

# Mainstream

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April 2009

## President's Message by Jessica Mistak

Thank you!

I would like to extend a big thank you to all the Chapters. When we set the goal of having at least one officer attend every Chapter meeting held in 2009, we knew that it was a lofty goal. Not only does the NCD have a limited budget for travel but, like many of you, our officers work for agencies that have imposed strict travel limitations. With some creative thinking, generous support from the Chapters, and the welcomed assistance from one of our Past-Presidents (Stu Shipman) we met our goal. I should also add that we are a thrifty bunch since we met our goal while spending only a few hundred dollars of the Division's budget.

We used our time at these meetings to re-connect with our 13

Chapters, numerous Student Sub-Units, and members of our Technical Committees. We appreciate the time allocated to us during your Business Meetings so we could discuss our liaison role between the Chapters and the Parent Society, highlight our Technical Committees, and emphasize our two student awards- the Duffy Travel Award and the Fenske Memorial Award. Last but not least, I should also add a thank you for the fantastic social events and camaraderie!

For those of you still looking to find your niche in NCD, please consider running for office, standing committee, or becoming involved with one of our Technical Committees. There are numerous ways to elevate your participation within AFS and increase your professional network by working along-

side peers who have shared interests. If you need help in figuring out where you would best fit, please contact me or any of our current or past officers.

For a final few reminders, we encourage you to visit our website <http://www.ncd-afs.org/>. Here you can find information on NCD governance, committees, student activities and awards, and copies of our newsletter. Planning ahead, we will hold our NCD Governing Board and Business meetings at the annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Springfield, Illinois on December 6 and 7, 2009. Lastly, we encourage all Chapters and Student Sub-Units to keep us informed of any officer changes that take place and we'll make sure that information is updated on our web site.

This newsletter is published twice a year. Deadlines for submission are April and September 1st. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the NCD.

Editors: Tom Slawski  
Sara Teske

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### Inside this issue:

<i>Committee Reports</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	4
<i>Chapter Reports</i>	9
<i>News and Announcements</i>	19
<i>New Members Forum</i>	23
<i>Governing Board Minutes</i>	25
<i>Business Meeting Minutes</i>	27

# Committee Reports

## Ictalurid Technical Committee by Mark Porath

The Ictalurid Technical Committee held its annual business meeting on December 14, 2008 at the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio. In spite of the many travel restrictions, once again we had a good turn-out of state representatives and individuals interested in the management and conservation of North American catfishes. Secretary/Treasurer Cari-Ann Hayer reported a balance of \$18,707.83 in the ITC's North Central Division Checking Account. The increased balance reflects the initial pledges of support for the upcoming Catfish 2010 Symposium, as these funds represent the conferences general account. Additional pledge challenges are being presented at Chapters meetings in both the North Central and Southern divisions of AFS this spring by state representatives. Also, all of the state agencies will be solicited for support as well. The fundraising goal is \$51,000 and will be a key element in providing a quality symposium with a reasonable registration fee. Anyone interested in helping out is encouraged to contact Tom

Lang, KS [toml@wp.state.ks.us](mailto:toml@wp.state.ks.us) who is serving as the fundraising chair.

The ITC web page on the North Central Divisions website <http://www.ncd-afs.org> has been recently updated and now includes expanded information on the role of the committee, its current and past officers, upcoming events and the most recent literature pertaining to catfish research and management. Members are highly encouraged to provide published articles and technical reports on the work they are conducting or recently completed. Contact the current ITC chair for more information on posting your .pdf here!

The ITC's counterpart in the Southern Division is the Catfish Management Technical Committee (CMTC). Their web page <http://www.sdafs.org/catfish/> is another great source of catfish information and has both a list of recent publications as well as a discussion forum <http://sdafs.org/catfish/phpbb/> which may likely prove to be a great communication tool as we con-

tinue to have problems with our catfish listserv.

The balance of the business meeting was spent discussing state reports and the upcoming Catfish 2010 Symposium as many committee members already have or are interested in making the conference a success. A separate announcement for the 2nd International Catfish Symposium is located elsewhere within this edition of "Mainstream". The final order of business was election of officers. Kirk Hansen, IA

[Kirk.Hansen@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Kirk.Hansen@dnr.iowa.gov) was elected chair and Cari-Ann Hayer [cari-ann.hayer@sdstate.edu](mailto:cari-ann.hayer@sdstate.edu) was re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer. For those of you interested in catfish, feel free to join us this December at the next Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference in Springfield, Illinois.

## Continuing Education Committee by Angie Grier

Have you ever wanted to know more about FAST and how to use it other than just running the basic growth, mortality, and recruitment models? If so, here is your chance to learn more, taught by one of the authors himself! This year at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference on December 6th in Springfield, Illinois, the NCD Continuing Education Committee has submitted a proposal for an Advanced FAST workshop taught by Dr. Mike

Maceina from Auburn University.

The purpose of this short course is to provide registrants with advanced training in the use of the FAST software. Registrants should have a basic working knowledge of FAST and be familiar with computations to estimate growth, mortality, and recruitment. During the eight-hour short course, simulation modeling of specific fisheries will be conducted and discussed.

More information about this workshop will be passed on in the next newsletter issue. For more information, contact Angie Grier [agrier@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:agrier@dnr.IN.gov).

## Walleye Technical Committee by John Kubisiak

Biology and Management of Walleye and Sauger: The manuscript for this book is on schedule to submit to the AFS Books Department by December 31, 2009. Numerous agencies and AFS chapters have been very generous with donations towards the book, and the committee is closing the gap on our \$30,000 funding goal.

Sander Award is a \$100 student travel grant to the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference (with a request for State Chapter match). The 2008 recipient was Jeremy Hammen, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. Jeremy is a MS candidate under Dr. Brian Sloss and his thesis work is titled "Genetic Diversity and Population Structure of Wisconsin Walleye (*Sander vitreus*)".

Summer, 2008 meeting was a joint meeting with Esocid Technical Committee held during August 5-7 at Kemp Natural Resources Station, Lake Tomahawk Wisconsin. Many agencies were under travel restrictions, and combined attendance was 26 (WTC alone normally has 30 to 35 at the summer meeting). We had 10 technical presentations, along with updates from state and provincial representatives. The combined meeting provided a great opportunity for members of both committees to interact.

Winter, 2008 meeting was held December 14 at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio. Eight state representatives gave reports. Much discussion centered on



combining meetings and keeping summer meeting costs down so that representatives are able to justify attendance. Draft meeting

minutes should be available on the NCD website <http://www.ncd-afs.org/>

Summer, 2009 meeting is a joint meeting with Esocid and Centrarchid Technical Committees in LaCrosse Wisconsin. It is scheduled for July 28-30 (see announcements on the NCD website and in Mainstream).

## AFS Management Committee and Governing Board Update

by Jessica Mistak

As mentioned previously, the NCD maintains a liaison role between the Chapters and the Parent Society. Part of this role involves having our President and President-Elect both serve on the AFS Governing Board and fulfill a two-year term on the AFS Management Committee. The Governing Board meets twice a year, at the Mid-Year Meeting held in March and at the Annual Meeting typically held in August or September; meanwhile, the Management Committee participates

in monthly conference calls. Our role in this process is notable since the Governing Board is charged with deciding Society policies, approving the annual budget, and transacting other necessary business.

At the March 6-7, 2009 AFS Mid-Year Governing Board Meeting we provided feedback on the most recent draft of the Society's Strategic Plan. This new plan will steer the Society during 2010 – 2014, but has been

crafted with a vision to 2020 and beyond. The AFS Strategic Plan Revision Committee used information from a 2008 AFS member survey and input from several committees and the Governing Board to develop a draft Plan. All members will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the plan before it is finalized.

We also reviewed President-Elect Don Jackson's Draft Plan of Work and are particularly excited about his proposal

to showcase regional priorities. As the plan now stands, each Division will be encouraged to choose a representative issue/program from within their respective geographic region that the Division would like to showcase and



## Upcoming Events

### Midwest Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS) Workshop and NADF Aquaculture Field Day & Vendor Fair June 10-12, 2009 Bayfield Pavilion, Bayfield, WI

The three day Midwest Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS) Workshop and Aquaculture Field Day will provide an overview of current RAS and practices that are being utilized by the aquaculture industry worldwide. The workshop will provide hands on systems demonstration and practical operating knowledge to enable aquaculturists to better understand RAS systems capability. Speakers from Europe and the United States will provide information on specific systems and species appli-

cability. There will be sessions on overview/history, systems, economics, fish health and RAS along with individual presentations on coldwater, coolwater and warm water species, and aquaponics. The agenda includes a panel discussion including all speakers, and hands on instruction utilizing three RAS at NADF and a water quality lab. Participants will be able to talk directly with engineers, successful RAS farmers, and researchers about RAS practices. A vendor fair in conjunction with the workshop, consisting

of companies specializing in RAS aquaculture is scheduled. The workshop will incorporate time for networking and has planned an optional evening boat trip on Lake Superior through the Apostle Islands. On Friday the Wisconsin Aquaculture Association (WAA) and Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry Advisory Council (WAIAC) have morning meetings then at noon there will be the annual WAA fish fry and tour of NADF.

