senseman (chairman), Alan York, David Monks, and Randy Ratliff will continue searching for a replacement for Bob.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

Once a person/organization is selected we will bring them on part-time and transition them in as Bob completes his additional two years. This should facilitate a smooth transition. We will keep you informed as this process proceeds.

The contract for the 2011 meeting has been signed and we will meet at the Caribe Hilton in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Start talking this one up and get it on your calendar. To my knowledge this will be the first time we have ever met outside the continental US.

The replacement for the old three-ring binder version of the weed id guide, *Weeds of the South*, was completed on schedule and is now available for purchase. The SWSS Board received copies for review at the annual board meeting and everyone was very impressed with the publication. The only way it will be profitable is if we promote its sale at our grower and professional meetings. I would also encourage those of you who are teaching classes that have a weed identification component to make it a required text. Kudos to John Byrd at Mississippi State University and David Jordan at North Carolina State University for purchasing copies for the area/county agents within their states. Thanks guys!! If you have not done so already, I would encourage you to purchase copies for you, your colleagues, and your students. We have already signed an agreement with Georgia Press for the development of *Weeds of the Central United States and Canada* which will contain 340-360 species. Mike DeFelice and Charles Bryson are busy in this joint effort between SWSS and the North Central Weed Science Society with whom we will share the costs as well as the proceeds from this publication. I hope that you will join me in expressing our appreciation to Mike DeFelice and Charles Bryson for their many years of service in producing these quality publications.

By the time you receive this newsletter the Weed Contest will be complete. Eric Protsko and his colleagues and industry cooperators at Georgia have been working hard to make this another exciting and challenging contest. This years contest was held in Tifton, Georgia and it is the 30 year anniversary of the contest. That last sentence was a

little difficult to write/believe. It certainly does not seem like it was that long ago when I went to my first contest in Albany, Georgia. That was my first introduction to many things the least of which were those @3#\$ gnats! We will give a detailed report on the contest in the December Newsletter.

About the General Session Speaker

As mentioned in the *May Newsletter*, we are planning an exciting opening General Session in Little Rock with a well know scientist giving the Keynote Address. Remember the picture several years ago of the Greenpeace activist holding the baby seal in Canada? That person was **Patrick Moore**, our keynote speaker.

Dr. Patrick Moore has been a leader in the international environmental field for over 30 years. He is a co-founder of Greenpeace and served for nine years as President of Greenpeace Canada and seven years as a Director of Greenpeace International. As the leader of many campaigns Dr. Moore was a driving force shaping policy and direction while Greenpeace became the world's largest environmental activist organization.



In recent years, Dr. Moore has been focused on the promotion of sustainability and consensus building among competing concerns. He was a member of British Columbia government-appointed Round Table on the Environment and Economy from 1990 - 1994. In 1990, Dr. Moore founded and chaired the BC Carbon Project, a group that worked to develop a common understanding of climate change.

Dr. Patrick Moore believes that one of our most serious environmental problems can be attributed to the ineffective communication between special interest groups and the business community. A leader of the international environmental movement for more than 30 years, Dr. Moore reveals the myths and misinformation that distort current environmental debates. He calls for issues

to be discussed on the basis of accurate scientific data, a search for consensus and the creation of sustainable solutions to environmental issues.

An informed, provocative speaker, Dr. Moore's presentations inspire new ways of thinking about our environmental challenges. Business, professional and educational groups find his views refreshing, informative and relevant. Dr. Moore has played a prominent role in raising environmentalism to the forefront of public concern in Canada and throughout the world. Still a strong environmentalist, he is personally committed to collaborating with others in finding solutions to environmental conflicts.

Thomas J. Holt

Advancements in Automation and Machine Guided Technologies for Precision Weed Control

This will be the topic of a symposium at the upcoming 50th Annual Meeting of the Weed Science Society of America in Denver, Colorado, February 7-11, 2010. Producers across the nation and worldwide are dealing with issues associated with weed control, including site specific applications, integrated weed management and application timing. Come to the symposium and hear about how the potential for improving weed control using automation and machine guided technologies can help address these pertinent, production based weed control problems. The symposium will feature biosystem engineers, industry representatives and crop producers, who have experience with the latest weed control technologies for organic and conventional cropping systems. The panel of experts will share their insights on current research and the prospects for future applications of machine guided technologies for controlling weeds. The symposium will also feature a question and answer session between the panel and the audience. Be sure to mark this symposium as you plan your schedule for the meetings in Denver. It will be one of the highlights of your week!

