

Mainstream

Spring 2003, Volume 20(1)

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

North Central Division
of the
American Fisheries Society



President's Message

By Chris Guy

The Midwest Fisheries Conference was a huge success! Plus, every person that registered received a long-sleeved t-shirt with the meeting logo. We had an excellent group of papers that covered applied research and management. Tom Boland put together a terrific array of social events. The Steering Committee heard many positive comments about the meeting, which made it all worth the effort. I have said the following many times, but will reiterate it once more: If you ever had a doubt about what the American Fisheries Society can do for you, look to the Midwest Fisheries Conference! The Midwest Fisheries Conference would of never happened without the hard work of some dedicated AFS members.

A considerable amount of action took place at the NCD business meeting (see minutes for specific details). For example, the membership approved full technical committee status for the Ictalurid Technical Committee. The NCD donated \$5,000 to the 4th World Fisheries Congress, which was part of my plan of work related to aquatic stewardship. The NCD also continued its support of the Hutton Jr. Fisheries Program. Finally, I created an award for \$2,500 that will go to the chapter that has the largest percentage of their chapter members also being AFS parent society members. This award is one way the NCD can support President Fred Harris' work plan objective of increasing AFS membership. My plan of work (see last President's message) is well underway and will be completed by August. We are still in the process of revising the procedural manual and bylaws. Many of the bylaw changes are minor; however, they will need

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Quote of the Issue:

"The price one pays for pursuing any profession, or calling, is an intimate knowledge of its ugly side."
James Baldwin, Author.

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. From the website:

<http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs>

Editor: Paul Radomski



to be voted on by the membership at the next business meeting in Kansas City, Missouri. You will be able to preview the changes at the NCD website prior to the meeting.

I have been a member of the NCD for 17 years and found it rewarding to serve the NCD at the level of President. I have had the opportunity to work with many outstanding people in the NCD, and am constantly amazed at their devotion to AFS, professionalism, and work toward enhancing aquatic resources. Many of the exceptional leaders in AFS have come from the NCD, and that speaks to the dedication of people in the NCD to furthering the mission of AFS. I have moved out of the NCD, but will never forget what the NCD has done for me professionally. Finally, I want to thank Tim Goeman, Steve Fischer, Don Kline, Randy Schultz, Paul Radomski, and Tom Boland for making my job easier.



Committee Reports

Awards

By Steve Fischer

The Division presented the following awards for 2002:

Joan Duffy Student Travel Award recipients were Jennifer Guyot (MO), Clint Kowalik (IL), Robert Bringolf (IA), Tim Strakosh (KS), and Diane Kinser (OH).

The Most Active Chapter Award was presented to both the **Missouri** and **Minnesota Chapters**.

The 2002 AFS-NCD Fisheries Excellence Award was presented to **John Hnath** (MI) for his contributions to Great Lakes fish disease issues and his involvement with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission's Fish Health Committee during his 38-year career with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. John is a certified fish pathologist and fish health inspector, and has served on the board of certification for the AFS fish health section. Although retired, he still maintains an office at the DNR Fish Health Lab and works part-time at Michigan State University. He has been an AFS member since 1969. John was presented his award in front of his colleagues during the Michigan Chapter meeting in March 2003.

The 2002 AFS-NCD Best Chapter Newsletter was awarded to **Janel Palla** and the Indiana Chapter. The Indiana Chapter's newsletter under Janel's editorship is creative with an excellent variety of news.



Photo 1. MI Chapter President Jay Wesley (left) presenting the 2002 NCD-AFS Fisheries Excellence Award to John Hnath.

Photo 2. Randy Schultz (KS) accepting plaque from President Chris Guy for serving as meeting program chair.



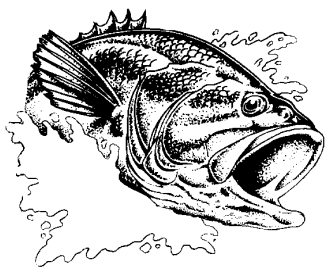
Photo 3. Tom Boland (IA) accepting plaque from President Chris Guy for serving as local arrangements chair.