### Conservation, Ecology, and Management of Catfishes Second International Symposium June 19-22, 2010 Millennium Hotel, St. Louis, MO

The symposium will be co-hosted by the Ictalurid Technical Committee of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) and the Catfish Management Technical Committee of the Southern Division of the AFS. The meeting will provide a forum for the exchange of information about the biology, ecology, management, and conservation of worldwide catfish populations and their habitats. Presentation of research on both game and non-game species will be encouraged. To attract anglers and provide opportunities for input and interaction, the symposium will be held at the con-

clusion of a national catfish angling tournament. The tone of the meeting



will be somewhat casual, combining the scientific aspects of a professional fisheries meeting with the relaxed atmosphere of a sports show. It is hoped

that in this environment, anglers and scientists will be able to interact openly and progress the management of these important fishes. Symposium attendance is expected to exceed 300 people and the proceedings will be published in a hard-bound book. Similar to the first Proceedings, this compilation of works should serve as a valuable reference for many years to come. If you have any questions or would like to help, call Greg Pitchford at 660-646-6122 .

Information can be found at [www.catfish2010.org](http://www.catfish2010.org)

## Stream Health and Restoration Workshops—Summer 2009

### Natural Channel Design in Dam Removal and Fish Passage June 8-12 Fergus Falls, MN

This course will cover the range of dam effects on river ecology, alternatives for restoration and design criteria for dam removals and natural channel based fish passage. Lecture topics will include: fish hydrodynamics, fluvial

processes, culvert design, fishway design, river restoration following dam removal, permitting, construction, and monitoring. A bus tour will provide visits to a number of projects, as well as opportunities to actually snorkel

within fishways and observe passing fish. Students will visit a dam and develop conceptual fish passage designs that will be tested in a physical model. This class will be held in Fergus Falls, Minnesota this year, 8-12 June.

### Fluvial Geomorphology and Stream Classification July 13-17 Redwood Falls, MN

Rivers and streams have predictable dimensions, patterns, and profiles. This course discusses the fluvial geomorphological processes involved in creating and maintaining these parameters, as well as the fundamental hydrology and hydraulics of rivers. We also focus on the skills necessary

to properly determine a stream segment's type, including the essential tools for classifying streams to Levels 1 and 2 using the Rosgen classification methodology. Upon completion of this course, students will have the skills necessary to classify a stream reach, greatly facilitating communications

among river managers worldwide. Students will also have a firm knowledge of the functions and processes that are critical to a river's health. This class will be held in Redwood Falls, Minnesota this year, 13-17 July.

### Stream Restoration August 17-21 Fergus Falls, MN

This workshop is designed to teach natural resource staff to plan and construct stream improvements and restorations using natural materials and designs, while working with the river's natural processes rather than against them. Project types discussed will include bank stabilization, dam

removal, dam conversion to a rapids, culvert placement, restoration of meanders to straightened channels, and fish bypass channels around dams. In addition to classroom lectures and field observations, students will design and construct a restoration project on a laboratory stream model. After com-

pleting this course, students will be able to work with other professionals to design and implement stream improvement projects on the ground from beginning to end, using a natural stream approach. This class will be held in Fergus Falls, Minnesota this year, 17-21 August.

#### **For questions about the above workshops, contact:**

Amy Childers  
MN DNR - Ecological Resources  
Stream Habitat Program  
Phone: 218-739-7576 x 233  
Amy.Childers@dnr.state.mn.us

## Fisheries Conservation Genetics Workshop July 27-28, 2009 Best Western Midway, LaCrosse, WI

The goal of this workshop is to acquaint fishery management professionals with the uses, application, and finer details of molecular genetic analyses and conservation genetics and their role in integrated, science-based management of our natural resources. Participants will undergo an intensive review of genetic principles and learn about recent advances in the field of molecular genetics and how this impacts our ability to assist resource management efforts. Goals of the workshop include a working knowledge of the common molecular mark-

ers used in fish genetics, why these different markers are necessary, when these different markers are successfully employed, and how sampling scheme/design is an integral facet of a successful experimental design. Specific measures of genetic diversity will be explored in order to demonstrate the usefulness and complimentary nature of genetic data to traditional demographic data in managing our aquatic resources. Finally, a regional overview of recent genetic work will be used to demonstrate practical applications of genetics research in fisheries

management. **Registration deadline is June 26.** Pre-registration is required.

**Pre-register by June 26 with Justine Hasz,** 715-421-7845  
[Justine.Hasz@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Justine.Hasz@wisconsin.gov) Payment will be collected at the door or may be sent to:

Justine Hasz  
WIAFS Continuing Education  
473 Griffith Avenue  
Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

## Centrarchid, Esocid and Walleye Technical Committees Joint Meeting July 27-30, 2009 Best Western Midway, LaCrosse, WI

Given the joint nature of the meeting, we have a theme of '**Species interactions and multi-species management**', although talks on any topic of interest to the committees are encouraged.

**CALL FOR PAPERS:** The topic of this summer's meeting will be species interactions and multi-species management. Other topics of interest are also encouraged. The summer meeting is a great forum for informal exchange of information about fisheries biology and management. Submit the title and topic of your presentation with your meeting registration by June 26. Pres-

entations will be allotted 15 minutes plus 5 minutes for questions and transition and should be sent to Donna Muhm in PowerPoint format by July 17.

Please register by June 26, 2009 with Donna Muhm,  
[Donna.Muhm@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Donna.Muhm@dnr.iowa.gov)  
Meeting fee will be collected at the door (cash or check only).

### **Schedule of Events:**

Monday, July 27 (12:30 – 4:30 pm) – Conservation Genetics workshop (see separate announcement)  
Tuesday, July 28 (8 am – 4 pm) – Conservation Ge-

netics workshop

Tuesday evening – 5 pm social (we're working on Pearl Street Brewing)

Wednesday (8 am – 4 pm) – Technical Committee presentations and discussion.

Wednesday evening – 5 pm fried catfish dinner at Goose Island County Park. Fishing available.

Thursday (8 am – noon) – Technical Committee wrap-up and separate business meetings.

# 139th American Fisheries Society Convention

## August 30-September 3, 2009

### Renaissance Hotel and Nashville Convention Center Nashville, TN

On behalf of the Tennessee Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, I want to invite you to Nashville Tennessee for the 139th meeting of the American Fisheries Society. It will be held at the Renaissance Hotel and the Nashville Convention Center from August 30 through September 3, 2009.

The meetings theme:

“Diversity, the foundation of fisheries and the American Fisheries Society; are we gaining ground?”

is very appropriate for Tennessee. It is truly a unique and fascinating place. We have some of the most diverse aquatic habitats and critters on the continent. From high mountain streams in east Tennessee to the Mississippi River delta in the western part of the State, it is home to over 315 species of fish, 120 species of mussels, and 77 species of crayfish.

Did I mention music? Nashville is the

Music Capital of the World, from country, to bluegrass, to rock. Take your pick. The meeting will be located in downtown Nashville, the epicenter of all types of music venues. You will not be disappointed.

Tennessee is rich in history too! There are famous civil war battlefields all over the state for folks to visit and learn about. Some are close to Nashville, but most are no more than an hour or two away.

Think you might have time to fish? Tennessee has a wide variety of lakes and streams scattered across this wonderful State. From brook trout fishing in the Smoky Mountains, to trophy brown trout in our tailwaters, to world record smallmouths in our reservoirs, to world class stripers in our rivers, to monster catfish in the Mississippi River, we have it all.

Nashville is one of the friendliest cities in the country and will greet you with lots of good old fashioned southern hos-

pitality. Come prepared to have a good time!



## 70th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

### December 6-9, 2009

### Springfield, Illinois

## The 2009 International Conference on Ecology & Transportation September 13-17, 2009 Duluth Entertainment Convention Center Duluth, Minnesota



The mission of the International Conference on Ecology and Transportation is to identify and share quality research applications and best management practices that address wildlife, habitat, and ecosystem issues related to the delivery of surface transportation systems. ICOET is the primary forum for an international gathering of the foremost experts

in the field of transportation development, related scientific study, and administrative processes that can enhance both the project development process and the ecological sustainability of transportation systems.

The theme for ICOET 2009 is "Adapting to Change." Our transportation systems and ecosystems need to be addressed in the context of global climate change and shifts in transportation funding and priorities. Our natural and built environments are confronting changes that will unfold on multiple scales and impact many inter-related elements. The high degree of interac-

tion between transportation infrastructure and natural systems requires increasingly inter-disciplinary, integrated approaches to planning, building, maintaining and monitoring the health of these systems. In 2009, ICOET will focus on the challenges ahead as we adapt for future global climate changes, shifts in transportation demand and patterns, and evolving environmental and transportation policy.

For more information, please contact: James Martin at (919) 515-8620.

## International Congress on the Biology of Fish Madison, Wisconsin, July 15-20, 2012 Monona Terrace Convention Center

The meeting is sponsored by the Physiology Section of the American Fisheries Society. The local organizer is Dr. Terence Barry, Dept. of Animal Sciences, UW-Madison.

## Chapter Reports

### Dakota Chapter by Michael Barnes

Despite a meager participation from South Dakota GFP because of out-of-state travel restrictions, the Dakota Chapter meeting was held in Bismarck on February 23-25. Approximately 70 participants mingled at the socials, attended the sessions, participated in business meeting, and recognized award recipients. Students from South Dakota State University dominated the awards given by the Chapter. North Central Division President Mark Porath and Society President Bill Franzin each participated in the meeting.

