

Mainstream

Spring 2007, Volume 24(1)

North Central Division
of the
American Fisheries Society

Dakota - Illinois - Indiana - Iowa - Kansas - Michigan - Mid-Canada -
Minnesota - Missouri - Nebraska - Ohio - Ontario - Wisconsin



President's Message

By Stu Shipman

It's a bright sunny day in Northeast Indiana today after several weeks of uncharacteristically cold and rainy weather. Our crews have been out actively taking eggs from both walleye and muskie and both operations have found the weather to be a significant factor. The early spring this year may have actually lead to an earlier spawn that was interrupted by the cold snap which resulted in reduced or disjointed spawning run. Whatever the cause our egg-take was small and effort was high. Every time we have conditions like occurred in 2007 we could probably all forecast a decrease in the number of natural recruits for these two species or others as the summer progresses and additional fish look for those ideal spawning conditions. How global warming will eventually impact these fish populations is becoming a science all to itself.

Certainly the presence of VHS in the Great Lakes basin has also resulted in significant shifts in programs with Michigan deciding the risk of bringing infected walleye, northern pike and muskie eggs back to their hatcheries was greater than the potential loss of fishing resulting from a reduced stocking program. This particular issue will not resolve itself quickly but many culturists across the basin are looking for ways to live with VHS. On top of that Asian carp are still knocking on the door of the Great Lakes as they move up the Illinois River toward the Chicago Shipping Canal and eventually Lake Michigan. A joint venture with the Great Lakes' states, Illinois and the Army Corps of Engineers has been building and operating barriers in the Canal for a number of years but both technical difficulties as well as funding concerns haunt their operations. Several initiatives are before Congress to make the barriers a federal project but so far none of them have been passed much less funded. (see resolution later in this issue of Mainstream)

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This is 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. Previous issues of this publication can be downloaded from the NCD website:

<http://www.ncd-afs.org>

Editor: Rich Zweifel



As an employee of one Great Lake's states I have the privilege to represent my agency on a number of boards and panels that address to some degree the challenges listed above. Not a day goes by that some additional opportunities for service come across my desk. I recently attended one Great Lakes Fish Commission meeting where the range of topics transcended my ability to fully understand and comprehend how projects and programs intersect. In two weeks I'm attending another meeting convened by the Great Lakes Commission (not Fish Commission) to talk about the Army Corps of Engineers Great Lakes "Habitat Initiative." At the same time I'm reviewing a project proposal for Indiana to participate in a "National Fish Habitat Action Plan" initiative focused on glacial lakes (excluding the five Great Lakes).

What you may ask is the reason for this rambling message about spawning fish, fish disease, impacts to anglers, Asian carp, Initiatives and Commissions? My take home message today is don't be frightened by names, acronyms or what agency provides funds, all these efforts are working toward some measure of habitat protection and wise use that provides a responsible level of ecological protection and sustainability. What all these initiative, programs or activities have in common is the need to have a well informed constituency prepared to make decision and take appropriate, timely action. AFS, its leadership, policies and people help provide the cement that makes all these intersecting programs flow from concept to reality. Get involved, no matter where you stand with your University, agency, or employer, there are lots of opportunities to share experiences and grow as resource managers.

Committee Reports



Esocid Technical Committee

By Mark Boone

The Esocid Technical Committee held their annual summer meeting on August 3-4, 2006. Representatives from the Indiana, Missouri, Michigan, Dakota, and Wisconsin chapters provided information on current research, management issues, and management strategies for esocids. Technical presentations included an update on the results of the Chippewa Flowage Musky Project (Dave Neuswanger, Wisconsin DNR), PIT tag retention in muskellunge fingerlings (Marty Jennings, Wisconsin DNR), development of a stock/recruit model for muskellunge (Lawrence Eslinger, Univ. of WI Green Bay), muskie bioenergetics modeling (Steve Chipps, South Dakota St. Univ.), genetics of Wisconsin muskellunge (Ed Murphy, Univ. of Wisconsin, Stevens Point), northern pike assessments in large MI lakes (Patrick Hanchin, Michigan DNR), and seasonal movement of muskellunge in the Manitowish Chain, WI (Jordan Weeks, Wisconsin DNR). A complete summary of the meeting proceedings is available on the ETC website. Anyone

interested in more information about this meeting or other ETC activities can contact Mark Boone (Mark.Boone@mdc.mo.gov).

Proceedings of the "Muskellunge Symposium" held in Indianapolis, IN, in October 2005 (including 16 papers) was published in *Environmental Biology of Fishes* (volume 79, issues 1 & 2) in 2007. A hardcover book entitled "The Muskellunge Symposium: a Memorial Tribute to E. J. Crossman", edited by Jim Diana and Terry Margenau, that includes these published papers and additional information from the symposium (e.g. panel discussion) will be available in June 2007.

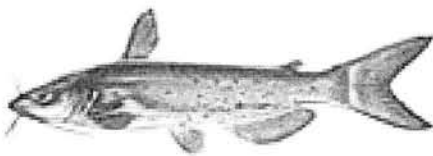
Tim Simonson (WI) is planning to update the history of the ETC and put on the ETC/NCD web page. The ETC prepared two documents in 1997: *The Introductory, Maintenance, and Restoration Stocking of Esocids* and *A Synopsis of Angling Regulations for Esocids in North America*. At our next summer meeting, we will update one of these two documents.

Chair for the next three years will be as follows (taking over after the Midwest Conference):

2006/07—Mark Boone, Missouri

2007/08—Ed Braun, Indiana

2008/09—Dr. Jim Diana, Michigan



Ictalurid Technical Committee

By Greg Pitchford

In late June 2010, the 2nd International Catfish Symposium will be held in Memphis, Tennessee. 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, management, and conservation of worldwide catfish populations and their habitats. Presentation of research on both game and non-game species will be encouraged. Highlights of the symposium will include interactive sessions between scientists and anglers and a facilitated discussion to conclude the meeting to determine future directions and research needs.

To attract anglers and provide opportunities for input and interaction, the symposium will be held at the conclusion 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. Guests will be treated to some Southern hospitality at several socials including a traditional Southern fish fry and a Memphis barbecue. Symposium attendance is expected to exceed 400 people and the proceedings will be published in a hard-bound book that will be provided to all

attendees. Similar to the first Proceedings, this compilation of works should serve as a valuable reference for many years to come.

There is a new catfish list-server. To subscribe to the list-server simply go to the following web address and fill in the appropriate information: <http://fisheriessociety.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/catfish>. We hope to provide scientists, natural resource managers, and persons concerned with biological conservation a forum for the exchange of information about the biology, management, and conservation of worldwide catfish populations and their habitats. We encourage the inclusion of nongame species in addition to the popular species pursued by anglers. The list server is intended to deal primarily with the biology and management issues associated with naturally reproducing catfish populations. We recognize that catfish are often used in aquaculture however this topic has other forums for information exchange. This list server is not a place for advertising products or commercial services. The information posted is not peer-reviewed or published and should not be referenced as an authority without consulting directly with the authors of particular postings.

The next meeting of the NCD Ictalurid Technical Committee will be held in December in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Madison, WI.

The Southern Division's Catfish Management Committee is looking for catfish related articles and reports to load on their website. Check out the current papers listed there at: <http://www.sdafs.org/catfish/Pages/papers.htm>. If you have any publications or reports to include please forward them in pdf format to George Scholten at: George.Scholten@state.tn.us.



Rivers and Streams Technical Committee

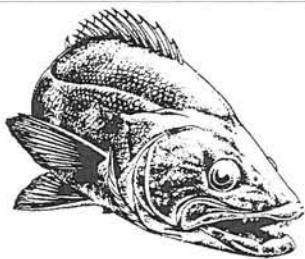
By Steve Pescitelli

The Rivers and Streams Technical Committee (RSTC) has been very busy over the last few months holding two meetings, sponsoring a symposium and planning a workshop.

The RSTC sponsored a Stream Monitoring Symposium at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, held in Omaha, December, 2006. The symposium was a great success with 40 papers, filling the entire two and a half days. In fact, there were 3 additional papers presented Sunday afternoon, at the RSTC Winter Meeting, prior to the conference. We had representatives from almost all the Midwestern States and a few national summaries. There is a lot of very good work going on out there, using the latest in information technology. It seems that many of the states are doing random sample site selection based on the USEPA E-map protocol. We currently have a grad student from Chuck Berry's lab at South Dakota trying to summarize proceedings for a possible AFS Fisheries article.

Our annual spring meeting was held at the Rock Island Conservation Club in March 2007. There were about 30 attendees with a full line up of papers filling the afternoon and morning sessions, along with state chapter updates and the usual business items. Paul Kanehl of WI DNR stepped down as the Secretary after 10 years of meritorious service. Kraig McPeck was elected as the new Secretary and will soon receive "The Box" housing the important papers and archives of this long-standing committee. I reluctantly agreed to stay on as the Chairman for another year, following the 2-year term tradition the committee has established. We also had a very good mixer featuring steak and some green beer (optional celebration of St Patty's). Thanks especially to Dan Sallee, and Rick Anderson and for organization and execution of the meeting, and the Rock Island Conservation Club who graciously provides our meeting space and great hospitality every year.

