

SOVE

Society for Vector Ecology

SOVE Newsletter

President's Message



Fred Steve Mulligan III

Dear SOVE Family members,

This, my last report as President, will be the publication in full of my Presidential Address presented at the 8th International Congress of SOVE. It has been an honor to serve as your President, especially during these turbulent and challenging times.

Good morning, it is good to get back together again after three long years without meeting or, at best, meeting only virtually. And it is most appropriate that it is under the auspices of an International Congress. For SOVE truly is international, and it is not by happenstance; but it was a deliberate intention from our foundation that we would be an association of public health professionals that reached across borders. For, though vectors seem to have a firm disregard for geographic boundaries, let alone political ones; yet our members recognize those familial lines that stretch across borders and we strive to extend our hands and hearts in connecting and reconnecting those ties that bind us as

vector ecologists.

I am extremely pleased to once more see all the familiar faces, but maybe happier to see new ones, and I am eager to get acquainted with those of you. We have a saying that SOVE is a Family. Actually, it is more than a saying, it is our core belief. Family of SOVE was a name first suggested by Major Dhillon and it is indeed an apt description of the relationships within our Society and the willingness of our members to support one another and achieve our goals of protecting public health within the broader ecological contexts.

Families have certain defining structures and characteristics, and we do as well. Families remain connected even as they disperse to the four corners of the world, having originally come from those four corners. Families are generational, there are older members and

President's message cont'd on p. 2.

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President's Message cont'd from p. 1: younger members, and there is a need for continuity. Families nurture and value their younger members and they provide benefit to them and receive benefit from them. Families share their meals together and use them as opportunity for conversation, discourse and learning. And families travel and take trips together and enjoy one another.

I feel that SOVE, as a society, performs all of these functions, and I will delve into how we do so in a bit. But first, I want to discuss public health. By definition of our association we are involved in the ecology of vectors and as such are intimately tied to public health.

Where do we stand today, when we consider vectors of diseases and the current station of public health? How healthy is public health? From a scientific vantage, we seem poised on the cusp of ever expanding and promising new discoveries and advances in genomics, chemistries, medicine and technologies. Yet when we consider the perspective of public health, it appears more a precipice. Why is this, and how did we get to such a shear drop-off in attitude toward public health? Maybe it is in the term itself... public, and surely in many people's perception of "individual rights".

Public health was severely wounded during the ongoing COVID pandemic. Public health efforts were, and still are, seen by many as oppressive government mandates, often thought to be politically motivated, that hindered people's liberties and enjoyments and negatively impacted the economy, instead of as efforts to hasten the return toward normalcy.

Now days many do not want to be told what to do, even when it is in the best interests of themselves and others. We have always had people opposed to science and opposed to disease prevention, like vaccination; but I don't recall when it was ever in such number. And it presents a deadly confrontation. How quickly the public forgets or becomes oblivious to disease and pestilence. Be that as it may, it is imperative we remain staunch in our mission.

Even as the world deals with COVID, and public health struggles to find its footing, new challenges are not simply awaiting in the wings, but are constantly bursting onto the stage...today monkey pox and polio, what bringeth the morrow? In our world, vectors and vector-borne diseases are lurking, thumbs in the air, seeking to hitchhike to destinations unknown.

During the course of our Congress, we might find ourselves considering the impact of human activity on the climate and altering of world ecosystems and on the concomitant effect on ecologies of disease vectors. What can we expect with global warming, deforestation and with human populations that are increasing, migrating and fleeing war, persecution, violence and famine? Such trends will continue to bring wildlife, vectors and zoonoses into close overlap with humans, thus offering more opportunities for spillover events. Ever increasing travel and trade will expand opportunities for novel and emerging diseases to quickly spread globally, causing local disease outbreaks, regional epidemics or new global pandemics. We are already seeing expansion in the ranges of vector populations and invasions of vectors into new geographic regions.

Considering all this, it is not difficult to understand the state of despair as voiced by Barry McGuire in the mid-60s when he sang the refrain, "And you tell me over and over and over again, my friend, how you don't believe that we're on the eve of destruction." By the way, the lyrics are as topical today as they were six decades ago.