Continuing Education

By Trent Sutton (IN)

The NCD-AFS Continuing Education Committee is pleased to sponsor a workshop entitled "Effective Educational Web Design" at the 64th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. The purpose of this continuing education course is to provide current and future fisheries

professionals with training in webpage construction for effective communication in research and education. Workshop participants will learn about the purpose and target audience(s) of websites, the purpose of planned website architecture and navigation, general knowledge about visual layout and design of websites, introduction to html and photo-editing software, and knowledge of American Disabilities Act web compliance guidelines. This course will be offered by Jennifer Foltz, a graphics designer at Kansas State University, as a full-day, AFS-approved continuing education workshop on Sunday, December 07, 2003. Registration fees for the workshop will be \$100 for AFS members and \$125 for non-AFS members (note that these registration fees will not include lunches for workshop participants). A minimum of 20 participants will be required for this workshop, which will be capped at a maximum of 40 individuals. All workshop participants will be required to bring their own laptop computer. Additional details regarding workshop registration, location, etc., will be provided later this summer or early fall on the conference website. Individuals interested in taking this workshop should direct any questions to Trent Sutton, NCD-AFS Continuing Education Committee Chair, tsutton@fnr.purdue.edu.



Centrarchid Technical Committee

By Ed Braun (IN)

2002 Winter Meeting Minutes:

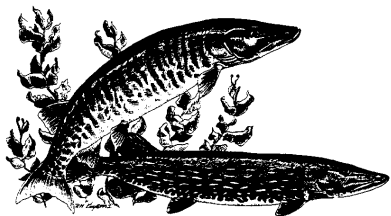
Chair Mike McInerny opened the business meeting of the CTC on Dec. 2, 2002, with 26 members in attendance. Black bass symposium update: The symposium has been published but cannot be purchased on the website yet. Crappie symposium update: The symposium has been published in the current issue of North American Journal of Fisheries Management (NAJFM). Lepomis symposium update: Manuscripts must be submitted by January 17, 2003 to Steve Fischer (4 hard copies and 1 e-copy). Peer review will be completed by February 28, 2003. The deadline for final revisions is April 30, 2003. Manuscripts will be shipped to NAJFM by May 23, 2003. Black bass regulation survey: Forms have been distributed to the chapter representatives. Feedback from chapter representatives should go to Mike McInerny.

Summer meeting: The meeting is scheduled for July 29 and 30, 2003, at Wyalusing State Park, WI. Keith Hurley (NE) brought up a potential topic for the meeting, development of state Relative Growth Index (RGI) standards for bluegill, and small- and largemouth bass, which was extensively discussed. Don Kline (IA) suggested a more general topic, bluegill management, to increase attendance at the summer meeting, an area of concern for some members. Don's purpose in making the recommendation to have a theme was to focus the group. With a theme we then could solicit some

presentations, set up a panel to discuss some aspect of the theme, and talk about some type of joint project (collect field data or put together data for RGI). A good agenda would result and hopefully boost the attendance.

Centrarchid research: Ed Braun (IN) related research results of Jerry Sweeten on the impact of suspended sediment on larval centrarchids. Though largemouth bass and bluegill larvae are relatively tolerant of sediment, 14 mm smallmouth bass can't tolerate 50 mg/l for more than several days and 10 mm smallmouth bass can't tolerate any sediment. There was a very high correlation of May-June mean flow in streams and smallmouth catch by year class. These results may account for variable smallmouth bass recruitment in streams with much suspended sediment. Anyone interested in a copy of the 319 grant report or the field guide being developed should contact Jerry Sweeten at jsweeten@netusa1.net.

NEW BUSINESS: New officers: Mike McInerny introduced the incoming chair, Ed Braun. Cindy Tomcko agreed to act as secretary-treasurer for a second year. Don Kline brought up the need to update the name and address database. If it was used as a mailing list it would contact many more than just the chapter representatives. Need to get the word of the meeting in the hands of hundreds of people. (I hope the chapter representatives are forwarding CTC news to their newsletter editors or chapter mailing lists so the CTC doesn't have to maintain a large database-Ed.)