Finally, the RSTC and Sea Grant are working together to organize a workshop planned for early November in the Chicago area. Sea Grant has sponsored a number of stream restoration workshops over the years and had funds for another session in 2007, but needed a topic. After discussions at the spring meeting we concluded that it would be useful and timely to hold a workshop which focused on the evaluation of fish passage projects in the Midwest. There have been a number of design workshops held over the past few years and quite a few projects are now in place, but to our knowledge there have been few reports on the effectiveness of the fishways and dam removals. We would like to address issues such as the stability of the projects, methods used to evaluate fish movement through fishways and dam removal sites, and fish and mussel community changes, to name a few. If you are interested in attending or would like to present the results of a project or related fish movement methodologies, please let me know steve.pescitelli@illinois.gov. The preliminary plan is to include one day of presentations and posters and one day in the field visiting fish passage and dam removal sites.



Walleye Technical Committee

By Patrick Hanchin

The American Fisheries Society (AFS) Books Department has accepted our proposal for publishing a book entitled "The Biology and Management of Walleye and Sauger in North America" (Working title: *Walleye Synopsis*). During the initial preparations for the *Walleye Synopsis* we have developed a steering committee, an outline for the book, and a list of authors. Additional authors will be solicited and identified as the project progresses. Due to the large time commitment of this project, we will contract a full-time editor to oversee the manuscript completion. We have some interested candidates, and will also advertise the contract/position in Fisheries magazine as soon as adequate funding is secured. Our total fundraising goal, including editorial duties and printing, is **\$45,000 - \$55,000**. Thus far we have secured \$5,000 towards this goal. Please contact Patrick Hanchin if you are interested in contributing (financially or otherwise) towards the project.

Upcoming Events



68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

Madison, Wisconsin
December 9-12, 2007

Be The Change: Manage Locally Conserve Globally™

We invite you to the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Madison, Wisconsin, December 9-12, 2007. The conference will mark the 68th year that natural resource professionals have met to share new research information, management experiences, and valuable insights of fish and wildlife research and management.

The Conference will be held in the beautiful Frank Lloyd Wright designed Monona Terrace Convention Center on the shore of Lake Monona just blocks from the State Capitol, the University of Wisconsin campus, and downtown dining and night life.

A greener conference

We are focused on living our conference theme- "Be the Change," and are continually looking for ways to reduce the waste generated by large meetings. As part of its effort to make the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference a less wasteful event, the planning committee decided that it would not have a registration gift- no pen, no canvas bag, no CDs, basically nothing that will end up as clutter on its way to landfill.

We recognize that people really like getting new things, even if they didn't need them, and that many of us regularly use swag gathered at various meetings. The question is- how many tote bags, AFS pens, and TWS leather portfolios does a person need? You'll have to be the judge of that, but if you find that you've got extras in your office, we have an idea for you!

Meeting participants- please bring meeting paraphernalia you're not using to the first ever Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference Swag Swap! We'll take pens, pencils, highlighters, canvas bags, duffels, water bottles, portfolios- anything in decent condition with an agency/ university/ meeting logo that you want to give away. In this way, students and forgetful professionals will have a place to grab precious meeting loot, and we won't be contributing to the clutter in your life! Leftover items will be donated to local charitable organizations.

Call for papers

The first call for papers has been made. Information and guidelines may be found at: <http://midwest.ncd-afs.org/abstracts.asp>. The deadline for abstract submissions is August 1, 2007.

Midwest Meeting Workshops
Sunday, December 9, 2007**Hydroacoustic tools for fish and habitat**

Maximum class size: 20 people

Full-day workshop

Instructor: BioSonics, Inc.

Hydroacoustic technology is an under-utilized sampling technique in freshwater that allows biologists and resource managers to more effectively and efficiently detect fish, measure abundance, and quantify habitat. This course will provide background in hydroacoustic theory for use in fisheries and aquatic habitat applications. State-of-the-art techniques for assessing the distribution and abundance of fish and aquatic plants, classifying sediments, and monitoring fish behavior will be introduced. Interface with GIS applications will also be discussed. Examples of applications include fish counting, fish behavior, fish response to anthropogenic and natural environmental variables, analysis of submersed aquatic vegetation, classification of bottom sediments, and utilization of hydroacoustic data with GIS.

Conversations that STICK!

Maximum class size: 30 people per session (60 total)

Two half-day sessions (morning and afternoon)

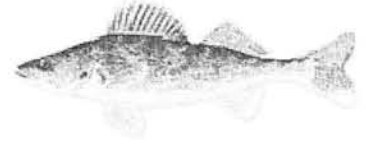
Instructor: Merrill Ronning; Ronning Leadership Seminars

A seminar to enable people to speak with more clarity and impact through learning organizational techniques and empowering the audience to understand what the presenter is talking about through use of story, analogies, and examples.

For more information on these and other workshops offered during the meeting visit the Midwest meeting homepage <http://midwest.ncd-afs.org/symposia.asp>. Anyone interested in registering for a workshop can do so when they register for the meeting. That option should be available online soon. Any questions can be directed to Angie Grier (agrier@dnr.IN.gov).



Walleye Technical Committee 2007 Summer Meeting



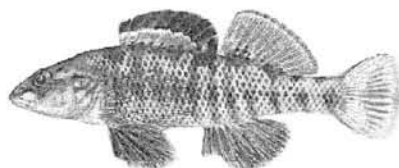
*University of Minnesota's Cloquet Forestry Center
July 24th – 26th, 2007*

Call for Papers

The 2007 summer meeting of the Walleye Technical Committee will be held at the University of Minnesota's Cloquet Forestry Center (<http://cfc.cfans.umn.edu/index.html>) located outside of Duluth. Presentations for the summer meeting are now being sought. Due to the cancellation of last year's meeting we will recycle the intended theme of *Assessment Techniques*. Of course, we will not limit presentations to this topic, and will consider all topics related to walleye and sauger biology and management. Please consider presenting preliminary results of research and management projects, as well as case histories. Students working on walleye or sauger related topics are particularly encouraged to present their work. In order to support student participation a reduced registration fee is available for student presenters (see below). Please submit topics/titles for presentations to Patrick Hanchin (hanchinp@michigan.gov) by June 15th, 2007.

Registration

We are now accepting registration for the summer meeting. Registration fee for the 2007 Summer Meeting is \$130 (\$65 for students) and includes meals (dinner on the 24th, three squares on the 25th, and breakfast on the 26th), 2 nights lodging, and meeting accommodations. Registration fees are based on double occupancy; please indicate your roommate preference when registering. Registration fee for those requesting a single room is \$150 (\$85 for students). Registration fee for those wishing to only attend the meeting on the 25th (includes lunch but no lodging) is \$20. Payment can be made at the meeting, but pre-registration is mandatory as we have to commit the number of attendees for meals! Anyone interested in attending should contact Patrick Hanchin (hanchinp@michigan.gov) and should have registration submitted by June 15th, 2007.



Chapter Reports

Illinois Chapter

By Robert Fischer



Visibility:

- Many members of the Illinois Chapter have been actively involved with outreach activities that promote the fisheries profession such as participating in children's fishing clinics, and speaking to special interest/angling groups and sports clubs.
- Southern Illinois University Subunit – Currently the subunit is responsible for the newsletters for the AFS Fish Culture Section and AFS Fish Management Section. A large number of the SIU students attended and presented at the world aquaculture meetings. Additionally they were selected as one of NCD outstanding subunits.
- University of Illinois Subunit – They have been successful in generating new interest in the subunit and will hold the annual barbeque and speaker series.
- Eastern Illinois University – The Chapter accepted a request to recognize the new Eastern Illinois University subunit and their by-laws were approved by both the Chapter and the National AFS.

Collaboration:

- The Illinois Chapter held its annual meeting in February 2007 at Eagle Creek Resort in Findley Illinois.
- The Chapter is currently working with state agencies in planning of the 2009 Midwest Fish in Wildlife Conference to be held in Illinois.

Information Network:

- The Chapter selected a new website host (Southern Illinois University at Carbondale) and the webmaster has begun completely revamping and updating the website.
- The newsletter continues to be the preferred method for communicating information to the Chapter members.
- The Chapter is in the process of developing a listserv to increase communications between the chapter membership.

Public Policy:

- The Illinois Chapter continues to maintain its membership with Illinois Environmental Council and work in conjunction with this group on mercury and wetlands issues.

- The Chapter continues to comment to the Illinois Pollution Board on the proposed changes to the state DO standards.

Professional Development and Recognition:

- The Illinois Chapter has developed a new Student Research Award Competition with the expectation to fund four \$500.00 grants each year.
- The Illinois Chapter has developed a new Professional Travel Award with the expectation to fund four \$200.00 grants each year.
- The Chapter awarded Matt Afflerbaugh, Jennifer Bartlett, Catherine Ciak, Jay Gerber and Randy Oplinger student travel grants to attend the annual state meeting.
- The Chapter awarded Best Student Paper to Diane Shasteen and Best Professional Paper to John Chick at the annual state meeting.

Science-Based Information:

- The Chapter will host a continuing education workshop in 2007 on mussel identification and ecology

Strategic Plan Implementation:

- The Illinois Chapter is currently updating its bylaws and procedural manual

Indiana Chapter**By Dave Meuninck**

A number of activities have occurred since winter. The Chapter President was fortunate enough to attend the Midwest in Omaha. Indiana AFS was awarded Most Active Small Chapter. Chapter members attended a State legislative event to discuss natural resource issues with legislators. A joint effort was put forth with Michigan and Ohio to host a mussel workshop and annual spring technical session. And the Chapter contributed \$450 worth of equipment toward the Katrina Disaster Relief Effort.