Of course, it is presumptuous to even think that humankind has the wherewithal to destroy the world. That is not possible in the context of earth and geologic time, but we can very well destroy our ability to comfortably live upon the earth, while making it more comfortable for vectors and we may eventually hasten the extinction of our own species. **President's Message cont'd on p. 3**

We are already taking out other species as we go. Of course, the common trajectory of all species is extinction, unless, maybe, you're a horseshoe crab...but is it necessary to race toward that end? And if we can work to reverse that trend, then by all means, let us try. We will be hearing from several presenters during the course of this Congress who are trying.

Our meeting will showcase what our members are bringing to the table with their research and collaborations as we individually and collectively respond to old and new challenges.

It is proper that the 2022 International Congress is on an island, especially a Hawaiian island and that our theme is "The World: The Big Island for Vectors". I know, Honolulu is on Oahu and not the Big Island; however, the theme is appropriate. Islands serve as barometers or indicators of planetary health and islands are uniquely at risk to be severely impacted from global warming, deforestation and vector and disease invasions. Our 5th International Congress in Antalya, Turkey in 2009, described "Vectors Without Borders," defining limitless opportunities for spread of vectors and diseases. As commerce and travel expands and the time shortens, our world seems to shrink in size and truly becomes one big island for vectors. And vectors are taking advantage and creating emerging and re-emerging public health issues.

To jump right into the topic, our Daniel Strickman Memorial Lecture will be presented by Sadie Ryan delving into global warming and resulting shifts in risks of vector-borne diseases.

Tomorrow, during our Mir S. Mulla Honorary Lecture, we will hear from Dennis LaPointe and fellow collaborators who are working to regain the Hawaiian paradise through landscape-level mosquito control. Their project "Birds, not Mosquitoes" is attempting to reverse the trend of native Hawaiian bird extinctions caused by past introductions of non-native vectors, predators and diseases.

We are most fortunate to have these two keynote speakers, for they are perfect examples of the varied disciplines and areas of study that SOVE at its beginnings sought to gather into our Family and include in our conversations.

Humans are by nature and evolution problem solvers and tool makers. And what better group to show resilience and take up the challenges facing public health than SOVE. From our founding, SOVE has fostered a multi-disciplinary approach and has attracted members who are proverbial Renaissance people, multi-faceted with wide interests and a broad compendium of knowledge. Diverse players and disparate communities are brought together under the SOVE Family to consider and tackle complex issues.

As I said earlier, I would discuss attributes of families. Families come from all the different countries of the world. Humans are a species of migrants...out of Africa, we enveloped the earth and continue the movement by choice or forced to migrate by circumstance. It is truly proper then, that SOVE become a world-wide Family. Early on, SOVE reached out to an international community, welcoming everyone to our midst. SOVE's First International Congress of Vector Ecology, appropriately themed "Vector Ecology in a Changing World" was held in San Diego in 1993, on SOVE's 25th anniversary. A youthful Dr. Norbert Becker was SOVE President then. At that time, we had 175 international members representing 55 countries, with a well-established European SOVE region. We have grown over the intervening years and now have established international regions in Latin America, India and Asia, all of which hold their own annual or biennial conferences.

Another key thing about families, is that they are generational. If you do not have new, young members coming into the Family, it will die. We, especially we older members, need to ensure that we provide a welcoming and nurturing environment for younger members. Traditionally, SOVE provides an opportunity to present in our student symposia and by securing donor funds supports student attendance. But we want to do better than that, we want our conferences and our interactions . . . **President's Message** *cont'd on p. 4.*

to provide tangible benefits that younger members will realize as advantages of participatory membership...not just to be a dues paying member, but to be active in the Society.

Highlighting the benefit derived from our student sessions and as a point of interest relevant to this Congress, at the aforementioned First International Congress, there was a paper presented in the student poster session. It was entitled "Elevational distribution, seasonal abundance and plasmodial infection rate of *Culex quinquefasciatus*, the presumed vector of avian malaria on the Big Island of Hawai'i," and was presented by D. A. LaPointe. If I am not mistaken, this is the same individual who will give tomorrow's keynote address, and SOVE will once more reap the benefit of our robust student participation. The world is indeed a small, big island.