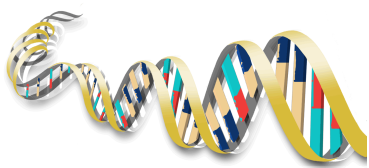


Esocid Technical Committee

By Daniel Isermann (SD)

Submitted by Rod Pierce (MN)

An ETC meeting was held during the December mini-Midwest meeting in Iowa. Chairman Dan Isermann (SD) led discussion on several topics. Papers presented at the northern pike symposium in Minneapolis will be published in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management early in 2003. The ETC will try to make a synopsis of management activities by individual states available electronically through the North Central Division web site. Muskies Inc. is sponsoring a muskellunge symposium in Minneapolis during September 2004. AFS members are expected to make many of the presentations. Ongoing work by ETC members includes muskellunge strain studies, a study of hooking mortality using sucker rigs, and oviduct insertion of radio transmitters. The next summer ETC meeting is scheduled for 9-11 July 2003, at Kemp Environmental Station near Woodruff, Wisconsin. The station features a meeting room above a boathouse with a beautiful view of Lake Tomahawk, and minimal costs to participants. The theme for the meeting will be: "The Assessment and Evaluation of Esocid Habitat". Persons interested in attending the meeting or giving a talk about their work should contact Dan Isermann at disermann@hotmail.com or 605.688.4787.



Genetics and Biodiversity Technical Committee

By Brian Sloss (WI)

Interested persons should contact Brian, brian.sloss@uwsp.edu



Ictalurid Technical Committee

by Greg Pitchford (MO)

On June 17th-19th, the North Central Division Ictalurid Technical Committee will be hosting an age and growth workshop at Lake Rathbun Hatchery near Centerville, Iowa. Committee members and Dave Buckmeier, Texas Parks and Wildlife, will teach workshop sessions. Workshop participants will learn techniques to extract and process pectoral spines, otoliths and vertebrae. Other topics will include annulus identification, quality control and employee training. The cost is \$50. Lodging and meals are included. For more information, contact Greg Pitchford, pitchg@mdc.state.mo.us.

2002 Meeting Minutes

I. Minutes

A. Chair Greg Pitchford announced that minutes were sent via email and Ictalurids list-serve; in interest of time, asked if any members wanted minutes read? None responded.

B. Motion by John Pitlo to accept minutes, motion passed.

II. Treasurer's report, secretary Jason Vokoun reported

A. The North Central Division's Ictalurid account has \$10,496.63.

B. Most of this money was derived from the Catfish 2000 conference and resulting book sales, The Ictalurid Technical Committee is expected to hold a portion of this money for sponsoring the Second Ictalurid Symposium (Catfish 2010?)

III. Reports from State

Representatives (only additional projects/activities not given in the summer electronic meeting are presented here, contact Greg Pitchford to receive the summer 2002 e-mail)

A. Iowa – Dan Kirby. Work beginning on culturing flatheads. Possible flathead research project for streams

B. Kansas – John Reinke. Nothing new from summer e-mail

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C. Nebraska – Mark Porath. Inventory of flatheads and blues in reservoirs. Angler survey questions regarding catfish to occur with license sales. Beginning work on state catfish management plan

D. Missouri – Greg Pitchford. State Catfish Management Plan well under way. Continued requests from citizens for a legalized hand-fishing season in Missouri

E. North Dakota – Lynn Schlueter. Possible Ph.D. project dealing with Red River catfish. Maybe some work on Missouri River catfish (including some flatheads)

IV. New Business

A. Ictalurid Session at Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference in Kansas City, MO, Dec. 2003. Lynn Schlueter and John Reinke to take charge and organize program, will actively get commitments from key speakers both Midwest and Southern Division, and will then contact Midwest fisheries program chair Paul Michaletz (Missouri Dept. Conservation) to pitch the session.