For the first time, the Chapter President was able to attend a Midwest meeting on Chapter funding. This gave the Chapter President the opportunity to participate in a Governing Board meeting, attend a Division business meeting, accept recognition for the most active small chapter and attend many sessions and a few technical committee meetings. The Indiana Chapter had contributed \$500 toward the Rivers and Streams Symposium help bring in presenters and donated \$50 for the "Beginning Your Professional Journey" student workshop for the purchase of printed material. Funding the Chapter President's attendance at the Midwest was adopted last Fall and will continue indefinitely.

For many years, the Chapter hosted an annual legislative reception. This gave an opportunity for members to interact with legislators during Indiana's spring legislative

session. Now, the Chapter has joined the Indiana Conservation Alliance (INCA) to achieve the same collaboration with legislators but in association with other organizations, such as the Nature Conservancy-Indiana Chapter. The event is called Conservation Day at the Statehouse and is a spring annual event.

The joint workshop and spring meeting was held at Pokagon State Park in northeast Indiana. An untimely snow storm rushed through the central part of the state and prevented nearly two dozen people from attending. The plenary speaker was stuck in an airport. Despite the lower attendance, the workshop and meeting were a great success and many enjoyed a quarter-mile toboggan run that's run by the park. A summary of the workshop and meeting can be found at the Chapter's website: <http://www.fisheries.org/units/indiana>. While there, check out the Chapter's award winning newsletter.

The Chapter was eager to help out with the Katrina Disaster Relief Effort. Working with the Mississippi Division of Marine Resources, \$450 worth of equipment was purchased by the Chapter and shipped to their Seafood Technology Bureau. Personnel there were very grateful. Though the hurricanes of 2005 may now seem a long time ago, many fishery organizations in the Southern Division are in dire need of assistance. Please contact Danielle Pender, SDAFS Disaster Relief Coordinator, by phone at 919-858-9000 or by e-mail to danielle.pender@earthlink.net to find out what your chapter can do to help.

Iowa Chapter

By Mark Flammang

The Iowa Chapter held its annual meeting jointly with the Nebraska and Kansas Chapters in Council Bluffs, Iowa on January 18-20. The first "Tristate" meeting between these chapters was highly successful and was attended by more than 200 members. A total of 32 oral presentations and 20 poster presentations were made during this meeting. Topics ranged from culture to watershed-based fishery management. This was the Iowa Chapter's first exposure to a meeting that extended into the weekend and it was highly popular! The Best Professional Paper award was given to Joe Larscheid of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for his presentation entitled 'Development of an optimal stocking strategy for walleye in Spirit, East Okoboji, and West Okoboji Lakes'. Best Student Paper was Andy Jansen for his paper entitled 'Assessment of smallmouth bass populations in Iowa interior rivers'. Best Student Poster was awarded to Zac Jackson for his poster entitled 'Precision in Carp Ages'.



Specific points of interest during the Iowa Chapter business meeting included the presentation of the NCD Fisheries Excellence Award to Kay Hill, retired fisheries biologist for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Also recognized for their efforts were the Iowa State Student Subunit who received the award for the Most Active Student Subunit

for the second time since their organization and Zac Jackson, winner of the Joan Duffy Travel Award for 2007. Congratulations to all involved.

Michigan Chapter

By Andy Nuhfer

The Michigan Chapter held its spring meeting jointly with the Ohio and Indiana Chapters in Angola Indiana on February 14-15, 2007. On February 13-14, members of all three chapters participated in a freshwater mussel identification and ecology workshop conducted by Dr. Tom Watters, Museum of Biological Diversity, Ohio State University. In spite of blizzard conditions, 26 persons were able to attend the workshop. Participants learned many fascinating aspects of mussel reproductive biology and how this relates to protection and conservation. A large variety of mussel specimens were provided for hands-on training in mussel identification.



Twenty three oral presentations were given at the joint meeting and 13 posters were presented. The joint meeting format provided opportunities to learn about a more diverse set of studies and issues than a typical single-state meeting. Meeting participants were very enthusiastic about the joint meeting format and the opportunity to interact with members of neighboring states.

During the past year our Executive Committee made revisions to our bylaws and procedural manual to more accurately reflect the structure and operation of the Chapter. The changes to bylaws were approved by the AFS governing board. Our Membership Committee aggressively pursued getting inactive former chapter members to reactivate their memberships and signed up 43 new members in 2006. Our chapter web page has been updated several times recently. Check it out at www.fisheries.org/miafs

At the spring business meeting chapter members voted to donate \$400 to the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biologist Program. They also voted to increase the student travel grant to attend National AFS meetings from \$125 to \$500. The student grant to attend Midwest Fish and Wildlife conferences was increased from \$125 to \$250.

Ellie Koon of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was awarded the Chapter's Justin W. Leonard award in recognition of her outstanding professional competence and achievement in the field of fisheries and aquatic biology in Michigan. The Albert S. Hazzard Award, which recognizes excellence in student research in fisheries and aquatic biology at a college or university in Michigan, was awarded to Robin DeBruyne of Central Michigan University. The award for Best Student Paper at the 2007 meeting was given to Matthew Breen of Grand Valley State University.

The Michigan Chapter is co-sponsoring a course entitled "Succeeding with a Dam Removal Project" that will be held in East Lansing November 5-7, 2007. In addition the

chapter is working on plans to sponsor future workshops on topics ranging from GIS, road/stream crossing design, larval fish identification, and fluvial geomorphology.

Our next annual meeting in spring 2008 will be held at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Missouri Chapter

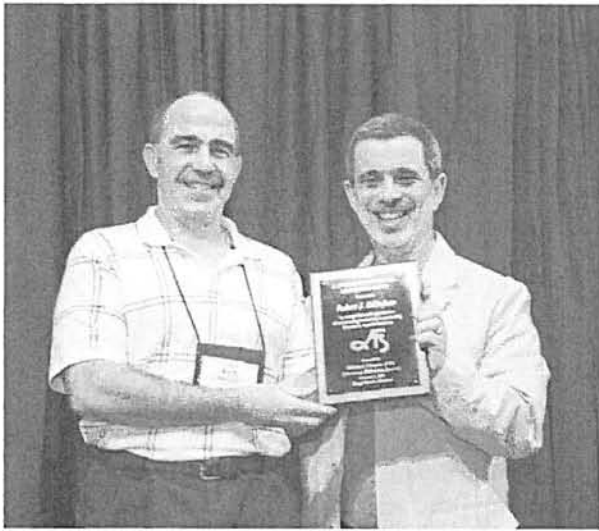
By Vince Travnichek



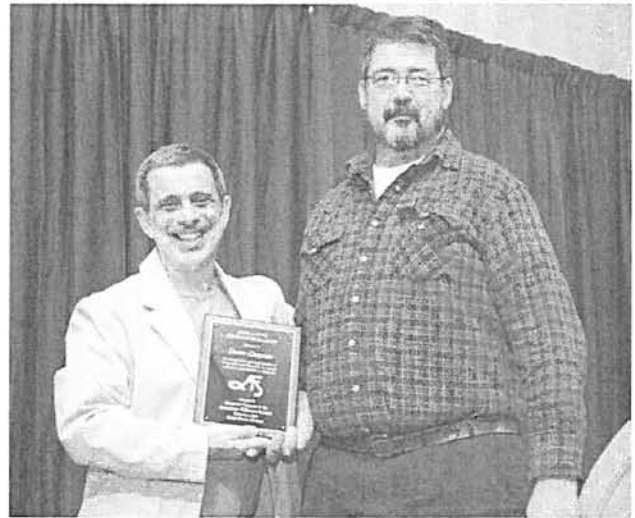
The Missouri Chapter held its annual meeting in February in conjunction with the Missouri Natural Resources Conference, an annual meeting organized and sponsored by state chapters of the American Fisheries Society, Society of American Foresters, The Wildlife Society, and the Soil and Water Conservation Society. This unique blend of disciplines, represented by the four societies, promotes wise use and management of Missouri's natural resources. Each year the conference hosts about 1,000 natural resource professionals who meet to exchange information and ideas and encourage continued cooperation among resource professionals, agencies, and other natural resource stakeholders. The focus of this year's conference was on implementing the Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy (CWS).

In addition to the half day plenary session on CWS, the conference had ten different workshops on topics such as invasive species, grant writing, human dimensions, and the farm bill. One highlight of the conference was a Chapter sponsored workshop on stream advocacy. The workshop goal was to bring stakeholders together to begin laying the framework to disseminate information and coordinate advocacy efforts for a stronger voice on aquatic resource related issues in Missouri. The conference also had concurrent contributed paper sessions dealing with forest, fish, and wildlife, as well as a poster session.

The Chapter recognized the passing of Jim Kahrs at the annual business meeting. Jim was our second Chapter president, and he was inducted into the National Fish Culture Hall of Fame in 1999. The Chapter donated an old hatching jar, once used by Jim, in his memory to the Missouri Department of Conservation for display at the visitor center at Lost Valley Fish Hatchery. The highlight of the conference was the awards banquet. The Chapter presented two awards. The John Funk Award of Excellence went to Chapter member Duane Chapman in recognition of his 25 years of service and leadership to the Chapter and Society. While Duane has worked tirelessly on many aquatic resource issues in Missouri, he has distinguished himself as a recognized authority on Asian carp biology, ecology, and management. The Leadership Award named after A. Stephen Weithman, Jr. was presented to Bob DiStefano for his contributions to understanding of crayfish ecology, service to the Chapter and Society, and probably most importantly his efforts to mentor young professionals entering the aquatic ecology field. Finally, the Chapter raised over \$1,000 at the conference with their raffle and silent auction, with earnings earmarked for student support.



Bob DiStefano, left, receives the A. Stephen Weithman, Jr. Leadership Award from awards chair Chris Vitello.



