

**38<sup>th</sup> NAAIC Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Sacramento, CA**  
**July 28, 2002**

1. Report from the Local Arrangement Committee (Dan Putnam).
  - Attendance numbers: 113 attended including some spouse.
  - Meeting rooms: The meeting rooms facilitated good presentations and communications.
  - Poster Session: 28 posters were presented
  - Tours: Tours on Sunday to the Delta area and on Tuesday to the Sacramento Valley went well.
  - NAAIC is very grateful to Dan Putman and his associates at U.C. Davis for the efforts they made in local arrangements and planning for the conference.
  - Because costs for the conference will likely exceed the registration fees, it is likely that a deficit will occur. NAAIC will have to cover deficits from the general fund. It was discussed that for the future conferences, planners will need to ask for registrations at least 6 months in advance. This will provide a known number of registrants around which to develop a conference budget. In addition, although tight budgeting may allow future meetings to break-even financially, it is likely that registration fees will need to be increased to cover uncertain costs.
2. Report from the Treasurer ( John Caddel). John became the treasurer in 2000. Funds were transferred from Gary Bauchan on 6 September 2000.
  - Financial report: Balance in the NAAIC general account as of 26 July 2002 is \$20,488.22. \$10,000 is in a CD @4.9%; the remainder in a checking account.
  - R. R. Hill Memorial Fund: \$12,100.46 (6-30-02) is earning 3% in a money market account with Solomon, Smith, Barney in Pennsylvania. Expenses of \$612.41 were incurred for plaque and cash award presented at July 2002 meeting at Sacramento, CA.
3. Executive Secretary (Gary Bauchan)
  - Membership: Total 642 members, 388 U.S., 67 Canada, 6 Mexico, and 181 Non-North American.
  - New membership Directory was published in 2001.
  - Memorials to those who have passed away since the last meeting- Laddie Elling, Minnesota; William Kendall, USDA-ARS Penn State; and Bill Melton, New Mexico.
  - Related Conferences: Third International Molecular Breeding of Forage and Turf: Dallas Texas, May 18-22, 2003. (We agreed to provide non-financial support and publicize the event at our web site). 1<sup>st</sup> Australian *Medicago truncatula* Workshop Perth, Western Australia Nov. 10-13, 2002.
4. Finance Committee Report (Dave Miller)
  - There are 9 Sustaining members of the NAAIC. These include: Dairyland Seed, Pioneer Hi-bred International, WL-Research, Forage Genetics International, Cal/West Seeds, ABI Alfalfa, FFR Cooperative, Great Plains Research, CelPril. Member names are publicized on the back of our awards program. Each sustaining member provided \$300.
  - There were 6 graduate student travel grants awarded at \$300 each.
5. Web Page (Paul St. Amand)
  - Overall, the web page is an effective approach to publicize NAAIC and to provide information about NAAIC and varieties. Gary will meet with Paul to review the web page and get minutes of old conferences more available.
  - NAAIC greatly appreciates the time that Paul has devoted to the site.

6. Honors and Awards Committee (Craig Sheaffer)
  - Honorary Members- Jim Moutray, ABI Alfalfa, and Garry Lacefield, University of Kentucky. (NAAIC waved the registration fee for Gary to attend; Cost of plaque presented at the awards banquet was \$ 238.23)
  - R.R. Hill Jr. Award - Dennis Rowe (\$500 award and \$ 112.41 for cost of plaque were paid from the Hill Memorial fund). Craig Sheaffer will write Ken Leath and Mrs. Hill updating them on the award winners and status of the fund.
7. Report from Nominations Committee (Mike Peterson)
  - Nominations are: President - Sam Stratton, FFR; VP- Craig Sheaffer, University of Minnesota; - Secretary - Jonathan Reich, Cal/West; Treasurer - John Caddel, Oklahoma State University.
8. Report from Location Committee (Dan Undersander)
  - Next NAAIC (2004) - Quebec, Canada - Real Michaud is the local host. This conference will be jointly held with the Trifolium Conference
  - In 2006, the conference will be held in St. Paul, Minnesota. Craig Sheaffer, JoAnn Lamb, and Debby Samac will host the conference that will again be a joint meeting with the Trifolium Conference.
  - Broadening the membership of NAAIC and increasing attendance at national and regional meetings. The executive committee discussed the issues of potential declining membership and attendance at conferences. The poor attendance at the Central Alfalfa Improvement Conference in 2001 caused the cancellation of the conference. Although there was concern about these issues, it was decided that NAAIC should remain as is because the goals of other organizations differ. We still appear to have a critical mass of scientists from public institutions and private industry. Our joint meetings with the Trifolium Conference in 2004 and 2006 should provide guidance as to the effectiveness of joint meetings.
9. Review agenda for NAAIC Business Meeting (Joe Bouton)
  - Passing of the office of President from Joe Bouton to Sam Stratton will occur at the general Business meeting.
10. Review agenda for Awards Banquet (Craig Sheaffer & Dave Miller)
  - The awards banquet will be a low-key event. Craig will make presentations of the Honorary Member and R.R. Hill awards. Dave Miller will announce the Sustaining members and Graduate Student Travel Grants.
11. Other business
  - Status of Regional Conferences - Eastern Forage Improvement Conference, Central Alfalfa Improvement Conference, and Western Alfalfa Improvement Conference. Independent meetings of these conferences do not appear to be sustainable because of low participation in meetings. This is partially due to less individuals working on alfalfa but also due to the increased opportunities of participants to attend other meetings. The continuation of the regional meetings may be a financial liability to NAAIC. For example, the joint meeting of the EFIC & CAIC was cancelled due to lack of participation; however, NAAIC still had to pay organizing costs of \$2000. The future of these regional conferences will need to be discussed at their individual business meetings. Possible solutions are for the Eastern Alfalfa Conference to meet with the Northeast ASA group, the Western Conference to meet with alfalfa or other commodity groups; and the Central group to disband or possibly develop a virtual conference on the internet..

**Minutes submitted by Craig Sheaffer, Secretary, NAAIC.**