B. Journal Articles Reviewer/Catfish Directory List. Brought up that a list of potential ictalurid article reviewers would assist editors in spreading the reviewing duties around, some concern that a limited pool of reviewers is currently being used. Discussion suggested some members resistant to a list that essentially says these people will review articles if you ask them. Suggested that a directory of Who's Who in catfish projects and management (including Southern Division) would serve the same purpose without overly obligating people to review papers. Chair asked for a person to head up such a directory, no response. Jason Vokoun said he would help somebody

C. Nominations. Chair Greg Pitchford agreed to stay on one more year. Secretary Jason Vokoun agreed to stay on one more year. New bylaws indicate that committee needs a chair-elect. Lynn Schlueter nominated as chair-elect, voted into office unanimously

D. Summer Workshop. Two topics brought up for summer workshop, Age and Growth methods (especially otoliths), and sampling; age and growth favored, want to include Southern Division. Potential to have workshop in Iowa--Tom Boland may be able to set up in Dubuque, also Rathbun Lake may be a suitable site. Chair Pitchford to contact IA DNR committee members regarding summer workshop (Pitlo, Hanson, Kirby, Kline).

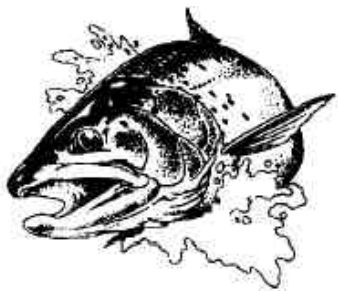
V. Adjournment.



Rivers and Streams Technical Committee

By Rob Pulliam (MO)

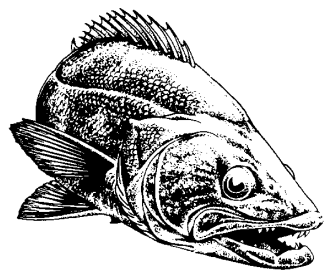
Interested persons should contact Rob, pullir@mdc.state.mo.us



Salmonid Technical Committee

By Mark Ebbers (MN)

Interested persons should contact Mark, mark.ebbers@dnr.state.mn.us



Walleye Technical Committee

By Tim Banek (MO)

The 2003 summer meeting of the Walleye Technical Committee (WTC) is scheduled for July 23-25 at the Stoney Creek Inn in scenic Wausau, Wisconsin. The dates were selected to accommodate those that were interested in attending both the WTC meeting and Percis III conference to be held at Madison, WI. The focus of the meeting will be size limits. Presentations from each state are encouraged. Of course, other topics of interest will be considered as well. All those that have an interest in *Stizostedion sp.* are welcome to attend. The WTC summer meetings have proven to be a great venue for a wealth of information exchange. For further information contact Tim Banek

banekt@mdc.state.mo.us .

2002 Winter Meeting Minutes. Submitted by Donna Hanen Muhm, Walleye Technical Committee Secretary

Chair Jeff Hendrickson opened the business meeting of the Walleye Technical Committee at approximately 3:40 P.M. on Tuesday, December 3, 2002 with 42 members in attendance.

Minutes from the 2001 winter meeting: Donna Hanen Muhm (IA). Minutes from the 2001 winter meeting were approved as published in the Mainstream.

Financial report: Donna Hanen Muhm (IA). The sub-account of the Walleye Technical Committee had a balance of \$5,932.31 on the first of January. The WTC has received two interest payments, one of \$13.75 on January 1, 2002 and one of \$109.04 on July 31, 2002. A total of 126 walleye symposium manuals have been sold to date, providing

revenue of \$1260.00. This brings the balance of the account to \$7,315.10 at the beginning of the winter 2002 meeting.

Walleye Management Symposium module publication: Tim Goeman (MN). Tim reported that five hundred copies of the module were printed, and as of this date approximately 160 have been sold. Not all of the revenue has been transferred to the sub-account, resulting in the disparity between what has been credited to the account and what has been sold. The invoice for printing has not come in, but costs are approximated to be \$1200.00. Since that amount has been recovered in sales, the sale of the remaining 340 copies will be pure profit. Tim also stated that he has copies available for sale at this meeting.

Certificate of Appreciation: Chair Jeff Hendrickson presented Dick McWilliams (IA) with a certificate of appreciation from the Walleye Technical Committee for his fourteen years of service (from 1988 through 2002) as the WTC secretary. A very special thank you to Dick!

Walleye Tournament Synthesis update: Chair Hendrickson reported that this project is nearing completion and is very close to being published.

Walleye Yield Database: Donna Hanen Muhm (IA). Donna reported for the absent Joe Larschied (IA) that he is still working on this project and hopes to report at the summer meeting.