It might be good to remember that families stay closer when they gather at the same table. One way that SOVE has accomplished this has been by refraining from running concurrent sessions during conferences. The logic is that members are able to listen to all the presentations and not miss out on new ideas and discussions. Further, our standard conference format has always been organized symposia with invited speakers who are all given enough time to present on their topic. In this arena, we have made some accommodation for those wishing to submit papers for oral presentation, and this year we introduce two "turbo talk" sessions, whereby speakers are selected from submitted abstracts to present under a short presentation format. Our goal will be to juxtapose the traditional and the new in a program that is relevant yet remains true to SOVE's mission.

Family vacations and outings can be a key element in keeping families connected and engaged. So it is with the SOVE Family, as we plan for and travel to get-togethers, in our case, our conferences and this year our International Congress. These meetings are not just educational but elucidating, inspirational, entertaining and downright enjoyable. After two long years without, this year's Congress promises to be a grand reunion. And let's not forget the uniquely SOVE Family outing, Field Ecology Day, that allows attendees to visit local points of interest while enjoying each other's company. It has become an essential feature of all SOVE conferences.

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**SOVE African Chapter
Mulugeta Aemero***

Knowledge on vector biology and ecology and its application on vector-borne disease control is crucial to countries in Africa where vector-borne diseases are common. To this effect bringing the scientific community together is valuable for sharing knowledge and skills. Africa is known for a high burden of vector-borne diseases, primarily malaria, yellow fever, chikungunya, dengue and schistosomiasis, few among the rest. Poor health infrastructure, unhygienic condition, poverty and lack on integrity have made difficult to control these diseases. Hence, to mitigate the health burden, societies are important to share knowledge, skill, resource, information and capacity build up. Thus, African scientists should come together under the Society for Vector Ecology. Therefore, thanking the board of SOVE Board of Directors for accepting our establishment, the Society for Vector Ecology African chapter, launched as of December 2022. Using this opportunity, I call upon all African scientists who qualify to become members under the SOVE membership bylaws to.

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NORTHWEST REGION, USA

Ben Beard

Regional Director

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

In news from the region, the University of Idaho's Institute for Health and the Human Ecosystem is hosting its annual Biology of Vector-borne Diseases course from June 12 – 17, in Moscow, Idaho. More information on the course and a QR code for easy access to the website can be found at the following Twitter link:
https://twitter.com/ui_ihhe/status/1592220730720407552.

For those of us who work in public health entomology, the fall always brings a sense of anticipation over the opportunity to participate in several very important meetings. These include, in addition to our very own SOVE meeting, annual meetings of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and the Entomological Society of America, to name a couple, and there are others. These meetings typically provide a great opportunity to hear about exciting work that is going on in the field, to establish or strengthen key collaborations, and to renew contact with old friends and colleagues. These meetings also provide a reminder of the rapid progress that is being made in our efforts to detect, prevent, and respond to emerging global vector-borne disease threats.

Following on this theme, it can be very difficult to keep up with the wealth of new tools and resources that are constantly becoming available. Here in CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Diseases

(DVBD) in Fort Collins, CO, a huge recent effort has been made to update our website and make available new web-based resources. These updates have been made in response to several recent government priorities, including recommendations from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Tick-Borne Disease Working Group (<https://www.hhs.gov/ash/advisory-committees/tickbornedisease/index.html>), from CDC's Post-COVID, Data Modernization Initiative (<https://www.cdc.gov/surveillance/data-modernization/>), and as a part of DVBD's ongoing efforts to advance priorities called out in the National Public Health Framework for the Prevention and Control of Vector-Borne Disease (<https://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/dvbd/framework.html>).

I thought it might be of value to SOVE members to provide links and descriptions of some of these resources that have recently been posted at CDC's vector-borne disease website that may be interesting and useful.