Steve Young

ANNOUNCEMENT

Research Methods Manual Closeout
The Southern Weed Science Society is offering their Research Methods Manual at a closeout price of \$10.00 per copy, includes shipping. Orders can be sent to:

SWSS
1508 W. University Ave.
Champaign, IL 61821-3133

Visa or MasterCard orders may be phone to:
217 352-4212 or by email to:
raschwssa@aol.com

Offer good thru September 30, 2009.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION Instructions and Deadlines

<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>DEADLINE</u>
December 2009	November 1, 2009
May 2010	April 1, 2010

Please send text information as Microsoft Word or WordPerfect files, and pictures as JPEG or BMP files to:

Al Rankins, Jr., Editor
3825 Ridgewood Road
Jackson, MS 39211
Phone 601-432-6321
<mailto:arankins@mississippi.edu>

CAST Spring 2009 Board of Directors' Meeting
Scott Senseman – SWSS CAST Representative

Taken from report submitted by Linda M. Chimenti, Director of Council Operations

Beginning on March 18, 2009, members of the CAST Board of Directors gathered at the Doubletree Hotel in Washington, D.C. for their spring meeting. Board members participated in 2 ½ days of general sessions, work group and committee breakouts, and shared meals. A number of publication proposals were discussed, and several proposals will move forward in the coming weeks through e-mail ballots. Guest speakers addressed the group at several meals, and the Charles A. Black Communications Award was presented to Dr. Wayne Skaggs at an evening reception. Dr. Richard Reynnells, an individual who has shown outstanding support for CAST, was honored with the CAST Champion Award. The Executive Committee met in special session for two days before the start of the general session, and their report to board members was the focus of discussion in many work group and committee breakout sessions.

Guest Speakers

Gale Buchanan, who recently served as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Undersecretary for Research, Education, and Economics, was the keynote speaker. Dr. Buchanan is a past president of CAST. In his remarks to the board, he emphasized the importance of conveying credible scientific information and educating the general public on scientific issues. He stated his support for the CAST process, but encouraged CAST to develop a way to provide even more timely communications on emerging issues. He listed a wide range of important challenges for agriculture including global climate change and carbon credits, water quality and availability, achieving energy security, food safety and security, animal rights and animal welfare, and biotechnology and cloning. Dr. Buchanan encouraged board members to take an active role in communicating the importance of CAST to their policymakers and legislators.

Fran Boyd, Senior Vice President of Meyers & Associates, a Washington-based government relations/business consulting firm, stated that a major strength of CAST is that it deals in consensus—producing publications that contain information written and reviewed by a collection of scientific experts. He said that CAST information is especially valuable to people in the legislative branch of government, and he stressed the importance of using electronic media for communications. Mr. Boyd suggested that CAST members interested in producing timely, relevant publications should try to forecast key issues by studying the Farm Bill and listening to statements by cabinet appointees in the new administration. Among the issues he views as important in future legislative discussions are food safety, renewable energy, climate change and carbon sequestration, water quality, animal welfare, public lands, and taxation on greenhouse gases.

Mark B. Halverson, Staff Director/Chief Counsel for the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee from the office of Senator Tom Harkin, spoke to the CAST Board of Directors at a noon luncheon. He stated that CAST's work has been helpful on issues regarding the interface of science with public policy. He listed several topics that will be the focus of D.C. discussions in the coming months: food safety, products regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, climate change, energy in agriculture, biofuels, and issues in biotechnology. Mr. Halverson answered several questions from the audience at the end of his presentation, including how CAST can package its communications to have the greatest impact.