Duane Chapman, right, receives the John Funk Award of Excellence from awards chair Chris Vitello.

Ohio Chapter

By Andy Burt

The 47th Annual Fish and Wildlife Conference entitled "Fish and Wildlife Diseases, Under the Microscope" was co-hosted with the Ohio Chapter of the Wildlife Society and the Ohio Fish and Wildlife Management Society on February 2nd in Columbus. The conference was attended by over 250 students and professionals from across the state. The conference was again a success and was a great opportunity to renew old acquaintances and build new ones.



The Chapter business meeting was held on February 2nd in Columbus, with 39 members in attendance. At the annual meeting, the DVD 'Fish Management, Science of the Seas' was distributed to fisheries educators. The 14-minute video was produced by the Ohio chapter and the Ohio Division of Wildlife. The video was designed as a teaching tool to educate middle school and high school students about fish management and how professionals manage fishery resources. The video will soon be available on the Chapter's website at <http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~ocafs> and on Google videos. At the meeting, a resolution was passed encouraging the Division of Wildlife and lawmakers to pass legislation that will address the Lake Erie commercial fishing industry's disregard of fishery regulations in Ohio.

The Ohio chapter also assisted in planning the Tri-State meeting with the Michigan and Indiana chapters. However, blizzard like conditions in Ohio prevented many members

from attending the conference. There are high hopes that next years conference will have better travel conditions.

On April 9th, the Ohio chapter held a Student Colloquium where undergraduate students were given a forum to refine presentation skills and gain insights about graduate school and job seeking.

August is shaping up to be a busy month as the chapter is currently planning its summer meeting to be held at The Wilds nature park as well as sponsoring a workshop on statistical analyzes of fisheries data. All updates will be posted on the Chapter website.

Ontario Chapter

By Bill Gardner



ONTARIO CHAPTER

The Ontario Chapter held our annual meeting on March 1-3, 2007 in Orillia (about 2 hours north of Toronto). Despite the freakish snow/ice storm that occurred it was very well attended. Our president-elect Mr. Jack Imhof, put together a wonderful program of speakers from a diverse group of presenters. The winner of the annual EJ Crossman award was: Mason Marchildon from the University of Waterloo for his talk entitled: *Hydrodynamic Properties of Brown Trout and Rainbow Trout Redd's*. More information of the program can be obtained from our website (www.afs-oc.org). The Society's Board of Governors just approved our bylaw amendments (housekeeping type changes) but the most exciting news came when we heard that they approved the existence of the Ontario Student Sub-unit. This subunit has already been involved in a number of activities to raise the focus of AFS and the fisheries profession in Ontario. The big fisheries news in and around Ontario is the spread of VHS (Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus) throughout the Great lakes (though it is not in Superior yet!). Many folks, fish farmers and resource managers alike) are waiting to see what this summer will bring. The Canadian Federal government is in the process of rewriting the Fisheries act, an act that either directly governs or affects most fisheries activity in Canada. The Ontario Chapter has struck a committee to examine and possibly comment on the proposed changes. Planning for the 2008 Society meeting is well underway. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ontario Chapter are co-hosting the meeting. It looks like it will be a great meeting (more details will be announced after the AFS San Francisco meeting). Anyone interested in submitting items to the Ontario Chapter newsletter should contact Deb DePasquale. Her email is: deb.depasquale@gmail.com.

News & Announcements

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!!!
68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference
December 9-12, 2007 in Madison, WI
<http://midwest.ncd-afs.org>

The Midwest Conference Steering Committee is looking for eager volunteers willing to devote their time and talents to assist in hosting the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison. The conference is an excellent opportunity to meet and interact with professionals and prospective, future employers in the natural resources field. Scientific papers from the Midwest will be featured. The Conference theme is **"Be The Change: Manage Locally, Conserve Globally"**. Mahatma Gandhi's "You must be the change you want to see in the world" was a call for local, individual action to make a difference. Help make a difference by volunteering!

Please visit the conference website: <http://midwest.ncd-afs.org> or contact Jamie Nack (608-265-8264 or jlnack@wisc.edu) for more information and a Volunteer Application form. Payment is available for eligible volunteers. All volunteers will receive a FREE long-sleeved, sustainably-made, cotton conference t-shirt. Volunteer Forms are due October 15th. Thank You!!

Student Awards

Paper and Poster Sessions were held in conjunction with the 67th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Omaha, Nebraska in December 2006. Student participants in those sessions were all scored by at least 3 different professional peers. As a result of that scoring process, four awards were selected as best in their category. The categories were best student wildlife paper, best student fisheries paper, best student wildlife poster and best student fisheries paper.

Please join the Student Events Committee in recognizing the excellence of the following four students. Each was awarded \$100 for their great work.

Best Student Fisheries Paper—Andrew Jansen, South Dakota State University
Best Student Wildlife Poster—Bret Graves, Ohio State University
Best Student Fisheries Paper—Katie Bertrand, Kansas State University
Best Student Wildlife Paper—Chadwick Rittenhouse, University of Missouri

The Second Annual "Beginning Your Professional Journey" Workshop was a Big Success!

The second annual "Beginning your Professional Journey" workshop, a full-day professional development workshop for undergraduate students majoring in Fisheries and Wildlife, was hosted by the 2006 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference on Sunday, December 3, 2006.

Thank you to our conference sponsors, Steve Riley of Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and Professor Drew Tyre of University of Nebraska, Lincoln. We also thank the Iowa, Minnesota, Michigan, and Indiana Chapters of American Fisheries Society for their generous donations that enabled us to provide the new edition of "A Guide to Fisheries Employment" for each workshop participant. We owe a big "thank you!" to John Esson and the staff at the Environmental Career Center for their very generous donations of the current Green Careers Journal and a free one-year subscription to the Journal for all workshop participants, and a free 90 day unlimited jobs posting account for each professional participant. And thank you to the many professionals who volunteered their time and expertise during the workshop!

Twenty-eight students participated in the workshop. At the start of the day, in addition to, each student participant was presented with a copy of the AFS "Guide to Fisheries Employment", a binder full of resource materials for their use as they prepare for their first post-baccalaureate positions and a supply of "business cards" to be used while networking with professionals during the conference.

"Beginning your Professional Journey" consisted of four sessions. Mike Pagel, Natural Resources & Sciences Employment Specialist at University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, kicked off the day with a presentation entitled, "10 Ways to Cut your Journey Short." Students were given advice in an entertaining and memorable fashion on how not to land a position in graduate school or as an employee. Trent Sutton, Associate Professor of Fisheries Biology at Purdue University, led a session that focused on professional correspondence, particularly resumes. After a mid-morning break, participants heard from academic and employer panels. The academic panel consisted of four speakers from various academic institutions who presented information on the requirements for getting into graduate schools, and tips for developing a dialogue with a faculty member with whom a student would like to work. The employer panel consisted of four individuals from various employment sectors including federal and state agencies, a wildlife damage operator, and a non-profit organization. Panel members discussed the desired skill sets, variety of positions, and current and predicted opportunities within their organizations. An interactive question and answer period followed the panel presentations. Following the lunch break, Mike Pagel led a session on interviewing. The day's final session, Networking, was presented by Jill Brown, Career Specialist at University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Following her presentation, Jill provided students with an opportunity to practice their networking skills with professionals at the workshop and prepare for the Conference reception being held later that evening. Kandi Schnurer, a

senior at Lake Superior State University and participant at the 2005 workshop, gave a brief presentation to students on pulling everything together that they were presented with during the day to provide coherent guidance in career and/or graduate school preparation. Students were invited to meet with Mike Pagel during the conference to receive one-on-one consultation regarding their job or graduate school searches, and nineteen elected to do so.

Students and professionals greatly appreciated their participation in the workshop. All participants felt that the workshop had been worth the time and money they spent in order to attend. The interviewing and networking sessions seemed especially helpful to students based on their assessments. All students indicated that they would recommend participation in the workshop to others.

Plans are underway for the next "Beginning your Professional Journey Workshop" to be held at the 2007 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. If you plan to attend the conference and would like to be involved in the workshop as a professional leader or potential session leader, please contact Jim Schneider (schne181@msu.edu) or Eric Anderson (eanderso@uwsp.edu). We look forward to seeing you in Madison!

Great Lakes Fish Health Committee Awarded

The Great Lakes Fish Health Committee (GLFHC) of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission received the President's Fishery Conservation Award from the American Fisheries Society (AFS) at the 136th AFS Annual Meeting in Lake Placid, New York, on September 11, 2006. The award was accepted on behalf of the committee by Bill Taylor of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. The President's Fishery Conservation Award is presented for an activity or accomplishment that advances aquatic resource conservation at the regional, national, or international level. The GLFHC was established in 1973 by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission at the request of its Lake Michigan Committee. This



Bill Taylor of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission accepts the President's Fishery Conservation Award on behalf of the Great Lakes Fish Health Committee from AFS President Chris Kohler. Photo by Jim Clayton.

award recognizes the collective accomplishments of the fish health professionals, managers, and researchers who have served on the committee since its inception. With strong initiative from Jim Warren (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), the GLFHC developed principles and programs for preventing and containing serious fish diseases (e.g., Great Lakes Fish Disease Control Policy and Model Program). The accomplishments of the GLFHC are many. While stocking to rehabilitate depleted fish stocks and to build sports fisheries, they have denied entry to serious pathogens such as the viruses responsible for infectious hematopoietic necrosis and viral hemorrhagic septicemia, at least through government hatchery vectors. GLFHC members have checked the public-sector spread of parasites and pathogens such as whirling disease and infectious pancreatic necrosis virus. In addition to promoting the health of hatchery fish destined for the Great Lakes, managers, fish health professionals, and researchers collaborated to understand and meet emerging threats to the health and survival of wild fish, such as spring viremia of carp, the parasite *Heterosporis*, bacterial kidney disease, largemouth bass virus, and early mortality syndrome (or thiamine deficiency syndrome). For 33 years, the GLFHC has made long-term contributions that advanced aquatic resource conservation throughout the Great Lakes ecosystem. This award is presented to the GLFHC past and current chairmen who have led the efforts of this team, including: Gary Whelan, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (current chair); Greg Wright, Chippewa-Ottawa Resource Authority; Joe Marcino, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; Rick Nelson, La Crosse Fish Health Center, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Rodney Hornier, Illinois Department of Natural Resources; John Schachte, New York Department of Environmental Conservation; Al Sippel, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; Tim Carey, Fisheries and Oceans Canada; John Byrne, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; and Jim Warren, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

What is the largest bony fish?