Resources for ticks and tick-borne diseases: Tick surveillance site with up-to-date maps from CDC's national tick surveillance program, which is maintained and updated collaboratively between DVBD and state health departments. These interactive maps display distribution information on the major tick vectors in the U.S., as well as the pathogens that have been detected in field collected **Beard cont'd on p. 6.**

Beard con'd. from p. 5: The information is updated as new data or specimens are submitted. The site will continue to be expanded with additional tick species and pathogens. · <https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/surveillance/index.html>.

New tick-borne disease surveillance dashboard, which displays national surveillance data that can be mapped and plotted interactively by state, year, age, sex, onset date, etc. · <https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/data-summary/index.html>.

Tick-bite surveillance site with interactive maps that display tick-bite associated emergency department visits. The data can be displayed by year, region, week or month of the year, etc. · <https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/tickedvisits/index.html>.

Updated tick-borne disease manual for healthcare providers and public health workers, including entomologists. This pdf manual provides detailed clinical, epidemiologic, and entomological information on the most common tick-borne diseases and their vectors. · <https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/tickbornediseases/index.html>.

Tickborne Disease Continuing Education page. This page includes a comprehensive list of Continuing Education trainings, webinars, etc., with new and or recently updated modules on Lyme disease, ehrlichiosis, anaplasmosis, and viral tick-borne diseases. · https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/tbd_education/index.html.

Resources for mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases: Updated West Nile virus (WNV) surveillance and control guidelines, which are now available in digital format and provide the most up-to-date information on WNV prevention and control, including methodologies associated with vector surveillance, vector index calculations, and links to resistance monitoring. · <https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/guidelines/west-nile/introduction.html>. New high-resolution mosquito images that are in the public domain, with only the request to cite CDC as the source. There are a variety of images of Aedes and Culex species and images relating to mosquito bite prevention and mosquito control. · <https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/gallery/prevent-bites/index.html>

Other miscellaneous resources that may be of interest related to mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases. · New CDC Bottle Bioassay overview video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yfv-nYXwdu0>) · New CDC Light Trap video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LU_InBkXS6k). How to Ship Entomologic Specimens to CDC – new web content and video (<https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/mosquito-control/professionals/ship-specimens/index.html>)

We hope you will find these new or otherwise recently revised tools and resources to be valuable. Additional improvements are in the pipeline as a part of CDC's Data Modernization Initiative. Portions of these data have been "borrowed" and reposted at Johns Hopkins's website, but you can get them directly from the original source at the links provided above, with much of the primary data available in downloadable tables. If you use these data, CDC only requests to be credited as the source. We are always interested in hearing your suggestions for modifications, including additional information or datasets. Feel free to contact me directly (cbeard@cdc.gov).

Finally, on Monday, November 21st, HHS posted a Federal Register notice of a Request for Information (RFI) regarding a new effort entitled, "Developing the National Public Health Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Vector-Borne Diseases in Humans" (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/04/27/2021-08167/request-for-information-rfi-developing-the-national-public-health-strategy-for-the-prevention-and>). The request is for public comments in response to the draft document that is posted at the above site, which lays out a combined federal strategy to address detection, surveillance, prevention, control, and treatment of vector-borne diseases.

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SOUTHWEST REGION, USA

Lal S. Mian

Regional Director

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We are still not completely out of the woods—there are still COVID-19 cases (in the thousands), but with proper vaccination and public health precautionary measures i.e., use of masks, keeping social distance, hand washing etc., hopefully, we will come out of it in the foreseeable future. The good news this year is that in-person workforce activities have reached to almost normal levels, at least on our campus. This could also be reflected in the vector-borne disease surveillance data in 2022, notwithstanding drought, extreme summer temperatures, and fires impacting our region. Using the CDC and state sources, a brief report on VBD surveillance in Southwest Region is presented here.