Three SDSU students tied for the Best Student Paper award. Landon Pierce presented "Evaluating stocking success of paddlefish in Lake Francis Case, SD: a work in progress". His co-authors were Brian Graeb and Jason Sorenson. Justin VanDeHey won for his presentation "Non-lethal sampling of walleye and yellow perch for stable isotope analysis: a comparison of three tissues," co-authored by Mark Fincel and Steve Chipps. Travis W. Schaeffer presented, "Compensatory

growth and metabolic responses of female yellow perch subjected to symmetric feed: fast cycles," with co-authors Daniel Spengler, Casey Schoenebeck, Mike Brown, and Steve Chipps.

Two SDSU students tied for the Best Student Poster award. Andy Jansen won for his poster "Effect of a simulated cold-front on hatching success of yellow perch eggs. Brian Graeb and Dave Willis were co-authors. Nick Peterson won for his poster titled, "Determination of bluegill size and age at maturity in Southeastern South Dakota impoundments, co-authored by Justin VanDeHey and Dave Willis.

Bethany Galster from South Dakota State University was the winner of the Schmulbach Memorial Scholarship. Named after Dr. James C. Schmulbach, this competitive scholarship is awarded by the Chapter to an eligible Junior or Senior year undergraduate studying fisheries in either

North or South Dakota. Sauger scholarships (travel awards) went to South Dakota State University students Bobbi Adams, Ryan Andvik, Nick Peterson, and Andrew Wuestewald. Will French and Andrew Wuestewald from SDSU received Kriel scholarships. Named after long-time Dakota Chapter member Al Kriel, and funded by his family, the award pays for full membership in the American Fisheries Society.

Will Saylor received Distinguished Professional Service award (note accompanying article with the nomination text), and the Aquatic Resource Conservation Award was given to the Lake Region Anglers Association (North Dakota).

New chapter officers were elected at the meeting. Greg Simpson (Secretary/Treasurer), Brian Fletcher (Vice-President), and Jeff Hendrickson (President-Elect), join incoming President Mike Barnes.

## New Chapter Officers for the Dakota Chapter



Jeff Hendrickson  
President-Elect



Brian Fletcher  
Vice-President



Greg Simpson  
Secretary-Treasurer

## Will Saylor Receives Distinguished Professional Service Award

(The text from Will's nomination is printed here for the benefit of those who couldn't attend the meeting.)

This nominee has a long and distinguished record of service to the fisheries profession, including the Dakota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Throughout the three decades, (thus far) of his career with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, he has exhibited a dedication to fisheries conservation, the enhancement of professionalism, and the social needs of his colleagues.

The nominee is a Past-President of the Dakota Chapter and has served or led numerous Chapter committees. He currently is chair of the Schmulbach Scholarship committee and was a major driving force in getting this Scholarship initiated and an endowment started. He has been, and is, a key part of Chapter business meetings, acting as an unofficial parliamentarian. His involvement in preparation for the national AFS annual meeting that was held in Rapid City was essential to its success. He has given numerous presentations at Chapter meetings. He has also worked within the Fish Culture Section, serving on various committees and helping when-ever and where-ever asked.

In his current position, the nominee recently oversaw a multi-million dollar hatchery renovation that dramatically modernized and elevated the status of

an outdated facility. His leadership in changing not only the physical structure of the hatchery, but also the culture – the operating procedures, staff psychology, openness to research, cannot be overstated. He actively pursues continuing education opportunities in both technical fisheries matters and people management. His willingness to learn, listen, and change has



helped him become an effective manager and served as a great example to his subordinate staff. His positive attitude towards continuing education is also reflected in his encouragement of other staff members to take advantage of the same opportunities that he was fortunate to experience. During his tenure as an assistant hatchery manager and then as a hatchery manager,, the nominee has a long history of involvement with fisheries research, including co-authoring peer-reviewed and other publications. He willingly

and eagerly assists both hatchery and field management staff with any project, including reviewing papers, evaluating stockings, and reviewing annual stocking plans. He was an instrumental force in the creation and continuing success of the Tri-State Chinook Salmon Workgroup.

One of the nominee's greatest contributions has been towards improving the camaraderie among fisheries professionals and improving relations between governmental entities. Former Chapter member Jack Erickson remembers the nominee as, "...the guy I always counted on when you needed to plan a social activity. He knows how to put on a meeting with good social activities." His willingness to cook, whether it be pulled pork, fried turkey, or his late father's stew, has almost become expected, and is eagerly anticipated, after meetings or as a social event in itself. The social ties developed through his actions have led to concrete improvements in relationships between hatchery and management staffs, as well as between federal and state employees.

Lastly, his positive and "can-do" attitude has a ripple effect throughout his personal network. His encouragement to subordinate staff and his willingness to help others achieve their professional goals are admirable qualities. I am pleased to nominate Will Saylor for the Distinguished Professional Service Award.

## SDSU Faculty Recognition Event

SDSU held its first annual recognition event for faculty on February 24, 2009 – Learning, Discovery and Engagement: Celebrating Faculty Excellence. Dr. Jon Jenks received a 2008 Distinguished Researchers & Scholars Award as the representative for the

entire College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences. Dr. Mike Brown was recognized for receiving the American Fisheries Society Distinguished Service Award in 2008, and Dr. Kent Jensen was recognized for earning tenure. Dr. Steve Chipps represented the

department very well, as he was invited to give a keynote presentation that afternoon. The title of his presentation was "Mercury in South Dakota walleye: consequences to fish and angler."

# Photos from Dakota Chapter Annual Meeting



Bethany Galster, right, receives the Schulback Memorial Scholarship from Dakota Chapter President Randy Hiltner.



Clark Williams, right, of the Lake Region Anglers Association accepts the Aquatic Resource Conservation Award



Sauger Scholarship winners from left, Ryan Andvik, Bethany Galster, Nick Peterson, and Andrew Wuestewald.



Best Student Presentation and Poster Winners  
(From left) Mike Brown, Andy Jansen, Landon Pierce, Travis Schaeffer, Justin Van De Hey, Brian Graeb, Nick Peterson, and Dave Willis



Current NCD President Mark Porath attended the meeting, and as this photo shows, raked it in during the raffle!

## STAR Award Winners

Chapter members Steve Chipps (photo on the left) and Chuck Berry each received a STAR award from the Coop Unit Program, USGS, Reston, Virginia. The STAR (Special Thanks for Achieving Results) was presented because of the outstanding productivity of the South Dakota Unit during FY 08. It's great to see national recognition for these two intelligent, productive, and entertaining chapter members.



## Illinois Chapter by Jeremy Tiemann

The Illinois Chapter held its 47th annual meeting at the Fifth Season Hotel and Convention Center on 24-26 February 2009 in Moline, Illinois. Chapter President Ann Holtrop (IDNR) welcomed more than 75 members. A total of 24 oral and 3 poster presentations were given with topics varying from developing a multimetric habitat index for wadeable streams to physiological disturbances in bass following capture to freshwater mollusks of Africa.

At the annual business meeting, a long overdue Fisheries Excellence Awards was given to Ken Russell (IDNR) for his many years of professional service in the fisheries field. In addition, Robert Schanzle (IDNR) and Nancy Rogers (IDNR) were given the Award of Special Recognition for their Chapter services. Each recipient was awarded a stunning plaque and their respective letters of recommendations. Also at the business meeting was the election of Trent Thomas (IDNR) to the position of secretary-treasurer. He will serve in 2009-2010 with incoming President-elect Jeremiah Haas

(Exelon, Corp.), President Jeremy Tiemann (INHS), and Past-President Ann Holtrop (IDNR).

The annual raffle was held Wednesday evening. The Raffle Committee Chair Jim Lamer (WIU) did an excellent job



of securing nice prizes, which included framed prints, fishing tackle, and guide fishing trips. After some great ticket offers (e.g., spend \$50 and receive a free ILAFS T-shirt) and some outstanding food and drink, the wallets were loosened and the Chapter netted nearly \$1,400 to assist Chapter activities.

The Chapter recently has created student research grants and professional travel awards, and is going to offer the group the opportunity to become lifetime members. To keep Chapter

members informed on the latest happenings, we are creating a Facebook workgroup. Our student subunits are actively involved in community projects and presenting at meetings across the nation. Also, many of our professional members have been involved with exciting research projects. Research topics vary from dam removal and instream habitat restoration to status surveys of freshwater mollusk and propagating / reintroducing state-listed fishes.

The remainder of the year will be a busy time for the Chapter. We are preparing a Continuing Education Workshop on the crayfishes of Illinois that will be held at the end of April, and are co-hosting (with the Illinois Chapter of the Wildlife Society) the 2009 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in December. It will be a great way to share the many exciting research projects that our Chapter members are conducting.

More Illinois Chapter information can be found at <http://fisheries.siu.edu/>

## Indiana Chapter by Dave Kittaka

Activity in The Indiana Chapter started early this year. A member of the Indiana Conservation Alliance, IAFS was one of 30 Alliance members that spent the day at the Indiana State house educating legislators of the importance of key conservation issues.