If you are like me, you probably waited until the last minute to renew your AFS membership for 2007. When you renew, please consider this invitation. The Education Section of the American Fisheries Society invites you to join our Section. Education Section activities, including preparation and revision of textbooks, support of student travel to meetings, and compilation of brochures on academic programs and fisheries career opportunities. One focus of the section is undergraduate and graduate education. However, the Education Section also supports lifelong learning of all fisheries professionals. We encourage all fisheries professionals to expand their minds through the pursuit of new knowledge. To that end, we are sponsoring a "Largest Fish" contest.

What is the largest bony fish known to science? If you think you know the answer, email your response to Steve Lochmann (slochmann@uaex.edu). We will provide a small incentive to some lucky individual, randomly chosen from among the respondents with the correct answer. Take some time, explore the possibilities, and see what there

is to learn about really big fish. You must be a member of the Education Section to be eligible for the "small incentive."

Division Business Stuff

Resolution to Urge Passage of Authorization and Appropriations for the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Dispersal Barrier

1 February 2007
DRAFT
Prepared by Phil Moy

Whereas the Great Lakes commercial and sport fisheries have an economic impact totaling over \$4.2 billion annually and

Whereas the Mississippi River fisheries has an annual economic value of \$4.1 billion and

Whereas aquatic invasive species threaten the economies and ecosystems of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River and

Whereas the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal is a man-made connection between these two major ecosystems and

Whereas the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal served as a pathway for the spread of round goby and zebra mussels out of the Great Lakes and

Whereas the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal provides a pathway for the spread of aquatic invasive species such as bighead and silver carp upstream into the Great Lakes and

Whereas the bighead and silver carp are expanding their range northward towards Lake Michigan and

Whereas separation of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal from Lake Michigan is unlikely in the near term and

Whereas an electric dispersal demonstration barrier has been partially constructed in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal but requires additional funding for completion, be it therefore

Resolved that the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society recommends the federal government pass legislation that:

- appropriates sufficient funds to complete construction of and operate the new electric dispersal barrier in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal
- unifies the demonstration barrier with the new barrier as a single federal project
- makes the demonstration barrier permanent
- and appropriates sufficient funds for operation of and to make the demonstration barrier permanent

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 Stuart Shipman at 9:00 A.M. in the Lincoln Room, Doubletree Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska, on December 3, 2006. Executive Committee members in attendance were Past-president Bradford Parsons, President-elect Joseph Hennessy, and Secretary-treasurer Randall Schultz. Nineteen NCD-AFS Governing Board members were in attendance, and introductions were made. President Shipman displayed the minutes from the Executive Committee NCD-AFS 2005 Governing Board meeting held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, December 2005. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded and passed. Randy Schultz provided the Treasurer's Report for 2005-2006. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded and passed.

President Shipman began a discussion of the Areas of his Annual Plan of Work. President Shipman noted more emphasis would be placed on the National Fisheries Habitat Initiative. President Shipman also made known partnerships, data sharing, and joint projects would be planned.

President Shipman began a discussion of a need for higher vision for the NCD-AFS at Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conferences instead of simply having a business meeting. This would be accomplished through continuing education, which President Shipman said could also be an income generator for the NCD-AFS. President-elect Joseph Hennessy will work with the 2007 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Program Committee to ensure higher vision of the NCD-AFS at next year's meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. Past-president Brad Parsons mentioned NCD-AFS Chapters are doing a great job generating continuing education projects, and that Chapters work with the NCD-AFS for such projects. Tim Simonson discussed that technical committees could be more involved with developing the program at the 2007 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. President Shipman agreed these committees should work closer with Midwest Fish and

Wildlife Conference planning committees. Cindy Tomcko mentioned the Centrarchid Technical Committee will work with the 2007 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference Planning Committee to develop a bioenergetics modeling workshop next December. President-elect Joe Hennessy said more communication between the NCD-AFS EXCOM and Chapter Presidents is needed concerning more ideas and continuity for new Chapter Presidents. President-elect Hennessy encouraged new Chapter Presidents to look at other Chapter websites for ideas and communication. Talk ensued about awards. President Shipman said President-elect Hennessy was doing a good job with the awards for this year, and encouraged Chapter Presidents to place Chapter awards on the NCD-AFS website for more vision.

Discussion ensued about the last survey of NCD-AFS membership and some reasoning as to why no racial minority groups are members. The AFS Parent Society needs to reach toward minorities to draw them into the AFS, and, NCD-AFS. President Shipman noted Chapters need to ensure they nominate students for the Joan Duffy Student Travel Award.

Vince Travnichuk asked for clarification of how Chapters could take a larger role with the NCD-AFS website. President Shipman encouraged Chapters to keep their websites lively and updated. President-elect Hennessy mentioned news-bits and awards, especially, are needed. Information can be forwarded to President-elect Hennessy, who maintains the NCD-AFS website. President Shipman encouraged Chapters to notify President-elect Hennessy about Chapter meetings and changes in Chapter leadership. Past-president Parsons discussed ongoing debate over separating Chapter and Parent Society membership. People will, hopefully, see the value of Chapter membership and extend that involvement toward NCD-AFS and Parent Society membership. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept his Plan of Work, which was seconded and passed.

President Shipman proposed his budget for the coming year. Much discussion ensued on Michigan Chapter's proposed Jan Fenske Memorial Award. Discussion surrounded funding of the award along with the other Student Initiatives that need funding. After much discussion Tim Simonson proposed the NCD-AFS budget the complete amount needed for the Jan Fenske Memorial Award (\$750). President Shipman suggested the NCD-AFS will budget up to \$750 but will request Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference host state Chapter funding. This will allow the NCD-AFS another outlet for communication with individual Chapters. President Shipman also noted this is a chance for the NCD-AFS to reach out to students. President Shipman asked for a motion for the NCD-AFS to subsidize up to \$750 and look for additional funding from other Chapters. The motion was made, seconded, and passed.

President Shipman continued the discussion on Student Initiatives to determine where the Governing Board foresaw money for student groups being spent. Some discussion followed concerning the many groups that contact the NCD-AFS for funding donations. President Shipman said we should be using money for important causes since the NCD-AFS does have the money to spend. President Shipman pointed-out that if the NCD-AFS is more relevant to a larger audience, especially students through donations to Student

Initiatives, we will eventually increase our membership. Lynn Schluetter mentioned funding Student Initiatives at a high level is a good source of advertising for the NCD-AFS. Conversation led to Casey Schoenebeck's discussion of the Student Affairs Committee's informational brochure and associated costs of printing (approximately \$200). This is an informational brochure aimed at increasing student participation in the NCD-AFS. Casey clarified the brochure also advertises workshops and scholarships available. The brochure would be sent to subunits and also placed on the NCD-AFS website. Some discussion ensued on production of the brochure at a lesser cost. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept the proposed budget. The motion was offered by Lynn Schluetter and seconded by Chris Mammoliti. No other discussion ensued, and the proposed budget was passed.

Highlights of committee reports were presented. Many Chapters are hosting joint meetings this year, are involved with student initiatives, updating web pages and bylaws.

Past-president Parsons reported on the Nominating Committee. Jessica Mistak has been elected Vice-president, Mike Staggs re-elected to the AFS Nominating Committee, and Randy Schultz re-elected as Secretary-treasurer.

Casey Schoenebeck brought the Governing Board up to date with activities of the Student Affairs Committee. The Student Affairs Committee is developing an informational brochure, and maintaining an active list of student organizations within the NCD-AFS. The Student Affairs Committee is also in the process of deciphering how Chapters award the Joan Duffy Award. There is no consensus, and, for many students the procedures are unknown.

President-elect Hennessy informed the Governing Board on awards. Seven Joan Duffy Student Travel Awards were awarded this year, but only two applications for Best Large Chapter were received, and one application for Best Small Chapter.

Technical Committees of the NCD-AFS updated the Governing Board on activities. Cindy Tomcko related the Centrarchid Technical Committee's (CTC) summer meeting would be held at Wyalusing State Park, Wisconsin. The CTC will sponsor a centrarchid Bioenergetics Workshop at the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Madison, Wisconsin. Lewis Bruce (IA) is the new Chair.

Tim Simonson updated the Governing Board on activities of the Esocid Technical Committee (ETC). The ETC is working on the Proceedings of the 2nd International Musky Symposium. The Proceedings will be published as a block of papers in the Environmental Biology of Fishes. The ETC has also been working on verbiage within their bylaws that will ensure attendance of the state/province representatives to their annual meeting. The ETC is planning an increase of their fees for general members at the annual meeting in an effort to subsidize student fees.