Arizona (www.Azdhs.gov). As of August 31, 2022, the Arizona Department of Health Services reported 385 (1507 in 2021) vector-borne and zoonotic diseases (VBZDs) in 2022. Mosquito-borne diseases caused by West Nile virus (WNV), dengue, and malaria accounted for 115 with 4 deaths as compared with 1,433 with 96 deaths in 2021, 3 other VBZDs reported as of December 15, 2022 with 2021 numbers in parenthesis, included Rocky Mountain spotted fever 11(13), Lyme disease 17 (6), brucellosis 2(5), babesiosis 2 (3), anaplasmosis 3 (2) tularemia 1, Chagas disease 3, Colorado tick fever 1, hantavirus 2, and typhus 1 (1). The WNV cases of 73 (5 deaths) in 2022 are much lower than last year ([1,433 with 96 deaths](#)), but higher than 2020 (10) and lower than 2019 (174 with 19 deaths). There were 252 mosquito samples positive for Saint Luis encephalitis virus (SLE) as well.

California (www.cdph.ca.gov). As of December 2, 2022, California updated the distribution of two invasive mosquito species, *Aedes aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus* —the former species was found in 25 counties (21 in 2021) from San Diego and Imperial counties in the south to Shasta County in the north; the latter species main-

tained its presence in 5 counties—San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Shasta. Regarding other vector-borne diseases in the state, as of December 9, 2022, WNV activity continued with 155 human cases with 12 WNV-related deaths (192), 136 (341) dead birds, 3,165 (2,678) positive mosquito pools, 145 (143) sentinel chickens and 16 (20) horses. Also, there were 11 cases of SLE from six counties. The virus activity was reported from 26 (38) out of 58 California counties with 12 (24) reporting human cases. The 155 human cases reported in 2022 were lower than last year (192) and were well below the state 5-year average (425). Since its arrival in California in 2003, WNV has resulted in >7K cases with 309 deaths.

Hawaii (www.Agriculture.hawaii.org). The Hawaii Agriculture Department reported no new cases of dengue in 2022. They had 5 dengue cases in 2020; and in 2015-2016 there was a dengue outbreak that sickened 264 cases.

Nevada (<https://dhhs.nv.org>). The Southern Nevada Health Department reported zero cases of WNV or western equine encephalomyelitis (WEE).

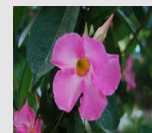
New Mexico (nmhealth.org). As of December 13, 2022, the New Mexico Health Department reported 11 WNV cases with 1 death.

In closing, I would like to remind our regional members to please send me (lmian@csusb.edu) any news about your employment, professional recognition, or any significant accomplishment that you would like to see published in the newsletter. Thanks!

Stay healthy and safe!

Cordially,

Lal





SOVE–Indian Region

Ashwani Kumar Regional Director

health globally.

As in the first conference, delegates from India and abroad are expected to enrich the conference experience. It is expected that public health experts, academicians, scientists, researchers, research scholars, program implementers and policy makers will participate and exchange views and share their respective experiences in the field of Vector Borne Diseases (VBDs). Besides focus on vector ecology, a gamut of issues surrounding malaria, filariasis, visceral leishmaniasis, scrub typhus and emerging vector-borne viral infections viz., KFD, dengue, chikungunya and Zika will be addressed. The conference envisages to provide an interdisciplinary platform for different streams of researchers, vector ecologists, biologists, microbiologists, molecular biologists, immunologists, environmentalists, public health experts and medical entomologists to discuss concerns and showcase their most recent findings and innovations and discuss the practical challenges faced and solutions adopted in the domain of VBDs that would pave the way for their sustained control/elimination. This would set tone for the scientific deliberations on the current status of VBDs and modification in the approaches necessary to solve the key/persisting problems of VBDs.

The meeting will also provide opportunities to debate and deliberate on contemporary advancements in artificial intelligence, digital and drone technologies for vector surveillance and control of VBDs. The main theme of the iSOVECON2023 is “Vector Borne Diseases: Galvanizing & Harmonizing old and new tools & technologies for containment of vectors and sustained control/elimination of VBDs”. The deliberations during the conference will focus on broad thematic areas viz. COVID and VBDs to address a range of significant issues in an effort to finding sustainable*Kumar cont'd on p. 8.*

Dear Colleagues,

The SOVE (Indian Chapter) is in pursuit to promote research on vectors and vector-borne diseases emphasizing vector/disease ecology, epidemiology and management on a local, regional and national basis, convening annual meetings, conducting workshops, special meetings and international congresses for the purpose of exchanging information relevant to vectors, vector-borne diseases and vector/disease management, highlight the results of the scientific publications in the newsletters and provide information on the potential risks of vector-borne diseases to the public, promote the use of scientific information in conjunction with inter-agency cooperation in the development of vector management programs at the local, state, regional, national and international levels, provide a forum for continuing education in vector ecology, vector-borne diseases and vector / disease management using principles of applied ecology and promote collaborations with other related organizations.

