

- President **Jonathan Coddington** called the meeting to order at 14:10 edst. He welcomed everyone and encouraged their participation.
- A movement to waive reading and accept the minutes from the 41<sup>st</sup> annual AAS Business Meeting, held at Univ. of Wisconsin-Green Bay, WI, 23 July, 2012 was seconded and approved.

### Reports

- The membership report was given by Membership Secretary **Jeff Shultz**. He reported there are 496 Individual members, and that almost all losses to the membership were students. The Membership is basically stable. The AAS will no longer collect dues for other societies.
- Secretary **Alan Cady** gave the Treasurer's report in the absence of Treasurer **Karen Cangialosi**. It was reported that the Society's financial situation is steady since last year (~\$57K; \$36.5K for SNAIM). Funds from various sources were placed into a new Schwab Investment account. These included the current CD (~\$25K), liquid funds (~\$5K), and the Peck bequest (\$40K) for a total of ~\$70K, giving the Society a total of ~\$163.6K (compared to \$136K in 2012). We received about \$28K from BioOne & JSTOR, which continues to grow.
- **Bob Suter**, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Arachnology (JOA), reported the Journal was stable, but with fewer submissions and a lower acceptance rate. Smaller submissions are being discouraged from being accepted. The Journal's impact factor continues to go up. Turnover rate is still good, but it relies on the reviewers and author revision rate. As the Treasurer mentioned, the royalties from JSTOR and BIO1 are increasing, which is helping to cover increasing publication costs. Individual AAS members may join JPASS for free (another benefit of being an AAS member). The Society will publish the ICA Proceedings in August 2014.
- President **Coddington** reported on future meeting sites. We meet in 2014 at Ohio State University-Newark hosted by **Andy Roberts & Rich Bradley**. **Brian Patrick** will host the meeting in 2015 at South Dakota Wesleyan, we meet in Golden CO in 2016 for the International Congress, hosted by **Paula Cushing**, Mexico (Yucatan) will be the venue in 2017 (hosted by **Fernando Alvarez**), and **Joel Ledford** at UC Davis will host in 2018.
- Secretary **Cady** reported on the 2013 AAS officer election. **Marshal Hedin** is the new President-Elect, and **Rick Vetter** is the newest Director, replacing **Cara Shilling**. **Karen Cangialosi** remains as Treasurer. They will assume their duties in September 2013.
- **Jan Weaver** gave the report on the Society's website. She outlined the recent improvements and changes to the AAS website. The survey presented to the Membership had ~45 respondents and was very helpful with the revisions, with some asking for more arachnid photos, and a place where those needing arachnids for research could connect with other researchers. 'Meet the Arachnologist' is a popular item.

### New Business

- President **Coddington** reviewed some changes on the Executive Committee: **Brent Opell** is now the Parliamentarian and **Paula Cushing** is chair of the Marketing Committee.
- Education Committee – **Kari Benson** talked about education initiatives that may be of interest to the Society. She is seeking to assess the level of interest by the Membership for public and local outreach. She spoke about last year's Science & Engineering Fair in Washington D.C. which had 8-10K visitors in 2 days. A manned booth rents for \$1K. Kari is maintaining an online archive of age-specific materials, and she may be reached at [Benson@Lynchberg.edu](mailto:Benson@Lynchberg.edu).
- Spiders of North America: An Identification Manual (SNAIM) – Is still selling and making money. There are copies available at Bookmaster. Plans for a revision are underway by **Darryl Ubick**. There will be more families and genera, and a possibility of producing a Kindle version.
- PayPal charges – The Service Charge is no longer an option.
- Constitutional Amendments – Article I Section 8 (Honorary Members) was discussed with an eye to change or abolish it. **George Uetz** suggested a new way to become a 'Fellow' of the Society using nominations from Society Members & other Fellows. **Paula Cushing** stated that ISA also does recognitions, and a graduate student stated that having a list of people provides them a source to know who the leaders are. President **Coddington** said the current mechanism is adequate, and asked for a show-of-hands of those wanting to find a way to best honor Members. It was decided to investigate a model to amend Section 8.
- AAS Website – President **Coddington** reviewed the history of the AAS website from its initial construction by **Ken Prestwich** to the current contract with **Jan Weaver**. The President recognized **Jan** and all of her work, which was followed by a rousing round of applause. The *ad hoc* website transition committee (Cady, Cushing, Shultz) has decided to engage a professional website developer to bring the AAS website to the 'next level'. **Jan Weaver** will serve as a liaison during the transition. President **Coddington** called for anyone with ideas on possible web companies for this purpose to contact the Executive Committee.
- Note Cards – **Paula Cushing** announced that the idea of producing note cards bearing the artwork from the recently-published Field Guide is being pursued. Please contact either Paula or **Rich Bradley** with ideas and suggestions.
- **Brian Patrick** has developed a Facebook page and is encouraging people to go and 'Like' the page. There also is an arachnid listserv. Send Brian an e-mail to join the listserv, where there is very useful information and rapid communications available.
- President **Coddington** recognized **Thomas Jones (TJ)** and his staff for planning and conducting a very well-run and pleasurable meeting for the AAS Members. The Members present showed their agreement with the President by rising and giving a sustained round of applause to **TJ** and his crew.
- A motion to adjourn was forwarded and seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation.
- The Business Meeting was adjourned at 15:10 edst.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Cady

Secretary – American Arachnological Society