Greg Pitchford updated the Governing Board on the activities of the Ictalurid Technical Committee (ITC). The ITC donated \$300 to the Rivers and Streams Technical Committee to help support their Stream Monitoring Symposium being held all three days at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. The ITC is working on a potential sampling workshop at a summer meeting to be announced. The 2nd International Catfish Symposium will be held as a joint symposium with the Southern Division AFS in Memphis, Tennessee, during June 2010.

Steve Pescitelli updated the Governing Board on the activities of the Rivers and Streams Technical Committee (RSTC). The RSTC is hosting a Stream Monitoring Symposium at this year's Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. The Symposium will last all three days, with 43 presentations.

For New Business, President Shipman notified the Governing Board that some aspects of the Bylaws will be updated. Hearing no further New Business, President Shipman accepted a motion to adjourn at 11:53 a.m.

Business Meeting Minutes

Past-president Brad Parsons called the 50th annual meeting of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society (NCD-AFS) Business Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska, on December 4, 2006. Past-president Parsons recognized a quorum existed, and asked for additions to the Agenda. Hearing no additions, Past-president Parsons turned the meeting over to President Stuart Shipman. As his first order of business, President Shipman awarded a plaque and certificate of appreciation to Past-president Parsons for his service to the NCD-AFS as President. Afterwards, President Shipman welcomed everyone to the business meeting. President Shipman gave a special welcome to AFS President Jennifer Nielsen and AFS Executive Director Ghassan Rassam, and thanked them for their attendance at both the business meeting, and the 67th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Past-presidents of the NCD-AFS were also acknowledged. President Shipman also acknowledged Chapter Presidents and Standing Committee Chairs and Technical Committee Chairs for their efforts to keep the NCD-AFS on track. President Shipman asked AFS President Nielsen to address the business meeting. President Nielsen updated attendees on her Plan of Work for the year. The title of President Nielsen's Plan of Work is Thinking Downstream and Down Current: Addressing Uncertainty and Unintended Consequences. President Nielsen elaborated that her Plan of Work will be looking at changes that occur across jurisdictions, as elements of fisheries research, science, and management. President Nielsen spoke on the upcoming annual AFS meeting in San Francisco, California, September 2 – 5, 2007. President Nielsen encouraged the membership to make reservations soon at this fabulous venue, noting that 17 symposia have been proposed. President Nielsen moved on to discuss her expansion on Past-president Christopher Kohler's initiative for a new AFS journal. The journal has been approved by the Governing Board, and Steve Cooke is chairing an oversight committee to get the journal

underway. The new journal will concentrate on coastal and marine issues, and will be electronic-only. Additionally, the journal is open-access, meaning anyone can access the journal without a subscription. President Nielsen is hoping to reach to the "next generation" with this format. President Nielsen next updated attendees on an international tagging meeting that will be held in New Zealand during 2008. The meeting will incorporate new technological advances and older techniques in an effort to address management issues associated with tagging.

President Shipman introduced Executive Director Ghassan Rassam and asked the Director to address the attendees. Director Rassam thanked the audience for the invitation to attend the 67th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and the chance to speak to the NCD-AFS. Director Rassam relayed the on-going success of the Hutton Program. Director Rassam discussed the need for an endowment to support the Hutton Program into the future. The Hutton Program has been relying heavily on agency support to date. At the current level of funding, the Hutton Program can support approximately 40 students per year. Participation has declined over the past three years. Director Rassam relayed that he has been working with the Wildlife Society, among others, to expand the Hutton Program to more of a natural resources program with components from other societies. Director Rassam wants to work with units to make the Hutton Program less of a local program and make selections broader. Director Rassam continued to discuss collaborations with the Wildlife Society, and also international activities with the AFS. Director Rassam informed attendees that the AFS now has active international units in Mexico, Pakistan, India, Japan, Australia, and China. Director Rassam noted the next World Fisheries Conference would be in October, 2008, in Yokohama, Japan.

President Shipman displayed the minutes from the Annual Business Meeting of the NCD-AFS 2006 meeting held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, December 2006. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept the minutes (Dave Willis), which was seconded (Angie Grier) and passed. Randy Schultz provided the Treasurer's Report for 2005-2006. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report (Dave Meuninck), which was seconded (Ed Braun). Some discussion was led by President Shipman on travel expenses for the last several meetings. Attendees then passed the Treasurer's Report.

President Shipman moved on to discussion of Action Items. President Shipman led a discussion of his Plan of Work, giving an overview of his 13 Action Item points. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept his Plan of Work for the coming year (John Epifanio), which was seconded (Mike Brown) and passed.

President Shipman continued discussion on his budget for the coming year. Chapters will be encouraged to identify procedures for the Joan Duffy Award and other student affairs, and chapters will be encouraged to participate more fully in student initiatives. President Shipman began a discussion of a need for higher vision for the NCD-AFS at Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conferences instead of simply having a business meeting. Phil Moy put forward a point of discussion to raise the profile of the NCD-AFS by sponsorship

of the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Discussion ensued on President-elect Joe Hennessy's unique role as both NCD-AFS President next year and his role on the planning committee for next year's Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. The decision of sponsorship by the NCD-AFS for future Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conferences was deferred to the Governing Board to pursue increased visibility of the NCD-AFS at future Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conferences. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept the 2006-2007 budget (Bruce Vondracek), which was seconded (Jack Wingate) and passed.

President Shipman discussed proposed procedure and bylaw changes that had been published in the Mainstream newsletter. President Shipman noted this is mostly an effort to have procedures and bylaws match. President Shipman asked for a motion to accept the proposed procedure and bylaw changes (Phil Moy), which was seconded (Todd Wills) and passed. No Business items were proposed by attendees to be taken forward.

President-elect Hennessy provided the Awards Committee Report. The most active small chapter for 2006 was awarded to Indiana; most active large chapter was awarded to Minnesota. The most active student subunit was a tie between Iowa State and Southern Illinois Universities. The Fisheries Excellence Award was given to Kay Hill, Iowa, for his 36 years of service to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The NCD-AFS awarded seven Joan Duffy Student Travel Awards.

Past-president Brad Parsons reported on nominations. Jessica Mistak (Michigan Chapter) was elected Vice President, Randy Schultz re-elected Secretary-treasurer, Mike Staggs re-elected to AFS Nominating Committee. Past-president Parsons welcomed Jessica and thanked all who agree to run for office.

President Shipman announced that the NCD-AFS Briefing Book would be placed on the website. This will, hopefully, foster recruitment and more involvement. President Shipman encouraged participation in the Division. President Shipman asked that any unfinished business be announced. President-elect Hennessy discussed and promoted the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference to be held December 9 – 12 in Madison, Wisconsin at the Monona Terrace Convention Center (Midwest.ncd-afs.org). Hearing no further unfinished business, President Shipman asked for a motion to adjourn. John Epifanio so motioned, numerous seconds were heard, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

NCD Midyear Report

Submitted February 19, 2007

I. Motion Report:

- (A) Recommended Motion: Reduce dues for members that reside in North America that are willing to receive "Fisheries" online at a rate comparable to members outside of North America. The Kansas Chapter passed a resolution requesting this change in dues structure for Society membership and asked NCD leadership to move the item to the full governing board for action.
- (B) Minority View: Remove the reduced dues options for members outside of North America that receive "Fisheries" online.
- (C) Background for Motion:

Regular members within North America pay dues at an annual cost of \$76.00 with regular members outside of North America pay annual dues of \$88.00. However, current dues structure allows for regular members outside of North America to pay dues at a reduced annual rate of \$44.00 with the option of receiving "Fisheries" online. Online subscription to "Fisheries" lack advertising. Vendors that pay for ads in "Fisheries" subsidize the publication which helps keep cost down and quality high. In turn vendors are paying for ads based on the number of printed issues provided to members along with other considerations. Mailing costs to distribute "Fisheries" outside of North America are high and not commensurate with membership fees. Therefore, AFS has provided reduced cost membership including "Fisheries" online as a cost saving measure for AFS while still providing service to members living outside of North America. The Society's Executive Director Gus Rassam indicated that few members took advantage of the fee reduction in general preferring to receive a printed version of "Fisheries." Other options may be considered such as including ads on the online version of "Fisheries" to increase consumer access to the information.

II Activity Report:

(A) Charge or Annual Program of Work: Work plan included in at the end of this report.

(B) Summary of Outcomes and Accomplishments:

AS 1, Local and Global Leadership:

- The Kansas Chapter passed a resolution to retain the statutory language requiring the Secretary of Kansas Wildlife and Parks continue to be a person with education and training in resource management.
- NCD continues to support protection of the Great Lakes from AIS species, particularly Asian carp via the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal and has passed several resolutions in support of full Federal funding for the construction,

operation and maintenance of the barriers. NCD is also watching closely the emerging issue of VHS in the Great Lakes and will take appropriate, timely action as necessary.

AS 2, Stewardship Education:

- The River and Stream Technical Committee convened a symposium titled "Statewide and Regional Stream and River Monitoring Programs: Overviews and Applications" at the 2006 Midwest. RSTC is also working with the Fish and Wildlife Service to develop both training and symposia on fish passage and barrier removal.
- The Ictalurid Technical Committee is continuing its planning efforts to host "The Second International Catfish Symposium" in late June 2010 in Memphis, TN.
- Nebraska Chapter sent letters to legislators in opposition to a bill that eliminates in-stream protection of the Platte River.
- Many chapters hosted meetings and symposia with stewardship components.

