

**Minutes of the 2010 General Business Meeting**  
American Bryological and Lichenological Society  
Rhode Island Convention Center  
Providence, Rhode Island

August 3, 2010

Karen Renzaglia, President, presiding. 26 people in attendance. Meeting convened at 3:10 pm.

1. **Minutes** of the 2009 General Business Meeting as Snowbird, Utah: it was moved by Tom Nash to accept the minutes, seconded by Bill Buck, no discussion, all voted in favor. (*Motion 1*)
2. **Future Meetings.** The 2011 meeting will be at Roan Mountain State Park, TN the week of June 20<sup>th</sup>. Eight cabins are available and food can be catered. There are other cabins nearby and bed and breakfasts in 2 towns 15 minutes away, Johnson City and Elizabethton. Nearest airport is Johnson City. People could get rental vans there and drive 40 minutes to the state park. The 2012 meeting will be with BSA in Columbus, Ohio. The 2013 meeting location is undetermined, but mention was made of the IAB meeting at UBC in Vancouver, BC. Judy Harpel is checking on this.

*Agenda change: the following items were presented and discussed not in the order they appeared in the agenda.*

3. **Society Awards** announced by Bill Buck:
  - a. **Sullivant Award for 2009:** Amelia Merced-Alejandro & Ines Sastre-de Jesus. A developmental sequence for paraphyses in *Neckeropsis* (Neckeraceae). *Bryologist* 112(2): 342-353.
  - b. **Tuckerman Award for 2009:** Soili Stenroos, Seppo Huhtinen, Anne Lesonen, Zdenek Palice & Christian Printzen. *Puttea*, gen. nov., erected for the enigmatic lichen *Lecidea margaritella*. *Bryologist* 112(3): 544-557.
4. **Student Involvement in ABLs.** Renzaglia reported on a discussion from the Executive Committee (EC) concerning having a student on the EC. She asked the students present to work out a mechanism for selecting someone to be on the committee, alternating between a bryologist and a lichenologist, and to form a subcommittee in the fall. There was considerable discussion about this topic in the Business Meeting with no immediate resolution.
5. **Annual Reports.**
  - a. **Secretary/Treasurer.** (Jim Bennett reporting)
    - Membership has remained virtually unchanged at 618, 57% from the USA
    - Total subscriptions to both journals has remained virtually unchanged at 1068, 60% from the USA
    - Income totaled \$123,845 and expenses \$115,541, resulting in a net gain of \$8304
    - The largest sources of income are *The Bryologist* subscriptions (36%) and royalties (31%)

- Producing *The Bryologist* accounts for 48% of expenses
- The investment portfolio (“endowment”) gained \$28,800 for an annual growth rate of 8%
- The financial account balances (5 accounts) on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 totaled \$572,156
- *Evansia* will be included in BioOne: negotiated with BioOne and finalized contract
- JSTOR now available to all members: access is no longer opt-in, but opt-out
- Membership Services provided by Allen Press: negotiated contract and developed database and website with association manager. The new website was demonstrated online using the podium computer.
- Online subscriptions will now be available: online subscriptions to both journals available starting in 2011

**b. Business Manager** (John Atwood reporting) Atwood reported on inventory, sales, and the ABLS website. The inventory has moved from Madison, WI to St. Louis, MO and decreased by 82 journal issues. The total number of items in the inventory is 2,484 and has a market value of \$31,104. Twelve sales were made last year for an income of \$846. Back issues of the *Bryologist* account for 76% of sales. Most sales (67%) are paid with a credit card. The ABLS website has had 32,098 unique visitors since its launch at the end of 2006. The events page and the journal pages are the most heavily trafficked pages. Buck asked if the society still sold t shirts, and Atwood said we had plenty of shirts in all 3 colors (green, blue, tan), but for some colors only the odd sizes were left. No shirts were sold last year although two inquiries were made for shirt sizes that were not in the inventory. Buck asked if we were going to print more shirts, and Atwood said he would look into it but would also examine using CafePress as a better way to sell branded merchandise.

**c. Financial Advisory Committee** (Brent Mishler reporting) Mishler reported that the EC voted the day before to commence spending funds from the investment portfolio at the rate of up to 4% of the value of the principal, and that \$10,000 would be awarded for further development of (and initiation in the case of the bryological one) the Consortia of North American Lichen and Bryophyte Herbaria. Buck stated that we need a procedure and criteria if we are going to give out funds, and that they should be open to everybody. Mishler stated that individual grants are not planned; rather priority of funding will be maintaining *The Bryologist*, supporting students, and the general good of the society. Mishler referred to a past president’s advisory committee report from 2003 on the investments. Lendemer stated he had a problem using ABLS funds to harvest data with no support for the original data. Mishler stated there would be no call for proposals, but the EC should ask members for ideas in the future; that it is an EC decision, not the membership’s directly. Nash was asked at the 2009 EC meeting for a proposal and a copy of that is available. Barbara Crandall-Stotler insisted that the membership be informed.

**d. The Bryologist Editor** (Bernard Goffinet reporting) Goffinet reported he currently has a 20% rejection rate. He said the Impact Factor was declining and

that longer papers are needed to increase this. He will be asking the authors of the recent literature sections about putting them online to cut down on pages. He said that we will start charging page charges as it says in the inside back cover of the journal. Later it was mentioned that Volume 113(4) would be dedicated to the Stotlers.

- e. **Evansia Editor** (Larry St Clair reporting) (*2 page report on file*)
  - f. **Lichen Exchange** (Larry St Clair reporting) (*1 page report on file*)
  - g. **Moss Exchange** (no report)
  - h. **Liverwort Exchange** (no report)
6. **Anderson-Crum Fund** (Bernard Goffinet reporting) After Anderson died (2007?) Goffinet asked donors to contribute to a fund to give out a biannual award to recognize a doctoral student for the best thesis in bryology. It was unspecified if this was to cover these from all over the world not just North America. It would be a small award (4% of the total). Ernie Brodo suggested limiting it to North America to avoid language problems. Elizabeth Kneiper asked why not include master's theses. Barbara Crandall said to limit it to ABLS members. Goffinet mentioned that the theses have to be judged somehow.
7. **Postage.** Tom Nash moved to increase foreign postage for *The Bryologist* and *Evansia* by \$5 saying that the cost of postage is going up again (*in January, 2011 – JPB*) (*Motion 2*). Goffinet said it costs too much for Europeans. Lloyd Stark seconded the motion. Ernie Brodo said that ABLS is a continental organization and that Canadians should not be charged the same as the rest of the world. This discussion also included the cost of online subscriptions starting in 2011. The motion was tabled until a cost analysis is presented by the Secretary/Treasurer to the EC.
8. **Specimens requested.** Gajendra Shrestha, a student of Larry St Clair's at BYU, who is studying anticancer properties of lichens and screening species requested people to send him fruticose lichen specimens for his analysis. He needs 10 g fresh material.
9. **Tom Nash Festschrift.** Scott Bates announced that on November 13, 2010 Tom Nash will have his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday and in honor of this a festschrift was put together to be published by *Lichenologica Bibliotheca*. Bates listed Tom's accomplishments (Powerpoint presentation) and announced a website at [www.azfungi.org/nash](http://www.azfungi.org/nash).
10. **Sharp Award.** (*This was announced at the ABLS mixer, but not at the business meeting when it has in the past.*) E. Serusiaux, J. C. Villarreal, T. Wheeler & B. Goffinet. *Species of Nephroma endemic to Macronesia belong to two strongly supported clades each comprising a widespread Holarctic species and all are of recent origin.*

Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:15 pm.

Jim Bennett  
Secretary/Treasurer