The Indiana Chapter of AFS and Indiana Lakes Management Society held its joint spring conference at the Sheraton in Indianapolis, IN, on Jan. 29-31, 2009. The meeting was attended by 200 people from 81 organizations. The title of the program was Building Partnerships, Protecting Indi-

ana's Aquatic Resources, Kelly Hepler (NFHAP Chairman), Gwen White (IDNR), Rob Simmonds (US F&W), and Gary Whelan (MIDNR) gave presentations on the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

We have a very talented communications committee and they have advanced our webpage to a new level including a "first" for IAFS. This year's spring technical meeting was the first time we have used Pay Pal® for the meeting registration. The use of credit cards for meeting registrations as well as tshirt and hat orders

are now possible online.

Later this summer IAFS members will help teach children to fish at the IDNR State Fair fishing pond. The fall business meeting will be held in conjunction with a continuing education workshop at Ball State University.

Please check out our webpage at <http://www.fisheries.org/units/indiana/>

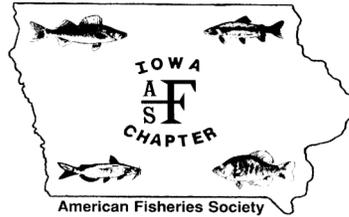


## Iowa by Alan Johnson

The Iowa Chapter AFS held our annual meeting in conjunction with the Iowa Chapter of The Wildlife Society in Ames, IA on January 27 and 28, 2009. Both Societies had excellent turn out of professional and student members, over 160 members attended the meeting. We began the meeting with a joint session for presentations from each Society that focused on projects where Fisheries and Wildlife are working together to benefit natural resource management in Iowa. Our Societies also had a brief debate over the position statement on use of lead in hunting and fishing. On the second day, concurrent Fish and Wildlife presentation sessions were held. Our professional and student members gave excellent scientific presentations. Jesse Fischer received the Best Student Paper award and Best Student Poster

was awarded to Mathew Mork and Scott Bisping.

Our chapter meeting highlight was the



presentation of the NCD Meritorious Service Award to Tom Gengerke a life member of the American Fisheries Society and retired Fisheries Supervisor for Northwest Iowa. His career achievements and service to AFS is exemplary; he is currently an AFS Certified Fisheries Professional Emeritus; he served as President of the Fish-

eries Mgt. Section, Chairman of the Walleye Technical Committee, NCD, and received the Conservation and Achievement Award (2006) from the Fisheries Mgt. Section. Tom was a founding member of the seven-state Missouri River Natural Resource Committee (MRNRC) established in 1987. He led the 15 year review process of the Corps of Engineers Master Manual. Tom's review group provided the biological science needed to bring balance in the management plan. Tom also wrote Iowa's State Plan for the Management of Aquatic Nuisance Species that was approved by the National Invasive Species Task Force in 1999. Tom's acceptance speech was an inspiration to our student and professional members alike. Congratulations Tom.

## Photos from Iowa Annual Meeting



Randy Schultz presenting NCD news at



Jim Wahl presenting Tom Gengerke the Meritorious Service Award at the Iowa Chapter meeting

## Kansas by Craig Paukert

The Kansas Chapter of the AFS held its annual meeting as part of the second annual Kansas Natural Resources Conference (KNRC) in Wichita, Kansas January 29-30, 2009. The KNRC is a joint conference hosted by Kansas AFS, Kansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Great Plains Society of American Foresters, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams, Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition, Kansas Section of the Society of Range Management, and the Kansas Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. The meeting was a great opportunity to bring together various natural resource professionals at one venue. The theme for this year's meeting was 'Renewable Energy-Renewable Resources.' The meeting had five concurrent sessions of fisheries, wildlife, range and forestry, water, and energy.

There were several fisheries-related presentations and posters at the KNRC. The winner of the Best Student Paper went to Andrea Severson

from Kansas State University (K-State) for her presentation Impact of Zebra Mussels on Fishes in El Dorado Reservoir. The Wenke Best Student Poster was awarded to Joe Gerken and Wes Bouska from K-State for their poster titled Effects of Instream Habitat and Fish Communities on the Endangered Topeka Shiner in Kansas Streams. The best professional presentation was awarded to David Hoehinghaus from K-State for his talk 'Quantitative Life-History Traits Predict Extinction-Prone and Invasive Fishes in Hydrologically Altered River Basin'. In addition Andrea Severson was awarded the Otto Tiemeier/Frank Cross Graduate Student Scholarship, and Brandon Senger, also from K-State, was awarded the Harold Klaassen Undergraduate Student Scholarship. Wes Bouska was also awarded the Joan Duffy Travel Award from the chapter and the NCD to attend the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio.

Officer elections were also held at the meeting and Vaughn Weaver from the City of Wichita will become the KS AFS President Elect at the end of August. Jessica Mounts, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) will become President, and Eric Johnson, KDWP, will continue to serve as Secretary-Treasurer.

One of our goals with the KS Chapter is to increase student involvement in the chapter. We have actively promoted students attending the chapter meetings, and added links just for students on our webpage:

<http://www.k-state.edu/kscfwru/ksafs/>.

Finally, we have created a Kansas AFS Facebook page. Hopefully we will see a return on our efforts with increased undergraduate and graduate student involvement from numerous universities throughout the state.

## Minnesota by Tim Cross

The 2009 joint meeting with the Wisconsin and Ontario chapters, "Fish without Borders: Great Lakes Interactions", was very successful and much of the credit goes to the outstanding technical presentations (over 90) and keynote speakers. Many of these presentations are available to view in PDF format on the MNAFS website ([www.mnafs.org](http://www.mnafs.org)). Another boarder battle was avoided as MNAFS chapter members were heard complimenting the Wisconsin folks on the brew they supplied and vice versa. Planning

efforts have already begun for our 2010 annual meeting which will likely be held in the Brainerd lakes area. Also, we are looking forward to conducting one or two short courses this coming year. An internet based tool was used for surveying members to identify their interest in various subject areas for future C.E. courses. Currently our chapter membership is stable. Student involvement in our chapter and student subunit is encouraged and we are actively looking to improve our chapter's interactions with stu-

dents at Minnesota's outstanding colleges and universities. This past year we provided scholarships and supported travel for a number of college students to attend our annual meeting. Chapter members have also been actively involved with judging science fair projects for middle and high school students and awarding chapter sponsored prizes at regional and statewide competitions.

## Michigan by Troy Zom

2008-9 was a busy, productive year for the Michigan Chapter. We hosted two continuing education workshops in Fall 2008. The electrofishing workshop was taught by Smith-Root at Grand Valley State University, while a mussel identification workshop at Lake Superior State University was taught by Renee Sherman (University of Michigan), Joe Rathbun (Michigan DEQ), and Kate Harriger (LSSU).

The Michigan Chapter held its annual meeting at the Cabela's Retail Store in Dundee, MI on March 18-19. On March 17-18, the chapter hosted an aquatic plant identification workshop taught by Dr. Gary Hannan, of Eastern Michigan University. The workshop included identification tips for native and invasive species, as well as many interesting tidbits on species life history and reproductive biology. The morning of the 18th featured a meeting of the Chapter's Rivers and Streams Committee, as well the kick-off meeting of a newly formed Water Quality committee.

The meeting itself was one of the largest in recent memory with 35 oral and 8 poster presentations. The concurrent sessions included a "Changing aquatic

environments, communities, and management approaches" symposium, a special water quality session, and an open presentation session that featured topics ranging from fisheries in Africa's Lake Victoria to fish assemblages of groundwater vents in Lake Huron, as well as many Michigan- and Great Lakes- based studies to spark local interest. Dr. Michael Wiley led off the meeting with a plenary talk entitled Changing Landscape, Changing Climate: Changing Rivers". Thanks to all those who contributed their work to the great program!

During the business meeting, the Chapter passed a resolution in support of removal of three dams on the Boardman River, a high-quality, yet impacted, coldwater river in the northwestern Lower Peninsula. Awards were presented to the following people: Jon Hansen (Hazard); Scott Collins (Best student paper); Ryan Namespetra (Best student poster); Mark Kaemingk and Brett Alger (Duffy Midwest FWC and national AFS student travel awards); Brianne Lunn (MI Chapter meeting travel grant); Travis Neebling and Mackenzie Shardlow (Fenske). We presented certificates of appreciation

to our gracious host (Cabela's) and member Becky Papke for voluntarily developing a video history and photo gallery. Her work can be seen on the Michigan Chapter website: <http://www.fisheries.org/units/miafs/index.html>. Carl Ruetz's service as Chapter president was recognized, and Mark Tonello was announced as president-elect. Thanks to the many volunteers who chaired or served on committees this past year. You are the engines that keep the Chapter running.

The fun continued in the evening with a big raffle. Kudos to Lake Superior State University student sub-unit and Becky Papke for rounding up donations and running the raffle. And, thanks to the many AFS members who returned Jim Diana's raffle loot (bit by bit!) on Thursday morning- he forgot the items on a car roof as he left Cabela's on Wednesday night. Now that most of the dust has settled after the meeting, we're looking forward to another productive year.