Team Saugeye Project: Chair Hendrickson reported that the project is completed and can be downloaded from the website. Tom Mosher (KS) was not in attendance but is to be thanked for all of his efforts.

WTC Operations Manual update: Dick McWilliams (IA) reports that he emailed out copies earlier in the year for final review and revision, and that he is unsure whether the EXCOM needs to approve it or if the WTC needs to vote on the changes. The revised copy has not yet appeared on the website.

Walleye Synopsis Update: Chair Hendrickson. A lot of ink has been devoted to discussion of this project. To summarize, membership of the WTC decided at the 2001 summer meeting to look into the possibility of updating the UNFAO publication. The goal would be to update the work, incorporating the material with the 1979 publication. Pete Colby and Nick Baccante had been working on synopsis material over the years, but there is still much information and background work to be done. The EXCOM was given the task of determining the copyright status and format of the material. Several options of achieving the update have been suggested.

Chair Hendrickson reported that the copyright was held by the FAO, but that he still needed to speak to Pete and get permission to use their materials. More discussion ensued which centered on the need for funding. It was suggested that each state donate funds toward the project, with those states deeming this a high priority donating a greater amount. It was also suggested that it be written up as a D-J project and incorporated into a member's workload, but the consensus was that this project would

take someone at least two years of constant work to complete. A further suggestion was made that perhaps it could be given to a graduate student. A graduate student would cost an estimated \$30,000 for a two-year project, and it should be kept in mind that there will be printing and binding costs incurred after project completion. It was suggested that Jim Schneider, retired Michigan State University professor would be a good candidate for the job. Jim is not only qualified to write the synopsis, but may be able to write a grant proposal to fund the project.

Chair-elect Banek asked John Pitlo (IA), Steve Newman (WI), and James Breck (MI) to serve on a subcommittee to determine if updating the walleye synopsis is feasible and what approaches are available. The committee will report on available options at the summer 2003 meeting. Peter Colby will be invited to the summer meeting to provide his input on this matter. Steve Newman (WI) will be sending out a member survey to ask members for input about the walleye synopsis, as well as other issues concerning walleye and the WTC.

State/Provincial Representatives: Chair Hendrickson. The state/provincial list has been updated and is on the website, and was also emailed to the membership. The representatives are entrusted to keep this information updated and on the website by getting in touch with Ron Brooks (IL).

NEW BUSINESS:

2003 Chair/Chair-elect: Chair Hendrickson introduced the incoming Chair Tim Banek (MO). At this time, there is no chair-elect. Any volunteers should contact incoming chair Banek as soon as possible.

Certificate of Appreciation: Chair Banek presented past chair Jeff Hendrickson with a certificate of appreciation for his work as Chair this past year.

2003 Summer Meeting: Chair Banek suggested that the summer meeting be held in Wausau, Wisconsin either immediately before or immediately after the summer Percis III meeting. This meeting will be held in Madison, Wisconsin on July 20–24, 2003. Steve Gilbert has several ideas for activities for the meeting, including staying at the Stoney Creek Inn. This facility would provide free meeting rooms and is easily accessible. Other possible activities include a float trip down the Wisconsin River, visiting microbreweries, and having a pig roast at an adjacent state park. Room rates at the Stoney Creek Inn are \$62.00 for a double room, with registration set at \$50.00. Wausau is approximately two hours from Madison, Wisconsin. By consensus, it was decided that the 2003 summer meeting will be held in Wausau with exact dates to be determined, but with the intent to mold it around the summer Percis III meeting if possible.



walleye
© Joseph Tomelleri

Opinion generation: Scott Gritters (IA). Scott stated that he is the MICRA gamefish chair and is planning to do an opinion generation on sauger much the same as was done on black carp. This will involve anglers and fisheries managers both. He has received EXCOM approval, and will be contacting fisheries chiefs to find a few experts to assist

with this project. Some WTC committee members may be asked to assist, as there will be 28 states involved.

Technical Discussions:

Slowly cooked fish: How long can *Stizostedion* specimens remain in gill nets in summer before significant breakdown of diagnostic enzyme loci occurs? Neil Billington (AL).