Richard Reynnells, National Program Leader for Animal Production Systems at the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, shared his personal thoughts about CAST at a morning breakfast meeting. Dr. Reynnells said that the comments he hears regarding CAST publications are favorable, but he suggested that CAST should strive to increase the amount of its output to reach a wider audience. Agriculture, he said, needs a teamwork approach to address issues, and CAST is in the process of becoming part of that team.

Ephraim King, Director of the Office of Science and Technology, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, focused on four areas of interest to the EPA in his after-lunch presentation to the board:

1. Water quality and its relationship to agriculture. Nutrient pollution from agricultural sources is a growing and expanding problem, and science needs to find ways to reduce nutrient loading on the nation's water systems.
2. The effects on water from pesticide applications. The EPA is trying to work with the agricultural community to balance environmental concerns with those of agricultural producers.
3. Concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO). There are many issues surrounding CAFOs and the permits required to operate them, and there are interested parties on both sides of the issues.
4. The Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee. This group was established in 2007 to advise the EPA Administrator on issues such as climate change, renewable fuels, livestock and poultry inspection, and other emerging issues.

Charles A. Black Communications Award

At an evening reception on March 18th, CAST honored Dr. Richard W. Skaggs, William Neal Reynolds Professor and Distinguished University Professor in the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department at North Carolina State University, by presenting him with the 2009 Charles A. Black Communications Award. The award was presented by CAST President Dr. Henry L. Shands. The audience included members of the CAST Board of Directors, Washington, D.C. agency personnel, and family and friends of Dr. Skaggs.

Work Group Actions

The **Animal Sciences Work Group** met with two guests during one of the breakout sessions. Their discussions focused on possible opportunities for CAST to partner with other organizations in hosting conferences, symposia, or other professional gatherings. The work group spent a lot of time discussing the issues identified by the Executive Committee regarding CAST governance and the need to increase funding support. One new publication proposal, on the topic of humane mass depopulation in animal disease emergencies, was considered briefly. The group agreed to hold more frequent conference calls to conduct business in between the CAST board meetings.

The **Food Science and Agricultural Technology Work Group** was pleased to welcome two new board members to its breakout sessions. In addition, one guest met with the group and they discussed possible partnering opportunities. Members reviewed the composition and scope of the work group and agreed that it was logical for food science to work with agricultural engineering/technology, but they acknowledged the need to share and collaborate with other work groups. The group heard from staff about the progress of the fresh produce commentary currently in progress, and they reviewed topics under consideration from the previous meeting. New topics identified for possible development into proposals included toxic compounds in seafood, the potential for formation of one government agency to oversee food safety, and food-based allergies.

The **Plant Protection Sciences Work Group** reviewed an existing proposal on pest resistance management and moved this item into a suite of papers on sustainability for which funding will be sought. A proposal for a commentary on bee colony collapse was approved by the work group and referred to the Executive Committee. A proposal for a commentary on sustainable agriculture was approved by the work group and moved on to the Executive Committee. The group is developing a proposal for a series of issue papers on sustainable agriculture using the commentary as the kick-off. They are seeking a coalition for support and are suggesting a sustainability symposium with all working groups contributing speakers as part of the agenda. Work group members endorsed the idea of developing partnerships with publishers. The group also discussed ideas for restructuring CAST work groups and committees. A proposal on water quality and agriculture is under development.

The **Plant, Soil, and Environmental Sciences Work Group** reviewed the status of projects already underway and several on hold from past meetings. Three proposals were developed, approved by the group, and moved on to the National Concerns Committee: the impact of fertilizers in urban areas, the technology of nitrogen use efficiency, and another commentary in the Convergence of Agriculture and Energy series. Ideas for possible new publications included green chemistry of bio-based products, product labeling to show the amount of energy used in product delivery, and the impact of climate change on pest development. The group discussed the concerns raised by the Executive Committee, and they suggested that ad hoc work groups might be a way to address emerging issues that span several areas of agriculture. They also discussed possible ways of making CAST information more accessible to a wider audience, including youth.

Committee Actions

The **Budget, Finance, and Investment Committee** reported that a letter will be sent from CAST to university deans asking them to support their faculty members who volunteer their time to work for CAST. After serious discussion, this committee voted to disband in its current form and recommended that governance and finance issues be handled by the Executive Committee. They did agree that three members from this committee, on a rotating basis, would assist the Treasurer on an annual audit review; the Treasurer would then report to the Executive Committee.