A step forward, The Society for Vector Ecology (SOVE), India in collaboration with ICMR-Vector Control Research Centre, Puducherry will organize its SECOND SOVE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (iSOVECON2023) from March 13-16, 2023 at ICMR-VCRC, Puducherry, India. Understandably, this conference had to be deferred from 2021 to 2023 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this International Conference is to bring together students, researchers, program managers, industry, NGOs and policy makers from across the globe on one platform who have interest in the control/elimination of vectors and vector-borne diseases, which continue to pose threats to the human

Kumar cont'd from p. 7:

solutions in the management of VBDs. Some of the key areas addressed would be COVID and impact on VBDs, biosecurity, Biosecurity: Vector Surveillance and Control at Points of Entry (PoE) is a must, Cutting edge approaches to address VBDs threats- now and the future, Arboviral diseases: Fastest emerging and re-emerging threats to Public Health, scrub and tick typhus: A stitch in time will save nine, Capacity strengthening and Vector Control: A GVCR Approach, LF, VL and malaria elimination: Thinking right, fast and beyond and socio-economics of VBDs-Financing and Equity issues.

It is envisaged to conduct pre-conference workshops, prior the iSOVECON2023 on ticks, mites and the xenomonitoring of VBDs and long lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) at the VCRC Puducherry. The dates and details will be announced subsequently.

Fortunately, as of today (Dec 02, 2022), the COVID-19 pandemic has conceded in India. With the total cases of 44,673,984 as on 02nd December 2022, the COVID-19 case load in India has descended. 4672 active cases, 44,137,617 cured/discharged and 530,624 deceased. COVID-19 Vaccination stands at 29,9,328,575 as on date. Precaution dose is now available for fully vaccinated citizens. Currently, new vaccines for children (12-17 years) are available. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India, is empowering the citizens by providing for COVID-19 vaccination of children between 12-14 years of age, guidelines for international arrivals, clinical guidance for management of adult COVID-19 patients, advisories and precautions to be taken for preventing the spread of the virus.

The Indian Council of Medical Research-Vector Control Research Centre at Puducherry, located in South Eastern part of India is currently the 2nd home for the SOVE Indian Chapter. The active cases in the Union Territory of Puducherry, is 2. The territory reported no fresh cases as on 2nd December, 2022.

Admissions to the prestigious National Public Health Entomology Program and M.Sc. PHE have been completed at four of our sister Institutes viz., Regional Medical Research Centre, Dibrugarh, Assam, Regional Medical Research Centre, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, ICMR-National Institute for Research in Tribal Health, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh and ICMR- Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna, Bihar. There has been overwhelming response from the in-service candidates from different states across India.

The endemicity of COVID-19 with other infectious diseases, calls for robust surveillance and monitoring of diseases' outbreaks. Multiple outbreaks of communicable diseases amidst COVID-19 have aggravated the obstacles faced by the health system in Kerala.

The membership of SOVE Indian Region, in the recent times, has swelled to 136. Currently, there are 82 regular, 12 retired, 41 students and 1 sustaining member. Efforts, are underway to increase the membership further to cover the length and breadth of the country, with an ultimate aim of PAN India presence of SOVE. Following which efforts shall be made to enroll members from the neighboring countries of the region.

The COVID-19 pandemic is transforming the nation as how we visualize our economies and society. The policy shift that we make today will determine the outcomes in building a transition to a greener, more inclusive and a resilient future. It is an opportunity for all us to carve a niche for ourselves that empowers everyone to face the future with confidence.