ITO 1, Visibility:

- Numerous members of NCD chapters and student subunits have been actively involved with K-12 and other outreach activities that promote the fisheries profession such as: judging state high school science fairs, 4-H and State fairs, participating in high school and university job fairs, conducting disabled anglers and children's fishing events, sponsoring summer aquatic camps, and providing instruction for Project Aquatic, Earth Day, local conservation day and free fishing weekend events.
- Missouri Chapter provided staff time and financial assistance for the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation fund raiser.
- Minnesota Chapter continues to contribute \$150 towards and assists in judging "Lake Friendly Award" presented to property owners who demonstrate environmental stewardship on their developed lakeshore.

ITO 2, Collaboration:

- The NCD held its' 50th annual meeting in conjunction with the North Central Section of The Wildlife Society at the 67th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference December 3-6, 2006 in Omaha, NE. Both AFS President Jennifer Nielsen and Executive Director Gus Rassam attended and offered brief remarks.
- Ontario Chapter continued its participation with the Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research and Canadian Aquatic Resources Section meetings. NCD financially supported student travel to this event.
- Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas as well as Michigan, Indiana and Ohio convened tri-state meetings this spring.
- Illinois meet jointly with The Wildlife Society and is already begun planning for the 2009 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference to be held in Illinois.
- Michigan Chapter held its annual meeting in 2006 in conjunction with Michigan DNR's spring biologist's conference.

- Missouri Chapter continued to meet with TWS, Forestry and Water Conservation Societies with over 1000 people attending.
- Minnesota Chapter excom met with Minnesota's Conservation Federation and Legislative Alliance to consider a constitutional amendment funding water quality projects and natural resource conservation.
- Wisconsin Chapter is actively involved in the planning of the 2007 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference to be held in Madison in December.

ITO 3, Professional Stature:

- In cooperation with AFS Computer User Section, representatives from many NCD chapters participated in the National Fisheries Data Summit in support of data needs and standards required for successful implementation of the National Fish Habitat Initiative.

ITO 4, Information Network:

- The new NCD website is up and running to facilitate information transfer among members at ncd-afs.org. We have also created a listserve via AFS to enhance communications with NCD membership.
- The Division and several Chapters now utilize online voting for officers as well as providing newsletters to their membership.
- My challenge to all the units was to update their websites and keep them current while maximizing the use of web services to communicate.

ITO 5, Public Policy:

- The Division passed a second resolution calling for Federal funding the operation of the Aquatic Invasive Species barriers on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal.
- Although too extensive to list, all 12 chapters have adopted resolutions, submitted opinions, and/or provided public testimony on numerous state, provincial, and local aquatic-related stewardship issues. Issues have ranged from dissolved oxygen standards, combined feeding operation and mercury emission standards to Asian carp and manure management.
- The Michigan Chapter joined other partners to kick-off the Michigan Rivers Partnership, a project to help clarify issues and opportunities surrounding dams and their effects on river restoration.
- The Ohio Chapter is crafting a resolution addressing current short comings of Ohio's Lake Erie commercial fishing regulations.
- The Ontario Chapter is a sponsor of a committee actively working to re-introduce Atlantic salmon in Lake Ontario.

MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition:

- The NCD Excellence in Fisheries Science Award was presented to Kay Hill from Iowa.
- The Most Active Large Chapter Award was presented to the Minnesota Chapter. Most Active Small Chapter Award to the Indiana Chapter.

- The Most Active Student Subunit Award was shared by South Illinois and Iowa State Universities.
- Seven students received Joan Duffy Travel Awards to support their attendance at the annual NCD meeting. Each Chapter is annually encouraged to nominate a student. The student affairs folks are working on a brochure to advertise the program and encourage greater participation.
- All 12 chapters provide annual awards to recognize best papers and posters, distinguished professional service, leadership, and/or citizen stewardship activities.
- NCD chapters support eleven student subunits. Currently, the Michigan Chapter is in the final stages of organizing a subunit for Lake Superior State University. Student subunits are all doing activities to raise awareness on their respective campuses. Some Chapters are also reaching out to local colleges that offer water or recreational related curriculum to encourage participation from a wider range of young professionals.
- NCD once again financially supported "Beginning Your Professional Journey," a workshop at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference for junior and senior level undergraduates as well as the Equal Opportunities Section travel program.
- The Ontario Chapter continues its efforts to host the AFS 2008 annual meeting in Ottawa.

MS 2, Science-Based Information:

- The Nebraska Chapter hosted the 67th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Omaha, NE.
- NCD Technical Committees continually provide a forum for technical, regulatory, and policy information exchange through their annual meetings, workshops, and other activities. Examples of current activities include: Continued planning on Catfish 2010 (Ictalurid) coordinated with the South Division; 2006 Midwest symposium "Statewide and Regional Stream and River Monitoring Systems, organizing a Great Lakes walleye symposium for 2007 Midwest and as well as an update of the FAO walleye synopsis (Walleye).
- Several Chapters recently hosted continuing education workshops. Examples include: Electrofishing workshop (Dakota); Mussel identification (Indiana, Ohio & Michigan); GIS workshop (Kansas); Rivers Information System, Aquatic Gap Analysis (Iowa); Fluvial Geomorphology (Michigan); a week long shoreline restoration workshop is being planned for 2007 (Minnesota); Missouri is planning a stream advocacy workshop for this summer; Statistical aspects of sampling freshwater fish populations and habitats (Ohio) and Biological Statistics for Fisheries Management (Wisconsin). NCD is working on several CE opportunities as part of the 2007 Midwest FWC.

MS 4, Diversity:

- The NCD contributed \$500 to the Clemens Rigler Fund to support graduate student travel to the Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research and Society of Canadian Limnologists annual meeting
- Annually, the NCD has contributed \$3,000 to the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biologist Program since its inception. Several Chapters have also contributed.
- The NCD contributed \$500 to the Equal Opportunities Section to support minority student travel to the 137th Annual AFS Meeting in San Francisco, CA. Several Chapters continue to donate as in the past.
- NCD adopted a new student initiative in 2005 at the Midwest FWC named after the late Jan Fenske (up to \$750 annually). Students in fish and wildlife from across the NCD are selected to participate with one fisheries and one wildlife student selected for the award. The host chapters are encouraged to also financial support the award.

MS 5, Strategic Plan Implementation:

- NCD Strategic Plan 2005-09, conforms to the new AFS plan.
- Results from the 2004 NCD membership survey is currently being used to focus the Division's financial resources on desired outcomes.
- NCD and all Chapters are continuing to update their bylaws and procedures manuals and enhance communications within their respective units.

(C) Recommendations or Suggestions for Future Consideration:

- 1) The North Central Division encourages other AFS Divisions to contribute financial support to the Hutton Jr. Program, Equal Opportunity Section, and the Clemens-Rigler Travel fund in support of student travel to the major fisheries meeting hosted annually for Canadian scientists.
- 2) The North Central Division provided input into discussion into new web services possibilities made possible by financial reserves and strongly recommends this be an ongoing, dynamic discussion.

III. Financial Status

Financial Statement – January 01, 2006 through December 22, 2006

The North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society has \$ 62,487.35 on hand as of November 22, 2006. This amount is divided between four accounts as follows.

Checking (0.90% interest)	\$ 1,916.69
Money Market (3.51% interest)	\$ 34,379.81
12-month CD (5.46% interest)	\$ 10,440.40
24-month CD (4.60% interest)	\$ 15,750.45

The North Central Division's share of all accounts is \$30,612.66, which includes the 12-month and 24-month CDs.

Major income items during the period were:

AFS dues rebate	\$ 8,534.80
Checking interest	\$ 12.38
Money market interest	\$ 880.78
CD interest	\$ 1,077.63

Major expense items during the period were:

Equal Opportunities Section, AFS	\$ 500.00
Boundgrid Technologies (NCD Website)	\$ 134.55
Clemens Rigler Travel Fund (student travel to Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research & Society of Canadian Limnologists)	\$ 500.00
RSTC Symposium	\$ 500.00
Travel	\$ 4,399.69

The Technical Committee's share of the Money Market Account is \$31,874.69. Account balance after income, money market disbursements and expenses.