The **Editorial and Publications Committee** considered a recommendation to get CAST in front of the public using the web but without increasing the staff workload. They also reviewed the protocols for the publication process and endorsed the current process as being robust and transparent, not needing to be changed. Along with staff, the committee held an extensive discussion of new media methods and opportunities. Several proposals were considered and approved: seeking a publisher for bundling and sales of existing CAST publications, negotiating a partnership with publishers to publish proceedings of CAST-sponsored conferences, and drafting a protocol for a rapid release communication process.

The **Membership and Marketing Committee** discussed possible changes to the dues structure for CAST member societies and reviewed the current process for travel reimbursement to board members who attend the CAST board meetings. The committee endorsed the idea of assessing a late payment fee on unpaid renewals, but did not recommend specific amounts. They approved the proposal to hold only one in-person board meeting per year, and stated that all board members should help with recruiting of new members and sponsors for CAST.

The **National Concerns Committee** focused on ways this committee can be proactive in suggesting ideas for future CAST projects and publications. The committee considered several proposals during their breakout sessions: a commentary on sustainable agriculture; a series of issue papers and/or special publications on aspects of sustainable agriculture; a commentary on bee colony collapse disorder; the impact of fertilizers in urban areas; the technology of nitrogen use efficiency; and another commentary in the Convergence of Agriculture and Energy series.

General Session Action Items

During its final General Session, the board approved the following actions.

- **Motion from the Budget, Finance & Investment Committee:** Keep member society dues at the 2009 levels for 2010; discontinue travel reimbursement payments in 2010 for board members; allow travel reimbursement by CAST for Executive Committee members. Motion passed.
- **Motion from the Budget, Finance & Investment Committee:** Beginning in 2010, hold only one in-person CAST Board Meeting per year. The Executive Committee may hold additional in-person meetings. Motion passed.

- **Motion from the Budget, Finance & Investment Committee:** The Budget, Finance & Investment Committee will disband as of the end of this meeting; responsibility for CAST financial matters remains with the Treasurer who will report to the Executive Committee; twice a year the Treasurer will send financial information to the full Board of Directors; there will be an annual review of the audit by the Treasurer and three board members. Motion passed.
- **Motion from the Editorial & Publications Committee:** The Executive Committee has the authority to explore the possibility of working with a commercial publisher to publish existing CAST documents in book format. Motion passed.
- **Motion from the Editorial & Publications Committee:** The Executive Committee has the authority to consider plans for an external meeting, possibly in partnership with one or more other organizations, and to publish the proceedings from that meeting using a commercial publisher. Motion passed.
- **Motion from the Editorial & Publications Committee:** The committee presented a protocol outlining the process for CAST to prepare and distribute a “rapid response” to an occurrence of inaccurate information; the response will be formulated by experts identified by CAST and will be based on existing CAST information. The protocol details were read to the board. Motion passed.
- **Motion from the Membership & Marketing Committee:** The board authorizes the Executive Committee to decide on the details of a “late payment process” but recommends assessing a flat fee rather than a percentage for invoices not paid on time. Motion passed.
- **Motion from the Executive Committee:** Based on discussions of the National Concerns Committee and the Animal Sciences Work Group, the Executive Committee asked the board to authorize the EC to explore and implement opportunities for a conference in the Fall of 2010. This action would include partnering with another organization to present a conference on an issue of critical importance to agriculture; CAST would be responsible for publishing the conference proceedings. Motion passed.

Mark your Calendars!

SWSS Annual Meetings

**2010 – Peabody, Little Rock, AR
(January 25th – January 27th)**

**2011 – Carbie Hilton, San Juan, Puerto Rico
(January 24th – January 26th)**

WSSA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD – 2010

The Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) has developed an Undergraduate Student Research Grant designed to encourage and involve exceptional undergraduates in agricultural research. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential award candidates and discuss the possibility of sponsoring a research project. Awards may be used as a stipend, for research budget expenses (travel, supplies, etc.), to defer fees, to defray living expenses for summer research, or any combination of these items.