## Wisconsin by Glenn Miller



2009 saw the Wisconsin Chapter hosting a tri-chapter annual meeting with

Minnesota and Ontario. The meeting was held at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center in Duluth, Minnesota February 2 – 4, 2009. The meeting theme, “Fish Without Borders: Great Lakes Interactions”, was very appropriate for the conference with these three chapters sharing large expanses of the Great Lakes shorelines. This meeting was well attended with 342 people in attendance. A total of 92 oral presentations were given and 12 posters were presented. AFS president Bill Franzin attended along with his wife, and Bill was able to meet with the individual chapters during their business meetings. Sam Cook, outdoor writer for the Duluth News Tribune, was the featured speaker during the banquet. The plenary session had a representative from each chapter addressing fisheries issues for the Great Lakes. Dr. John Casselman, Ontario chapter, spoke on the “Sensitivity of fish and fisheries to a changing climate: Response and adaptation”. Minnesota chapter had Dave Boe, Staff Assistant for Congressman James L. Oberstar, speak about the Great Lakes perspectives from the Office of U.S. Congressman James Oberstar focusing on the Congressman’s work on the Clean Water Restoration Act, which will be reintroduced this Congress. Wisconsin chapter representative Mike Staggs, Fisheries Section Chief spoke on “VHS: A great lakes fish disease without borders!”.

These abstracts, along with the oral presentations and poster abstracts can be found on the Minnesota chapter website.

Wisconsin Chapter awards two student scholarships annually (currently \$1000 each). Other chapter activities include a biostatistics workshop, a stream crossing workshop and will be hosting the Centrarchid, Esocid and Walleye Technical Committees of the AFS North Central Division in LaCrosse, WI on July 28 – 30, 2009. At this time a 1.5 day genetic workshop on Fisheries Conservation Genetics will be held, July 27 – 28.

At our annual business meeting in Duluth the Wisconsin chapter voted to join the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation is made up of hunters, anglers, trappers and others that are actively engaged in the outdoors. WWF deeply appreciate Wisconsin’s wildlife and recognize the importance of protecting fish and wildlife habitat. WWF understands that the long term sustainability of wildlife populations depends upon clean water, clean air and healthy forests and grasslands.

Also at the business meeting the Chapter has voted to help fund the NCD Walleye Technical Committee Walleye Management Book, the request for funding the 2nd International Catfish Symposium, June 2010, NCD Ictalurid Technical Committee and the funding request for the upcoming American Fisheries Society publication entitled Paddlefish Management, Propagation, and Conservation in the 21st Century: Building from 20 Years of Research and Management.

Wisconsin Chapter member Jeremy Hammen, Masters Degree Candidate and research assistant from UW- Stevens Point received the 2008 NCD Walleye Technical Committee Sander Award for travel to the 2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Jeremy’s thesis represents his research under Dr. Brian Sloss and is titled “Genetic Diversity and Population Structure of Wisconsin Walleye (*Sander vitreus*)”.

Wisconsin Chapter was presented the 2008 Most Active Large Chapter Award in North Central Division of AFS, “For promoting professionalism among its members and enhancing fisheries management in the North Central Division.”

Wisconsin Chapter members are an active bunch, and our volunteers have infiltrated all levels of AFS. At the Parent Society level, we serve as Journal editors and reviewers and are members of numerous committees. WI-AFS is one of 12 NCD chapters, but Wisconsin members currently chair four of the ten standing committees. We are active participants in the technical committees and are chair or chair-elect of two of the five technical committees. Wisconsin Chapter hosted several large meetings in recent years, including the Parent Society meeting in 2004 and the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in 2007. One reason for our success is the excellent interest and involvement of students, especially from our student subunits at UW Stevens Point and Northland College. Student involvement is paying dividends to the chapter, as youth and enthusiasm are coupled with the wisdom and cunning of older members.

## Student Subsection Reports

### North Central Division Student Subsection Notice by Travis Neebling

Currently there are 12 active student subunits within the North Central Division, in addition to the Ontario Student Subunit. Many of these subunits maintain websites that can be accessed from the parent society website; please visit your state's student subunit website(s) to learn more about the activities coordinated by the subunits. The Student Subsection Representative (Travis Neebling) and the NCD Student Affairs Committee Chair (previously Casey Schoenebeck, now Quinton Phelps) are working with subunits that do not currently have websites to develop them. We believe that

an updated website is important for recruiting new members and keeping current members informed.

Additionally, Casey, Quinton, and I are working to develop a sustainable source of funding to assist subunit presidents with attending the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. We feel that by having the subunit presidents (or a proxy) attend the annual division meeting, they will have a better opportunity to become more involved with AFS, allowing their subunit to become more connected with the NCD and the parent society.

The 2nd Annual Midwest Student Fisheries Colloquium was organized by the Iowa State University Student Subunit and held in Ames. As with the first year this event was held, it was very successful (see the Iowa State University update for more information). This event will be hosted by the Kansas State University Student Subunit next year.

Finally, the Student Subsection of the Education Section has been busy developing recruitment and retention materials for the student subunits. These materials are available online at: <http://www.fisheries.org/>

### Southern Illinois Student Sub-unit by Quinton Phelps

The Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) student subsection of the American Fisheries Society has held several events throughout 2008-2009. We have approximately 30 active subunit members consisting of undergraduates, graduates, and faculty. An exciting tid-bit is that we have increased undergraduate membership to our subunit! Over the course of 2008-2009 we have had approximately 10 subunit members attend and present various research projects at state, regional, and national professional meetings.

In regards to our annual "get together", the annual hog roast was held on November 1, 2008. This event was held as means to provide an environment conducive to having an "outside work relationship" among members of the Southern Illinois University Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center. We enjoyed barbecued pork, fresh Italian sausage and beverages. There were several games, such as bean bag toss, washers, wiffle ball and fishing in Dr.

Heist's pond. All in all, the hog roast went well!

In relation to community outreach throughout the 2008 summer, the subunit was also very active in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Urban Fishing Program. The Urban Fishing Program is an IDNR-sponsored, state-wide project geared toward teaching youngsters how to fish. The program offers free fishing clinics to show kids the basics of fishing and the opportunity to give fishing a try in a safe, supervised setting. Our members taught children between the ages of 5-12 how to bait hooks, cast lines, and handle fish correctly. The program also includes some informal instruction on the importance of responsible outdoor recreation. The SIUC student subunit has spearheaded this program in Carbondale for the last several years, and contributes about 40-60 hours of volunteer service to the program per year. Along these same lines, the student subunit also participated in Anna Kid's Day on Oct. 11th,

2008. At this event the student subunit members taught approximately 50 children the basics of fishing. Another source of outreach during 2008-2009, the SIUC student subunit provided guidance to several Southern Illinois pond owners in regards to fish community characteristics and stocking rates for newly constructed impoundments. Lastly, we are currently putting together a community fish fry that will be held at Campus Lake on April 10, 2008- At the fish fry we will be accepting donations for the food that will be served (i.e., fish, baked beans, cole slaw, dinner rolls, and assorted non-alcoholic beverages). Throughout the community fish fry, we will have Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center related research posters for viewing and personnel will be available for answering questions. We will also encourage young community members to take part in learning proper fishing techniques (e.g., casting, handling, fish identification, etc.) that several subunit members will oversee throughout the event.

## Iowa State University Student Sub-unit by Travis Neebling

The Iowa State University Student Subunit has been very busy this year. One of the main projects for the subunit was hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Midwest Student Fisheries Colloquium. This was a 1.5 day event giving both graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to present results from their research in a stress free environment while networking with their peers. Twenty-eight students, from five universities throughout the Midwest were in attendance. Joe Larscheid, Iowa fisheries research supervisor was the guest speaker.

The Subunit also changed their major outreach event this year from a kid's fishing clinic to a large scale fishing derby in a lake on campus. Fish were sampled from the lake prior to the event, tagged, and released, giving Subunit members the opportunity to hone their electrofishing and tagging skills. Members of the public then had the opportunity to fish for the tagged fish to win prizes. The event had a much better turnout than past events and was deemed a success by all who attended.

The Iowa Chapter held their annual

meeting in Ames this year. This was a joint meeting with the Wildlife Society and was well attended by Subunit members. Additionally, a relaxing day was spent ice-fishing in early February. A number of smaller projects are planned for the rest of the school year including a fly-fishing workshop and a float-fishing-camping trip. The final large project for this year is a series of "Fishes of Iowa" posters. The Subunit is about halfway through developing four posters describing the fishes of Iowa and the habitats in which they are found.

## Kansas State University Student Sub-unit by Andrea Severson

The KSU Student Subunit of the AFS is currently preparing for its upcoming spring events—the biannual Tuttle Creek Riverpond sampling trip and the annual Milford Reservoir fishing tournament. The Riverpond sampling trip, which focuses on collecting flathead catfish abundance data, is a great opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to gain valuable experience gillnetting and boat electrofishing. The Milford Reservoir fishing tournament provides Subunit members, along with their families and friends, the opportunity to share a fun day of fishing, compete for prizes, and enjoy a fish fry with the day's catch. Both of these events tend to be very

popular and will be a great end to the 2008-2009 school year. With the end of the school year rapidly approaching, the Subunit is also preparing to elect a new President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer for the 2009-2010 school year.