I wish to express my gratefulness for SOVE commendation service and outstanding contribution award given at the 8th International Congress of SOVE held in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Friends! Looking forward to meeting you all at Puducherry!

Please block your dates to meet in Puducherry, India: March 13-16, 2023

Ashwani Kumar,

**SOCIETY FOR VECTOR ECOLOGY
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
2021**

	Revenue 2021	
Dues/Membership	\$15,870.00	
Journal Page Charges/Editing Charges/Royalties	\$34,372.34	
Conference	\$23,280.00	
Interest	\$386.14	
Misc Income	\$38.05	
Total	\$73,946.53	
	Expenses 2021	
Online servicing and bank charges	\$2,733.32	
Software	\$2,507.56	
Office supplies	\$97.88	
Conference expenses	\$54,687.40	
Journal -Editing/Submission Portal	\$25,962.84	
Webinar expense	\$12,000.00	
Insurance	\$3,064.88	
Admin expenses/tax filing fees	\$17,421.88	
Total	\$118,475.76	
Net income	\$44,529.23	
Fund Reconciliation	Accounts as of December 31, 2021	Accounts as of December 31, 2020
CBB - Checking	\$70,402.84	\$125,797.18
CBB - Money market	\$211,639.89	\$111,498.90
CBB - Euro Checking	\$26,019.20	\$26,019.20
CD - Wells Fargo	\$255,741.82	\$255,690.67
CD - First Bank	\$11,103.87	\$10,909.87
Total	\$574,907.62	\$529,915.82

by
Michelle Brown, Ph.D.
Executive Director, SOVE



L to R: Lyric Bartholomay, Michelle Brown, Uli Bernier, Alexandra Chaskopoulou, Lal Mian, Steve Mulligan, Ashwani Kumar, Jerome Hogsette, Paulo Pimenta, Major Dhillon, and Dr. Shireen Mulla Mooers



Dhillon, Pimenta, Kumar, Hogsette, and Mian holding their award plaques

Joined by Vice President Alexandra Chaskopoulou, President Steve Mulligan gave various SOVE awards to different recipients. The Distinguished Life-time Achievement Award went to Ben Beard who was not present at the occasion.



Paulo Pimenta with Distinguished Achievement Award.



Jerome Hogsette with Distinguished Service Award



Pash Dhillon with Distinguished Service Award



Major Dhillon with Life-time Honorary Member Award



Lal Mian with Distinguished Life-time Service Award.



Ashwani Kumar with Distinguished Service Award





IN MEMORIAM



Eugene D. White

October 24, 1957 - September 20, 2022

Eugene (Gene) D. White II, age 64, of White Lake, MI passed away unexpectedly while attending the 8th International Congress of Vector Ecology in Honolulu, Hawaii September 20, 2022. Gene was a husband, father and grandfather as well as an internationally known entomologist working in the field of pest management

Gene was born October 24, 1957 in Columbus, Ohio to Eugene White and Marjorie (Essex) White. Gene earned a degree in biology from Glenville State College and a Masters of Science in entomology from Purdue University, Indiana. Gene spent almost 30 years at Rose Pest Solutions in Troy, MI where he served as Director of Education & Training before moving onto Rentokil-Initial where he became the Director of Global Vector Management and he coordinated their pest management efforts in the area of public health around the world.

Gene was known as someone people naturally gravitated to. He was always smiling, universally friendly and larger than life. Gene found great pleasure in bringing joy to other people's days by making them smile and getting them to laugh. He was admired by his colleagues for his infectious enthusiasm for entomology and for his fun, interactive training sessions which extended into the community. Gene was a skilled outdoorsman and found great joy in hunting and fishing. He loved football, cooking, photography, being outdoors, and most importantly, his family. See more at:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://www.phillipsfuneral.com/obituaries/obituary-listings?obId=25943339__;!!OM2WEIN1DMg!F5nNw9nzJMxETEsx3teD4YR9iJMEW2sszz6kl6cXENi0i4jWGxaWftFV2sYU_w2QEZdBidEYQou3U\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://www.phillipsfuneral.com/obituaries/obituary-listings?obId=25943339__;!!OM2WEIN1DMg!F5nNw9nzJMxETEsx3teD4YR9iJMEW2sszz6kl6cXENi0i4jWGxaWftFV2sYU_w2QEZdBidEYQou3U$)

Greg White
Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District
Salt Lake City, Utah



Students' Corner

Kristina Lopez from the University of Wisconsin, Madison is the winner of the 2022 Dan Strickman Memorial Award for Best Student...