Centrarchid	\$ 404.69
Esocid	\$ 581.17
Ictalurid	\$11,081.94
Rivers & Steams	\$ 1,598.71
Salmonid	\$ 8,134.44
Walleye	\$10,073.74

Proposed 2006-07 Plan of Work

Stuart Shipman, President

Joseph Hennessy, President Elect

Randy Schultz, Secretary-Treasurer

**Adopted by the membership at the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference
December 4, 2006**

Focus Areas: Aquatic Stewardship (AS), Information Transfer and Outreach (ITO), and Member Services (MS)

- 1) The NCD will be active in providing science-based information to assist policy makers and other publics in developing sound natural resource policies. NCD members are regionally and nationally recognized as important sources of science-

based information. The NCD also will support the implementation of the National Fish Habitat Initiative (NFHI) and continued development of the North American Fisheries Action Plan. (*Goal AS 1, Local and Global Leadership: Strategy AS 1.5, Targets 1.5a – 1.5b; Goal MS 2, Science-based Information: Strategy MS 2.1, Target MS 2.1b & c; Strategy MS 2.4, Target 2.4b*)

- 2) The NCD will support programs and activities produced by Division units to educate various publics on aquatic resource issues. The NCD also will disseminate and support use of FCF-derived materials to facilitate information transfer to general audiences. The NCD will promote conferences and symposia that focus on sustainability and sound stewardship. (*Goal AS 2, Stewardship Education: Strategy AS 2.1, Target 2.1b; AS 2.3, Target 2.3a; Strategy AS 2.10, Targets 2.10 a & b*)
- 3) The NCD will promote the use of sound science in the stewardship and conservation of aquatic ecosystems. The NCD will increase the number of aquatic stewardship activities of the Division by partnering, as appropriate, with other organizations with special focus on NFHI efforts. The NCD will actively support member/unit applications for grants/contracts that will result in resources to be used in aquatic stewardship policy and management decisions. (*Goal AS 3, Promotion of Stewardship: Strategy AS 3.1, Target AS 3.1.1; Strategy AS 3.3, Target AS 3.3.a*)
- 4) The NCD will promote the visibility and image of AFS by supporting an increase in the number of member fisheries articles produced for popular press print and online distribution. The NCD will assist its' technical committees with publishing articles in scientific journals and developing posters promoting aquatic stewardship. (*Goal ITO 1, Visibility: Strategy ITO 1.2, Target ITO 1.2a & b; Goal ITO 1, Visibility: Strategy ITO 1.3, Target ITO 1.3a*)
- 5) The NCD will participate, as appropriate, with other scientific organizations to produce joint meetings and other collaborations. The NCD will participate in the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference to be held December 3-6, 2006 in Omaha, Nebraska. (*Goal ITO 2, Collaboration: Strategy ITO 2.1, Target ITO 2.1a; Goal MS 2, Science-based Information: Strategy MS 2.1, Target MS 2.1b & c; Strategy MS 2.4, Target 2.4b*)
- 6) The NCD will continue to expand and improve the content of our new web site and enhance our information network. The NCD will publish Mainstream electronically twice a year and notify members electronically, through a newly developed listserve process. The NCD will encourage Chapters to keep their web sites and other information resources up-to-date and will work with AFS leadership to improve member services, particularly web services. (*Goal ITO 4, Information Network: Strategy ITO 4.2, Target ITO 4.2a; Goal MS 3, Online and Web Services: Strategy MS 3.1, Target 3.1d; Strategy 3.3, Target 3.3 a & b*)

- 7) The NCD will provide quality continuing education experiences to Division members by offering professional courses taught by qualified individuals or groups, either at the Division level or by supporting Chapter and Technical Committee efforts. Specifically NCD will look to sponsor workshops at the 2007 Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, look to enhance distance learning opportunities and post unit CE activities on the NCD website. (*Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition: Strategy MS 1.1, Target MS 1.1a-c & f*)
- 8) The NCD will provide awards that recognize individuals, groups, and Chapters who have provided distinguished service in the stewardship of aquatic resources in their geographic regions. All awards should have local and regional press packages to further promote AFS to the public. (*Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition: Strategy MS 1.5, Target MS 1.5a & b; Goal ITO 3, Professional Stature: Strategy ITO 3.5, Target ITO 3.5a*)
- 9) The NCD will actively recruit new members and focus attention to the recruitment of under-represented groups especially via student subunits. The NCD will continue to support the Hutton Junior Fisheries Program's effort to recruit under-represented groups to the fisheries profession. All units are encouraged to reach out to under represented groups and encourage greater participation and leadership development and to track and report those efforts. (*Goal MS 4, Diversity: Strategy MS 4.1, Target 4.1a*)
- 10) The NCD will continue to support student travel to the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference with matching travel grants to each Chapter. The NCD will improve communication with Student Subunits, and present an Outstanding Student Subunit Award. The NCD will support student colloquium initiatives. (*Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition: Strategy MS 1.7, Target MS 1.7a & b*)
- 11) The NCD will promote activities that focus on professional standards and foster recognition of fisheries professionals. (*Goal ITO 3, Professional Stature: Strategy ITO 3.5, Target ITO 3.5a*)
- 12) The NCD will use results of the 2004 membership survey to enhance membership services. The survey specifically pointed out that NCD should expand its efforts to promote "state of the art" practices and to communicate AFS positions to legislators and policymakers. (*Goal MS 1, Professional Development and Recognition: Strategy MS 1.6, Target MS 1.6a*)
- 13) The NCD encourages all units to develop strategic plans and annual work plans that follow the general themes developed in the AFS strategic plan. The Division further encourages all newly elected unit officers to review these planning documents to help them better understand their role. Finally, all units are

expected to report results of these planning efforts in support of the next round of AFS strategic planning via NCD reports. (*Goal MS, Strategic Plan Implementation*)

Proposed 2006-07 Budget

INCOME

- | | |
|--|------------|
| • AFS Dues (\$7.60/member that lives in NCD) | \$8,500.00 |
| • Interest | 1,200.00 |
| • TOTAL INCOME | \$9,700.00 |

EXPENSES

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| • Governing Board Travel | \$3,650.00 |
| • Awards | 150.00 |
| • Joan Duffy Student Travel Award | 900.00 |
| • 2007 Action Items | |
| ◦ Clemens-Rigler Fund | 500.00 |
| ◦ Jan Fenske Award | 750.00 |
| ◦ Student Affairs Initiatives
(EOC + student initiative @ Midwest) | 700.00 |
| ◦ Other Initiatives (Continuing Education) | 500.00 |
| ◦ Hutton Award | 3,000.00 |
| • TOTAL EXPENSES | \$10,150.00 |

INCOME-EXPENSES	\$-450.00
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Action Items and Highlights from the Mid-Year Governing Board Meeting (March 10, 2007)

- Minutes from the 2006 Annual business meeting were accepted.
- President Nielsen recommended a budget adjustment to award, for the first time, a bonus for AFS Executive Director Gus Rassam. The motion was approved.
- Executive Director Rassam recommended some minor modification to the \$2.9 million budget that was passed at the annual meeting. Significant changes were a decline in revenue for sale of "Fisheries" to nonmembers and a decline in expenses associated with bank fees from the AFS-hosted World Fish Congress convened in Vancouver. A recommended increase in library subscription of 6% was also approved for 2008. Decreases in general membership were noted but it's not yet clear if that was a result of some members selecting the reduced rate "young professional" rather than the general rate. The new membership database will

make these kinds of questions easier to answer in the future. The GB also passed a conflict-of-interest policy and procedures that follow recently enacted Federal guidelines. Finally, the ED presented committee findings titled "future directions for AFS". Overwhelmingly, the GB endorsed "electronic services" as the most important focus area.

- Constitutional Consultant recommended numerous changes in bylaws that were approved. Of interest in the NCD were changes to bylaws of the Dakota Chapter, Illinois Chapter for inclusion of the Eastern Illinois University subunit, Michigan Chapter and the Ontario Chapter allowing for a global student subunit. As mentioned in our meeting notes, NCD will also be looking to modify its bylaws to reflect current practices. One interesting modification was the Tennessee Chapter's bylaw change to allow Chapter members to not be Parent Society members. Southern Division President and Tennessee Chapter member Fred Heitman spoke against the change and the GB did not approve the bylaw change although they recognize this is a common practices in many chapters. Finally, some changes in the charge of the Web advisory committee were reviewed but not adopted. At this time an ad hoc "Electronic Services" committee has been formed.
- NCD's action item was a motion to reduce dues for regular members from North America that received "Fisheries" online to rates comparable to members outside of North America. This motion was requested via a resolution from the Kansas Chapter. It was pointed out that only 30 members outside of NA selected this option and from a publications and advertising view, keeping circulation high is important. Following this discussion, a motion to remove the reduced membership rate was approved, so everybody will pay the full membership fees and be mailed "Fisheries."
- The Western Division once again proposed that when Divisions or Chapters co-convene and share in the expense of running the annual meeting, the split of potential revenue should be 20%. NCD and NED, because of the association with other meetings, could never truly benefit from this proposal so both voted against the motion which failed to pass. Subsequently, it was recommended that a committee be formed to review cost and revenue from the annual meeting to develop a more equitable model for revenue distribution.
- The 2007 annual meeting will be held in San Francisco beginning Labor Day weekend. The meeting committee reported that 1,700 abstracts and 61 symposia were submitted and attendance will probably exceed 2,000 again. Conference hotels at the reduced rate could fill fast so make your reservations early.
- Four people were selected as AFS distinguished service award nominees and the GB approved all four.

- As a way for AFS Section leaders to regularly attend the mid-year GB meeting, a motion to support travel for Section representatives that lacked support was approved.
- Canadian Aquatic Resources Section proposed that "Fisheries" be published in both a print and online format. Members outside of USA typically experience deliver delays that makes many of the ads and announcements untimely. A charge is being assigned to a committee to determine the feasibility and potential cost savings of producing "Fisheries" in both fashions (including all the ads and announcements). No proposed fee reduction for receiving the magazine online was considered, simply the need to deliver Fisheries in a more timely fashion.
- The Estuaries Section proposed that each member be allowed to select a Section membership for free with those members' fees being paid as part of AFS dues rebate to the Section. Numerous people spoke against this motion. Numerous Section leaders pointed out that people join Section because of interest and stay members because of Section activities not cost. It was also pointed out that recent changes for free students membership had failed to increase Section participation. The International and Marine Section spoke in favor of the motion indicating, particularly for international members, that fees could be an issue. This motion was not approved.
- Finally, the resource policy committee recommends that the draft policy statement on "Economic Growth and Fish Conservation" be published in Fisheries as a way to generate dialogue and move the policy forward. The feature will clearly state this is a draft policy and comments should be forwarded back to the committee for consideration in preparation of the completed policy to be voted on during the business meeting in San Francisco. This motion passed.

