SECTION 1. ACTIVITY UPDATE

I. Future Meeting Locations and Dates

The 26th (2008) NEWSS Collegiate Weed Contest will be held July 30, 2008 and be hosted by the University of Delaware in Georgetown, Delaware. The NEWSS Board will meet after the contest on July 31, 2008.

2009 Annual Conference – The Renaissance HarborPlace Hotel in Baltimore, MD, January 5-8, 2009. The 2010 meeting location is yet to be confirmed.

2007 Annual Meeting

The NEWSS held its 2008 annual meeting at The Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia, PA, January 7-10, 2008. This was the 62nd meeting for the NEWSS. Our room costs were \$119 per night.

Attendance at the NEWSS meeting was 173, a slight decrease from the 2007 meeting (187 in attendance). This total included regular members (119), distinguished/ retired members (11), students (21), and sustaining associates (22). The 2008 NEWSS total meeting attendance reached 193 when the 15 attendees of symposia and the 5 invited guest speakers are included.

II. General information

The NEWSS Noxious and Invasive Vegetation Management Short Course (NIVM) is being offered for the first time in the Northeast for public and private land managers; policy makers; township and municipality supervisors; and contractors that want to gain a better understanding of noxious and invasive vegetation management in aquatic and non-cropland situations such as ponds, lakes and riparian areas as well as forests, parks, preserves, conservancies, C.R.E.P (conservation reserve) lands, and rural and urban interfaces such as highway right-of-ways. Weed management and invasive vegetation identification professionals affiliated with the NEWSS from Maine to North Carolina will conduct the training program designed to encourage interaction between instructors and participants. The Short Course will take place September 15-17 (Terrestrial section) and September 18 (Aquatic section) 2008 at the Gretna Glen Camp & Retreat Center, in Lebanon, PA.

IV. Current Officers and Committee Chairs of the society are:

President - Jerry J. Baron, IR-4 President-elect – David E. Yarborough, Univ. Maine Vice President – Hilary Sandler – Univ. Massachusetts Past President – Renee Keese, BASF Secretary/Treasurer – Chris Becker, BAAR Scientific LLC Newsletter Editor/Public Relations – Dwight Lingenfelter, Penn State Univ. Editor – Greg R. Armel, Univ. Tennessee Legislative Committee – Daniel L. Kunkel, IR-4 CAST Representative – Robert D. Sweet, Cornell Univ. Sustaining Membership – Caren A. Judge, BASF Graduate Student Representative – Matt Ryan, Penn State Univ. Research & Education Chair –Rakesh Chandran, West Virginia Univ. WSSA Representative – Antonio DiTommaso, Cornell Univ.

V. The NEWSS newsletter can be found on the NEWSS website: <u>www.newss.org</u>.

SECTION 2. ACTION ITEMS

None .

Submitted by Antonio DiTommaso, NEWSS representative to WSSA.