AWARD: Up to \$1000 for support of undergraduate research to be conducted over a minimum of one quarter/semester during 2010. This award may be used to defray the cost of research supplies or as a stipend. Support of a faculty sponsor is required. Awards will be made to the student, to be administered by the faculty sponsor's department.

APPLICANT: The applicant is an undergraduate student with a strong interest in Weed Science. Students majoring in all related disciplines may apply.

TO APPLY: Applicants should prepare a 2-3 page research proposal including name, address, phone number, E-mail address, title, objective, experimental approach, discussion, budget and references. The discussion section of the proposal should describe the expected results and their possible significance to Weed Science. The student should provide a cover letter in which general academic and career goals are discussed. A copy of the student's academic transcripts must also be provided.

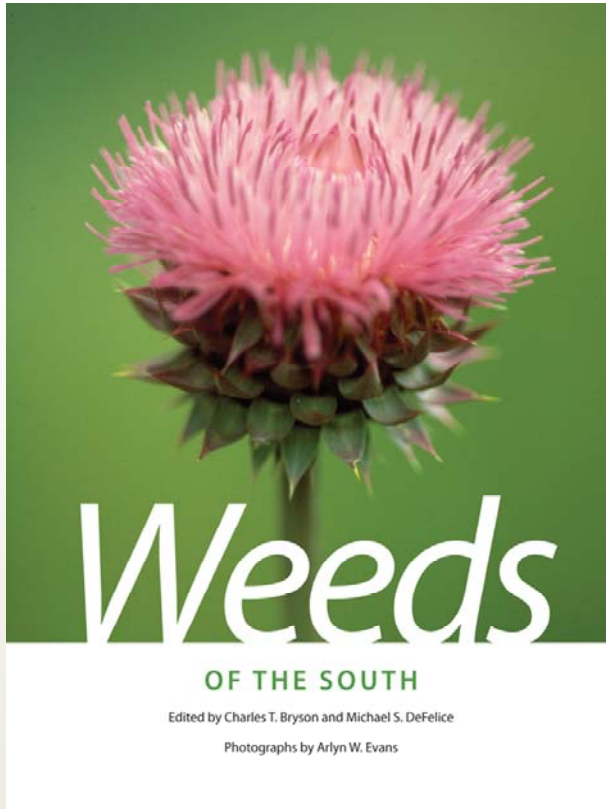
FACULTY SPONSOR: Any faculty member who is actively engaged in Weed Science research is qualified to be a sponsor. The faculty sponsor should review the research proposal with special attention to the budget; the distribution of funds should be approved by both the student and sponsor. In addition, the sponsor should provide a letter of reference including a statement of his/her willingness to supervise the proposed research and to provide needed space, equipment and supplies above those requested in the proposal. The sponsor is encouraged to assist the student in presenting his/her results at a regional Weed Science Meeting.

HOW TO APPLY: The completed proposal, academic transcripts, cover letter and faculty letter of support should be forwarded to:

Dr. John Jachetta
Dow AgroSciences
9330 Zionsville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268-1054
Phone: (317) 337-4686
Fax (317) 337-4649
E-mail: jjjachetta@dow.com

Proposals should be received no later than **November 16, 2009**. Funding decisions will be made by January 22, 2010 and presented at the 2010 WSSA National Meeting Awards Ceremony.

NEW WEED IDENTIFICATION BOOK!