Resources

BEI Resources for Vector Biology Research
(www.beiresources.org)

The NIAID's BEI Resources program provides Vector Biology resources for free to registered, approved researchers in domestic and foreign institutions with appropriate facilities and containment procedures for vector research. Our widely requested holdings include LIVE arthropod vectors of human disease, including anopheline and culicine mosquitoes, reduviids, ticks and sand flies, associated reagents and genomic materials for entomological research, along with insectary protocols. For the cost of nothing, recipients are only required to acknowledge the use of the individual resources in publications and presentations of the research in which the materials are used.

BEI Resources arthropod colonies are made available by the deposit contributions of investigators throughout the world. Deposited materials undergo review by NIAID prior to acceptance. Please notify BEI Resources through the Suggest A Reagent Form if you have a request for inclusion or the Deposit Inquiry Contact Form if you have a unique strain for consideration.

Vector Biology resources available through BEI Resources will remain available throughout the current coronavirus pandemic. Orders and/or shipping of certain live vectors may be delayed or temporarily on hold depending on the current operating status of individual insectaries for mosquitoes, ticks, reduviids and sand flies. BEI Resources is pleased to announce the upcoming availability of black fly life stages through a partnership with the University of Georgia Black Fly Rearing and Bioassay Laboratory, which has operated the only known colony of black flies (Diptera: Simuliidae) for over 20 years. Since its

establishment, the *Simulium vittatum* colony has been used for a variety of research projects, including vector transmission studies, environmental monitoring, vector control and larval feeding studies.

I would like to update on the updated tick genome annotations and ticks/TBD surveillance data recently released and several upcoming releases soon on the VEuPathDB.

The team has worked closely with NCBI's small eukaryotic group, USDA, and other investigators to improve and make the updated ticks' genome annotation available at VEuPathDB.

In addition, the team is working with several groups to increase the volume of the surveillance data for ticks and TBD in the VEuPathDB resource. A few cases highlight the new implementation of the MAPVEu on ticks and *Borrelia*, shown in the attachment as a flyer from the outreach team. However, the majority is data from the US. Rudy has shared with me a list of viral TBD of interest. We are working to increase more data available for the viral TBD as well as the data outside the US. These are more limited and more challenging. And, I will continue to share once we have updates on that. Any recommendations are welcomed.

Here is the list of several tick genomes scheduled for near-term releases.

Release 59 – August 2022

- *Ixodes scapularis* PalLabHiFi

Release 61- December 2022

- *Dermacentor andersoni*

- Update *Dermacentor silvarum* Dsil-2018 to GCA_013339745.2

- Update *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* Rsan-2018 to GCA_013339695.2

3. Release 62 – February 2023

-*Hyalomma asiaticum*

-*Ixodes persulcatus*

-*Haemaphysalis longicornis*

Adriana Costero-Saint Denis, PhD

Email: acostero@niaid.nih.gov

<https://www.niaid.nih.gov/research/vector-bio>



Society for Vector Ecology

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www.sove.org

About SOVE

The Society for Vector Ecology is a nonprofit professional organization formed in 1968 by a group of individuals involved in vector biology and control programs in California. The membership has since grown to represent an amalgamation of diverse research, operational, and extension personnel from all over the world. The Society is committed to solving many complex problems encountered in the field of vector biology and control. Among these are the suppression of nuisance organisms and disease vectors through the integration of various control options, such as environmental management, biological control, public education, and appropriate chemical or non-chemical control strategy.

The Society publishes the biannual Journal of Vector Ecology that contains research and operational papers covering many phases of vector biology, ecology, and control. The Society also issues a quarterly newsletter and holds an annual conference in September/October.

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