In other news, the KSU Student Subunit provided transportation and lodging for several undergraduate students who attended the 2009 Kansas Natural Resources Conference, which also served as the annual meeting of the Kansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. The conference was held January 29-30 in Wichita, Kan-

sas, and provided members with the opportunity to attend numerous presentations, network with students and professionals from Kansas and beyond, and do a little fundraising as well. The Student Subunit printed new t-shirts to be sold at the conference, which feature Joe Tomelleri's illustration of an orangespotted sunfish in spawning condition on a dark blue background. These shirts, along with shirts from previous years, are available from the Subunit for \$15 each. For more information on t-shirts or other activities of the KSU Student Subunit of the AFS, visit our website at: <http://www.k-state.edu/ksuafs/index.htm>.



## News and Announcements

You can now find us on Facebook! Search ‘North Central Division American Fisheries Society’!

### DC Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery

With spring, sometimes Spring Cleaning follows. As Keeper of the museum collection and archives at DC Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives, Spearfish, SD, I ask you to think about history as you are filling that dumpster or getting ready for a big bonfire. Is there something that should be saved? Now, DC Booth does not want ALL your garbage, but we might like some of it. If it might be significant to the history of fisheries management, we might be interested. Age is relative.

If you are replacing old, outdated equipment, it could fit into a progres-

sion of equipment in the collection. Did you invent something, or make your own out of parts lying around the shop? Old stocking records? Lab or field equipment? Photographs?

Our largest recent acquisition is a good sized, oval-tank stocking truck, once used at the Leadville, CO hatchery. It joins a 1959 FWS Chevrolet Apache pickup and a 1963 Studebaker dump truck (which still has the original FWS paint and lettering). We hope to have a new display area for these in a few years. We also received some electroshocking gear, water quality equipment, publications, and old uni-

forms from Colorado.

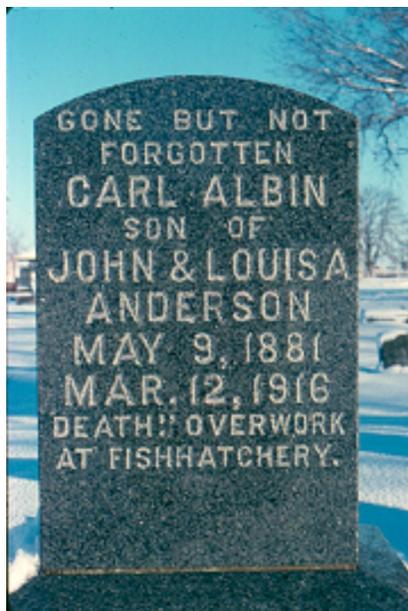
DC Booth, located at the old Spearfish Station of the US Fish Commission, collects the history of fisheries management. We use the 1899 hatchery building as a museum. The archives are open to researchers.

Contact us if you have something you think we might be interested in, for more information, a copy of our want list, or if you have a research question.

Randi Smith, Curator  
605-642-7730 ext 215



Bureau of Fisheries Badge



Old Tombstone



Photograph of FWS Researcher

## NCD Annual Awards

The North Central Division of AFS presented its annual awards at the 69<sup>th</sup> Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference held in Columbus, Ohio from December 14-17, 2008. The number of nominations received again this year, provided plenty of work for the thirteen individuals who served on the review panel.

During the plenary session of the conference, NCD President Jessica Mistak presented a certificate and plaque for Most Active Large Chapter to John Kubisiak, President of the Wisconsin Chapter. The Most Active Small Chapter Award was presented to Dave Kitaka who accepted on behalf of the Indiana Chapter. The Most Active Student Sub-unit Award was presented to Dr. Ashley Moerke who serves as the sub-unit advisor and a number of students from Lake Superior State University. The Best Communications Award is a relative newcomer to the slate of NCD Awards as it represents excellence in information exchange by a chapter through the innovative and functional use of its newsletter and webpage. Michelle Cain, the newsletter editor for the Indiana Chapter, accepted the award from President Mistak on behalf of the chapter and Jason Doll who serves as the webmaster.

Also presented during the plenary session was the North Central Division's Meritorious Service Award. This special award recognizes extraordinary service to the American Fisheries Society and to those who have made a genuine and long-lasting contribution to the betterment of the profession and to the Society. Tom Gengerke exemplified this standard with his many roles and years of service within AFS. Tom has been heavily involved with the Missouri River and recently retired from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. A Certified Fisheries Professional who was Iowa's Chapter President, Chair of the NCD Walleye Technical Committee, and served as the chair of the Boards of Professional Certification and Appeals for AFS. He was also the President of the Fisheries Management Section, and was presented their Conservation and Achievement Award in 2006. It was an honor for the North Central Division to recognize Tom Gengerke as the recipient of the Meritorious Service Award.

During the annual business meeting President Mistak presented a plaque and certificate of appreciation to Past President Joe Hennessy. Recognized

for years of service as the NCD Secretary/Treasurer, Randy Schultz was also presented a certificate of appreciation by President Mistak. Randy also joins the NCD leadership team after being elected First Vice-President along with Jason Goeckler as the incoming Secretary/Treasurer. Eight students were selected by their respective chapters to be recipients of the Joan Duffy Student Travel Awards. Checks were presented at the business meeting to: Mark Fincel, South Dakota State University; Katie Renschen, Northland College, WI; Andrew Drake, University of Toronto; Mark Kaemingk, Central Michigan University; Wes Bouska, Kansas State University; Michael Wilson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Travis Neebling, Iowa State University; and Jay Beugly, from Ball State University, IN.

Caption for NCD photo 6.jpg (optional)- The elected officers for the North Central Division of AFS are (left to right): Mark Porath, Pres-Elect; Jessica Mistak, President; Randy Schultz, First Vice-President; and Jason Goeckler, Secretary/Treasurer. Stuart Shipman (not pictured) is the NCD Representative to the AFS Nominating Committee.



## 2009: Year of Science and AFS by Chuck Berry

The AFS is involved in the Coalition for Public Understanding of Science ([www.copusproject.org](http://www.copusproject.org)), which is a coalition of professional societies and hundreds of other groups (Universities, museums, agencies) that are celebrating 2009 as The Year of Science ([www.yearofscience2009.org](http://www.yearofscience2009.org)). I am the AFS liaison to the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS), one of the national groups that organized the 2009 celebration, and I am encouraging Divisions and Chapters of AFS to participate in the Year of Science.

The AFS meeting in Nashville will feature a one-day symposium titled Fisheries Science in the Year of Science. It will be an unusual symposium in that it will be open to the public; the talks will be tangential to our usual fish meeting fare. One third of the talks will define fisheries science and determine its place in policy and management. One third of the talks will showcase the role of fisheries science in “big biology” (evolution, Encyclopedia of Life, medical research, National Ecological Observatory Network). One third of the talks will be about factors that influence public understanding of science – religion, press, government, industry, and education.

### Why a year of science?

Recent polls report that two-thirds of Americans do not understand science or what they can expect from it. There is widespread belief in pseudoscience and a growing public complacency about science. U. S. companies say that scientific building blocks of our economic leadership are eroding. These are the facts. Now, let's read between the lines above. The national science organizations (e.g., AIBS, NSF, etc) are nervous about the public

demand to teach creationism in science class, about political efforts to diminish scientific credibility, and about corporate efforts to make “doubt their product.”

### Why now?

Anniversaries in 2009, the Year of Science, include the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the 150th anniversary of the publication of *On the Origin of Species*, and the 200 anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, founder of the National Academy of Sciences in 1863.

The formational years of the National Academy of Sciences were also formational years for the American Fisheries Society. In 1857, aquaculture science was “hatched” as Dr Theodatus Garllick, the father of American fish culture, published his treatise on artificial propagation and pisciculture. The American Fish Culturists' Association, the predecessor of the American Fisheries Society, was formed in 1870 by fish culturists meeting in New York City. In the northeastern states, scientists and other citizens were expressing concern about the decline of river fishes.

### AFS History

There is a thin thread of connection between Darwin, the National Academy of Science founders, and the American Fisheries Society. This connection is also a historical vignette about the role of scientific debate in the development of a theory – in this case, the theory of evolution.

Among the great scientists that President Lincoln called to Washington to organize the National Academy, was Louis Agassiz, well known for his

opposition to Darwin's theory, his contributions to American ichthyology, and his mentorship of David Star Jordan, one of the pillars of the descriptive phase of American Ichthyology in the late 1800s. President Lincoln also called on Joseph Leidy, a supporter of Darwin, and mentor of Edward Dinker Cope, a famed ichthyologist for whom the journal *Copeia* is named.

### What can the North Central Division do?

Make a commitment to our internal public (members) to refresh thinking about “how we know what we know.” Design a project to inform the general public that they can have confidence in fisheries science, and about the limits of fisheries science. Hold a session on Year of Science at the next Division meeting. Join the Coalition.

Chapters should also join the Coalition. Joining is easy, costs nothing, leads to a little national publicity, connects you with thousands of Year of Science events, and requires only that you do something to address Year of Science goals. Perhaps Chapters could get their education committees busy on topics for that internal public (members) and the external public. Help the public understand the process of fisheries science, and understand who fisheries scientists are and what they do.