Edited by
Charles T. Bryson and
Michael S. DeFelice

Photographs by Arlyn W. Evans

*Quick help for finding and
managing problem plants*

Available July 2009

480 pp. | 7.5 x 10
flexibind with flaps

\$39.95



Weeds of the South off to a Good Start

The joint SWSS and University of Georgia Press book *Weeds of the South* went on sale in the middle of June. Reviews of the book have been fantastic and we are extremely pleased with the quality of the book binding, paper, and color printing. Book sales were over 1,300 copies after only two weeks on the market. This was the fourth ranked best selling book for the University of Georgia Press for the entire sales period of January 1 to June 30 and they sell hundreds of titles. So our book ranked fourth with only two weeks of sales! But we want to be the Number 1 selling book for the July 1 to December 31st sales season. So please do everything you can to create awareness of this terrific book. Two PowerPoint slides you can use in presentations as a visual aid are available for downloading on the SWSS web site. At a \$39.95 list price it is a bargain. It can be purchased at any bookstore, online from Amazon.com (for a significant discount) and other online retailers, or directly from the University of Georgia Press. The University of Georgia Press will also give a significant discount for volume purchases. This book has been a long time coming following years of work by a large number of people in the SWSS and outside the society. Now is the time to extend this resource, fulfill our society mission to provide high quality educational materials, and raise a little money for the SWSS along the way. Remember to mention the book whenever you are interacting with farmers, gardeners, professionals in the lawn and landscape industry, crop professionals, teachers, and students. This is a first-class product you can be proud to show and sell. Please get out the word!

Michael DeFelice

Comments for the upcoming 2010 SWSS meeting

The Peabody Hotel will be an excellent venue for our annual meeting on January 25th through 27th. The Peabody is located on the Arkansas River and is near the river walk, old state capital, Clinton Library, Heifer International Village, a variety of restaurants, and the airport. A shuttle service is provided by the Peabody but it is only an eight passenger van. The Local Arrangements Committee, headed by Trina Oliver, will provide a spouses program! If your company or university wants to sponsor a reception, hospitality suite, or section break, the contact person is Stacy Wheeler, Conference Service Manager, (501) 399-8048 or wheeler@peabodylittlerock.com. Remember that the extra functions are not included in the SWSS contract, so each of you will have to arrange them through Stacey.

Room reservations must be made by December 23rd. The rate will be \$149.00 (single or double).

So, come to Arkansas for excellent southern hospitality and an informative and well planned program by Vice-President Tom Holt.

Sincerely,



Dick Oliver

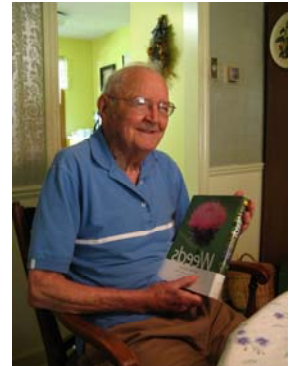
Local Arrangements, Chairperson

Weeds of the South

All,
Last weekend Nancy and I took an autographed copy of WOTS to Arlyn and got his autograph on several copies of the book. He is very pleased and impressed with WOTS and had received a copy from UGA Press just in time to show off at a family

reunion. Arlyn told us the story of how he and Chester McWhorter first discussed weed photos and their vision for Weed ID education. See attached photo! I will retain an autographed (all three of us) copy of WOTS for SWSS to auction off at the next meeting.

This has been a team effort!! Arlyn, Mike, and I are very thankful for the support, encouragement, and hard work of so many who have participated in the weed identification process and projects over the years. Each of you and



the many others not in my current e-mail address book have made major contributions and we thank you. Mike and I are committed to see the next book out, hopefully by this time next year. The revised manuscript, drawings, photos, lists, etc. have been forwarded to the technical editor, art editor, etc. as of this week. Our efforts are pushing forward on the DVD project, but it will be somewhat delayed from our initial plans. Mike and I can only do so much in a day and we both agreed that a major edit of the descriptions was needed. The new format was suggested by one of my botany colleagues who had major input into the review process of WOTS. He was right; I was too close to the trees to see the forest. Using the Weeds of the South format, I have edited almost all of the current 650+ species descriptions. Mike's reformatting of the photos, developing new maps and grass collar illustrations is taking a major commitment of time. With Mike's (and a few by me and others) additional photos, we'll probably add another 25 to 30 species this summer. So by the time the DVD is ready to burn our numbers should be pushing 675 to 680 species!!!! Since the completion of the loose leaf Weed ID guide set number 4, one of our greatest hardships has been trying to locate viable seed and get these beasts to germinate. Sometimes I wonder how some species become so weedy.....only Mother Nature knows!!!

Best,
Charles T. Bryson