## Equal Opportunities Section (EOS) Travel Award

### Mission Statement

The Equal Opportunities Section works to encourage the exchange of information pertinent to the promotion of employment, education, scholarships, participation, professionalism, and recruitment for all individuals in the fisheries profession. The Section administers the J. Frances Allen Scholarship program, fosters mentoring of under-represented groups via an annual mentoring award and luncheon, and publishes a newsletter.

### Goal:

To increase the representation and involvement of diverse ethnic/racial groups and females in the American Fisheries Society.

### Objectives:

Increased professional interaction between research institutions and minority colleges.

-Increased attendance of minority and female professionals and students at annual meetings.

-Encourage and support the development of fishery research and instruc-

tional programs, particularly at predominantly minority (including female) institutions.

-Encourage the hiring of more minority and female fisheries professionals nationwide.

-Provide students looking for employment with information about summer jobs in fisheries or aquatic science fields.

Use the form that can be found at [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org) to apply for the EOS Travel Award to attend the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society to be held in Nashville, Tennessee, from August 30-September 3, 2009. Additional information regarding the EOS Travel Award and meeting arrangements can be found at [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org).

The AFS Equal Opportunities Section is leading an effort to increase participation in the Society by graduate and undergraduate students from underrepresented groups, including women and minorities. Travel grants not to exceed

\$500 each will be awarded on a competitive basis to assist these students with expenses incurred when attending the annual meeting. Funds are not distributed in advance. Students must be present at the Equal Opportunities Society section luncheon and business meeting in Anchorage to receive the funds.

The EOS encourages application from students who have not attended AFS meetings in the past. We will support award recipients during the meeting through orientation and mentorship, if desired by the student. There are wonderful networking opportunities, technical sessions, continuing education, trade show displays, and career/job opportunities, and graduate school opportunities at the meeting. We can also assist students with finding additional travel support, if needed. We look forward to hearing from you!

Completed applications must be emailed or postmarked no later than May 15, 2009. Award decisions will be made by June 15. Limit answers to the space provided.

## Members Forum

**Note from the Editor:** This new section is for you the members to submit opinion pieces, notices, short articles, new species records, cool pictures, outreach information, innovative projects, and other items of interest. We welcome a variety of articles; however, items will be published at the discretion of the editor.

## Join the “Urban and Fisheries Management” Conversation!



During the Fisheries Management Section business meeting in Ottawa, the Urban and Community Fisheries Management Committee (UCFM) was approved as an ad-hoc committee. Its purpose is “to serve as a means for urban and community fisheries managers to better communicate,

learn from one another, and advance the effectiveness of urban and community fisheries management.” This “Committee” has a blog up and running and if you have an interest in Urban and Community Fisheries then we encourage you to visit us at <http://www.sdafs.org/fmsafs/ucfm/>, register, and join the conversation. Recent discussions include: Angler recruitment and retention, the meeting of aquatic education and urban fishing, constraints to program effectiveness and

how to overcome them, and urban fishing news stories.

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## Fishing Contest by Joe Hennessey

Midnight, March 31, 2009, the 2008-09 fishing license year expired and with it the 2008-09 Fishing contestorama ended... in a double-tie!

In all, seven participants caught 36 species of fish by hook & line in Wisconsin during the past 365 days. Bluegill and black crappie were the only two species caught by all seven contestants. Two contestants moved away from Wisconsin before the end of the year; if one excludes them, yellow perch, largemouth bass and muskellunge were also caught by all full-time participants, proving that these five species are easily duped by ordinary anglers and no great pride should ever be taken in their capture.

However, these species were each caught by only one skilled contest participant:

*Carpiodes cyprinus* (Hennessey) – Wisconsin River  
*Coregonus clupeaformis* (Treska) – Sturgeon Bay  
*Ictiobus cyprinellus* (Treska) – Secret Pond

*Lepisosteus osseus* (Treska) – Wisconsin River  
*Notropis atherinoides* (Treska) – Wisconsin River  
*Oncorhynchus mykiss* (Treska) – Plunkett Lake (Iron Co.)  
*Moxostoma macrolepidotum* (Cichosz) – Milwaukee River  
*Nocomis biguttatus* (Cichosz) – Musser Lake (Price Co.)  
*Notemigonus crysoleucas* (Cichosz) – Lake Wingra  
*Salvelinus namaycush* (Cichosz) – Lake Michigan

Having witnessed an emerald shiner strike a jig in heavy current, I am inclined to call it the fishing feat of the year. Notable absences from all lists: Coho, flathead catfish, lake sturgeon, yellow bullhead, snakehead

So... the rundown:

**Most species caught:** 28, by both Theodore "Pi" Treska and Tom "j-plug" Cichosz

**Greatest number of species unique to participants list:** 5, by both Theodore "Pi" Treska and Tom "j-plug"

Cichosz

**Largest fish (as percentage of state record length):** Tom "my references didn't say a word about what I'd do to screw a friend" Cichosz, for his 6.25" horny head chub (I never want to string those words together into a phrase ever again), which was 100% of state-record length. Jon Hansen's 44" Turtle-Flambeau musky was notable, as was Joe Hennessey's 9.5" bluegill.

Cichosz cost himself the outright title for most unique species by taking Rachel salmon fishing. I am still waiting for an invite. Treska's release of his emerald shiner rather than registering it as the hook-and-line state record it represented cost him the three-way tie. Somehow that seems respectable.

The 2009-10 contest is open to anyone - send me an e-mail to participate! Remember that only fish caught in Wisconsin count.

-Joe "why couldn't I catch a pumpkinseed to save my life in all of 2008?" Hennessey

## Governing Board Minutes

The Executive Committee (excom) of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society (NCD-AFS) was called to order by President Jessica Mistak at 9:00 a.m. in the Marion Room, Hyatt Regency, Columbus, Ohio on December 14, 2008. President Mistak welcomed membership to the meeting and began a discussion of what has happened during past year, her plan of work, and chapter updates. President Mistak mentioned AFS President Bill Franzin could not make the meeting due to bad weather. Introductions were made. President Mistak noted that for the first time student subunit reports were included in the briefing book. President Franzin's comments were passed on by President Mistak. Revitalizing the Mid-Canada Chapter will be a goal of President Franzin's. This Chapter became inactive due to budgetary issues over such a large area, and the 26 members of the Chapter may possibly meet electronically and the NCD will help facilitate reinvigorating the Chapter. Also, President Franzin wanted the membership to note that the Marine and Coastal Fisheries (online journal) will come out this year. President Mistak asked Secretary/treasurer Randy Schultz to discuss last year's minutes. Secretary/treasurer Schultz noted that the minutes were published in the briefing book and on-line on the NCD's web site. President Mistak asked whether there were any additions or corrections of the minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as written. Next, Secretary/treasurer Schultz discussed the treasurer's report. President Mistak asked for a motion to approve treasurer's report as read. Craig Paukert so motioned with a second by Angie Grier. The motion carried. President Mistak then began a discussion of Old Business. President Mistak discussed she would work as a liaison between the NCD and Midwest steering Commit-

tee. The excom is currently defining the role and responsibilities of this position. President Mistak will attend the time and place meeting and will add some continuity that is needed from year to year. President Mistak discussed the uniqueness of the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference (MFWFC) because the host state runs the program, but NCD does not generate any income from the meeting. This will be explored more fully. President Mistak mentioned that President Franzin would like to see the NCD take a more active role in planning the MFWFC. President Mistak asked for any additional old business; none was brought forward. President Mistak moved to her proposed plan of work and new business. President Mistak will focus more on information transfer & outreach, and membership services. President Mistak discussed the Fenske award and its success; 25 students will be attending this year's breakfast, with The Wildlife Society is providing sponsorship for the breakfast. President Mistak plans to increase communication with Student Subunits and Chapters to reinforce how the NCD is benefiting them. President Mistak noted that the NCD helps guide AFS decisions. The NCD's excom will attend Chapter meetings to discuss how the NCD hopes to serve Chapters and create a discussion of how the NCD can serve them better. President Mistak discussed how Student Subunits are very active and encouraged Chapters to work with these student units more fully. President Mistak will also update bylaws. President Mistak asked for a motion to approve her Plan of Work. The motion was made by John Kubisiak and seconded by Angie Grier. Quentin Phelps asked who in the NCD Student Subunits can talk to ensure work done by the Subunits is included in the briefing book, because the Southern Illinois University Stu-

dent Subunit's activities were not submitted. Casey Schoenebeck (Student Affairs Committee Chair) mentioned perhaps information simply did not get passed to SIU. President Mistak discussed that keeping up to date on leaders is sometimes difficult to maintain. Casey mentioned Student Affairs is working on ways for better communication. President Mistak mentioned anyone could contact her. President Mistak's Plan of Work was approved. President Mistak began a discussion of the Duffy Award. She mentioned her concern that only a few Chapters are taking advantage of this monetary student travel award. President Mistak noted that \$634 in an endowment has been set aside at Bethesda, but that reaching an endowment status is an ambitious goal. President Mistak asked for a motion to increase the Duffy Award. Craig Paukert mentioned that in Kansas, he is not convinced that an increase in funding will actually increase applications by students. Some discussion ensued on how most graduate students are supported financially with their projects. Casey Schoenebeck mentioned Chapters have very different application procedures. Dawn Sechler mentioned that not enough information on the award is being sent-out. Mark Porath mentioned as excom travels to Chapter meetings they could discuss this better and determine whether a consistent application across all Chapters is needed. Discussion ensued that Chapters themselves are evidently not making sure the application process for the Duffy Award is understood, and the responsibility resided with the Chapters. President Mistak mentioned Student Subunits and Chapters need to be contacted with information on the award. Casey Schoenebeck mentioned announcements should also be going to subunit advisers.

Discussion ensued on ideas to increase communication. Chapters, Subunits, and Technical Committees having a consistent email address that will not change would facilitate information transfer from the NCD to these groups. Also, utilizing group email would help with information transfer. Mark Porath mentioned all the NCD can do is suggest a system and encourage Chapters, Subunits and Technical Committees to move toward a consistent email address to eliminate problems with communication between the NCD and its units. President Mistak proposed developing a list of options for units and provide recommendations for consideration. Dawn Sechler suggested that it should be the responsibility of Secretary/treasurers in subunits to maintain a current list of students and email addresses. President-elect Porath suggested the newsletter editor may be another contact to get information out to members because they should have a current list of members receiving the newsletter. President Mistak returned to the Duffy Award. President Mistak related that the dollar amount is not the issue, but communication may be more important to getting more applications. President-elect Porath suggested the Chapter level is where changes need to be made. Discussion ensued over the NCD's ability to afford an increase in funding of the Duffy Award. President Mistak asked for a motion to increase the monetary amount of the Duffy Award from \$100 to \$200; Craig Paukert. A friendly amendment was forwarded by President-elect Porath that up to \$200 would be matched by the NCD so that the NCD only matches what Chapters provide. this was seconded by Angie Grier. President Mistak asked for any discussion to approve up to \$200 for the Duffy Award. Hearing none, the motion carried. President Mistak discussed her Plan of Work for a long-term plan to make the award into an endowment. Angie Grier suggested money not used as budgeted be ap-

plied to the endowment. President Mistak restated the motion, which Carl Ruetz seconded. Craig Paukert suggested letting the excom determine funding since the money is available in the overall budget. President-elect Porath suggested setting money into an interest bearing account. President Mistak restated the motion to put unallocated Duffy Award funds into an endowment but allow the excom some discretion on how the money is set aside. Motion carried.

President Mistak next introduced the newly elected First Vice President, Randy Schultz, and new Secretary/treasurer, Jason Goeckler. President Mistak noted the need for an Auditing Committee Chair to review the Treasurer's report and expenses, and asked for volunteers or nominations. None were heard so President Mistak stated she would bring the need forward at the general business meeting.

President Mistak encouraged Chapters to notify the excom as soon as possible when their meetings occur. President Mistak asked for any further discussion on new business; hearing none she proceeded to proposed budget. President Mistak discussed income, expenses and technical committee budgets. President Mistak noted the maximum amount the NCD would appropriate to the Duffy Award was increased from \$900 to \$1,200. President Mistak also discussed AFS' travel fund to participate in the AFS Mid-year Governing Board. President Mistak and President-elect Porath will apply for these funds. President Mistak asked for further discussion. Hearing none, she asked for a motion to approve the proposed budget. Craig Paukert so moved, and Carl Reutz seconded. The motion carried. President Mistak moved to briefings by Committees and Chapters. Angie Grier discussed Continuing Education events. Geospatial statistics will be

held off-site this year. Next year an advanced FAST workshop by Dr. Mike Maceina is in the works. Next year we will need to use the seed money (\$2,500) set aside for Continuing Education and this year's proceeds to sponsor the FAST workshop. Angie stated we would be making >\$1,000 this year. John Kubisiak, WTC chair and WI Chapter President discussed progress of revision of the walleye synopsis. NCD President Mistak stated the excom will review the budget to determine their participation with the synopsis in this year's or next year's budget. President Mistak suggested posting Chapter Continuing Education workshops on the NCD listserv to generate more interest/income. Greg Pitchford will send-out a request for the NCD to support the 2nd International Catfish Symposium at the Bronze Level (\$750-\$1,000) for consideration in next year's budget. President Mistak thanked everyone for attendance, their contributions, and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Craig Paukert so motioned and Lucas Borgstrom seconded. The meeting was officially adjourned at 11:57 p.m.

## Business Meeting Minutes

President Jessica Mistak called the 52nd annual meeting of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society (NCD-AFS) Business Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. in Delaware Room C, Hyatt Regency, Columbus, Ohio on December 15, 2008. President Mistak welcomed membership to the meeting. A quorum was established with 43 members present. President Mistak asked for additions or corrections to agenda. President Mistak stated Past-president Joe Hennessy would not be able to attend. President Mistak then recognized Joe as past president, and acknowledged Randy Schultz as out-going Secretary/treasurer, having been elected First Vice-President. President Mistak then recognized past NCD presidents, and further acknowledged that AFS President Bill Franzin would be unable to make the meeting due to weather. President Mistak gave some discussed on President Franzin's Plan of Work, and the online marine and coastal journal to be coming out soon. President Franzin is working to revitalize the Mid-Canada Chapter. President Mistak will work with President Franzin to help facilitate their involvement in the NCD. Secretary/treasurer Schultz then noted the past minutes were posted on the NCD's website, and asked for corrections or additions to the minutes. Hearing none the minutes were approved as written. Secretary/treasurer Schultz then presented the treasurer's report, which was unanimously approved. President Mistak asked for a volunteer to Chair the Auditing Committee. Since she noted none, she will seek volunteer.

President Mistak moved to a discussion of the Governing Board meeting Sunday, December 14. President Mistak next moved into a discussion of her Plan of Work. President Mistak noted she was concentrating on two areas: 1) Information transfer and outreach, and, 2) member services. President Mistak will collaborate with other scientific organizations. As an example, she discussed last year's approval of a liaison between the NCD and the Mid-

west Fish and Wildlife (MFWFC) Planning Committee. This collaboration is needed to ensure the Steering Committee could better ease into workshops, the Fenske breakfast, etc. President Mistak will serve as liaison, and will focus on increasing communication between Technical Committees and Chapters. She also noted inclusion of Student subunits in the briefing book for the first time. President Mistak plans to have current NCD officers, with help from a few Past-presidents to attend Chapter meetings to reinforce communication and cooperation between units and the NCD excom. Also under member services, the bylaws will be updated. The Governing Board agreed to increase the match of the Duffy Award up to \$200. President Mistak noted that much discussion over several years as to how to increase applications. At this point President Mistak asked for motion to support increase. John Epifanio so motioned, with a second by Ed Braun. Discussion initiated by Stu Shipman—clarification that the NCD will match up to \$200. No additional discussion ensued, and the motion carried. President Mistak noted that the Governing Board had another motion concerning the Duffy Award. The NCD has not actively pursued making the award an endowment. The Governing Board suggested using any unallocated funds to support the endowment. President Mistak asked for a motion to use any unallocated Duffy Award funds to support the endowment. Ed Braun so motioned, and the motion was seconded by Jim Triplett. Discussion ensued by John Epifanio, asking for clarification that a limit of \$1,200 will be allocated by the NCD toward the Duffy Award each year. Some discussion ensued about obtaining the money held by AFS (\$623) to support the endowment. The motion carried.

President Mistak moved to her proposed budget. She discussed travel expenses, noting that AFS is providing travel support for the Mid-year Governing Board meeting. The \$5,000 allocated for travel in President Mis-

tak's proposed budget is a worst-case scenario of travel expenses, noting that travel expenses have been around \$2,500 each of the past two years. President Mistak asked for a motion to approve the proposed budget; Stu Shipman with Ed Braun seconding. John Epifanio asked for clarification of the total dollar amount in the proposed budget. The motion then carried.

Next President Mistak asked President-elect Porath to present the awards. President-elect Porath noted five awards were presented this morning after the Plenary Session. Most Active Large Chapter was awarded to Wisconsin; Indiana won the Most Active Small Chapter and Best Communications; Most Active Student Subunit was Lake Superior State University). Tom Gengerke, Iowa DNR, was awarded the NCD's Meritorious Service Award. President-elect Porath moved to presentation of checks to students awarded the Joan Duffy Student Travel Awards. (Andrew Drake, Ontario; Wes Bouska, Kansas; Mark Kaemingk, Michigan; Ted Treska, Wisconsin; Mark Finsel, Dakota; Jason Beughy, Indiana; Travis Neebling, Iowa). President-elect Porath noted Travis Neebling from Iowa State University was awarded the Janice Fenske Award.

President Mistak asked for any input from members. John Epifanio invited NCD members to attend the MFWFC in Springfield, Illinois, in 2009. John extended appreciation to past NCD members who have provided guidance for Illinois' planning for the Midwest next December. Jim Triplett asked the members to acknowledge Ohio for a great meeting.

President Mistak thanked the NCD membership for allowing her to serve as their President and encouraged members to contact her with any needs. Hearing no new business, she accepted a motion to adjourn (Ed Braun; seconded by Jason Goeckler), and the meeting was adjourned at 5:46 pm.



*Websites:*

*Parent company: <http://www.fisheries.org>  
North Central Division: <http://www.ncd-afs.org>  
NCD Listserve email to: [ncdlist@lists.fisheries.org](mailto:ncdlist@lists.fisheries.org)*