Discussion topic: Are there any successes or failures of using any length base regulation on managing walleye populations? What has worked and why? Why have so many of these regulations not met the objectives set forth for them and is this the direction we need to pursue for walleye management in the future? Chair Banek suggested that walleye regulations be the main topic for the summer meeting. He further asked that each state/province plan to have a representative come prepared to present what regulations their state/province has implemented and report each regulation's efficacy.

Adjournment: Steve Gilbert made a motion for adjournment that was seconded by John Pitlo. Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.



Upcoming Events

Jun 17-19, 2003. Ictalurid Technical Committee will be hosting an age and growth workshop at Lake Rathbun Hatchery near Centerville, Iowa.

Jun 22-26, 2003. 10th International Lake Environment Committee and International Association for Great Lakes: Research World Lake, Chicago, Illinois. See <http://www.iaglr.org/conference/2003/sessions>

July 9-11, 2003. Esocid Technical Committee meeting at Kemp Environmental Station near Woodruff, WI.

July 20-24, 2003. Percis III - The Third International Percid Fish Symposium, Madison, WI USA. The scientific program will include symposia on many aspects of the biology, management and aquaculture of percid fishes. Additional information is available at: <http://www.seagrant.wisc.edu/percis>

July 23-25, 2003. Walleye Technical Committee meeting at the Stoney Creek Inn in Wausau, WI.

July 29-30, 2003. Centrarchid Technical Committee Meeting at Wyalusing State Park, WI.

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Aug 10–14, 2003. AFS 133rd Annual Meeting, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada. Contact Betsy Fritz, bfritz@fisheries.org , 301.897.8616 x212.

Dec 7-10, 2003. 64th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Crown Center Westin, Kansas City, MO.

May 2-6, 2004. 4th World Fisheries Congress, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The Theme of the 4th Congress is: "Reconciling Fisheries with Conservation: The Challenge of Managing Aquatic Ecosystems". An international array of prestigious fisheries scientists will be giving keynote addresses, and chairing program sessions. In addition, the program contains over 40 sessions that address the most pressing issues in fisheries management in both freshwater and marine ecosystems, along with a special forum for interested industry representatives and non-governmental organizations. The details of the program and venue are provided as they become available on the web <http://www.worldfisheries2004.org> .

An expression of interest form is included on the web page to ensure you are kept current on all future announcements. We will periodically provide you with an update notice concerning any news and pertinent deadlines related to the Congress.

We will also be calling on all of the Chapters, Sections, and Divisions of the American Fisheries Society to ask assistance in putting on the Congress to ensure the international family of fisheries professionals that visit North America will experience a World Class event. This event will likely be an once-in-a-lifetime event for most of us, so please put these dates on your calendar and make plans to attend now. Contact fish2004@advance-group.com , 1.800.555.1099.

Aug 21–26, 2004. AFS 134th Annual Meeting, Madison, WI. Contact Betsy Fritz, bfritz@fisheries.org , 301.897.8616 x212

Other Fisheries Events:

A good source of these happenings is: <http://www.fisheries.org/Calendar.shtml>

Chapter Reports

Illinois Chapter by Bob Schanzle

The Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society held its 41st meeting on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday March 4-6 at the Rend Lake Resort near Mt. Vernon in south-central Illinois. Chapter President Gary Lutterbie welcomed more than 145 members and guests, some of whom traveled from as far



away as Florida and New York to attend. AFS Second Vice-President (and Illinois Chapter member) Dr. Chris Kohler was on hand, accompanied by his wife, Susan, Chair of this year's Arrangements Committee.

Two memorial symposia comprised the first two days of the meeting. The Dick Rogers Memorial Symposium on Tuesday honored a long-time Chapter member and Illinois Department of Natural Resources employee who passed away last year shortly after his retirement from state service. Following a brief perspective on Dick's professional life and achievements by Mike Conlin, Chief of the IDNR Division of Fisheries, the attendees heard presentations on a range of subjects including small streams, impoundments, and Lake Michigan fisheries.

The Robert Sheehan River Symposium on Wednesday honored a renowned researcher and professor at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale who also died unexpectedly last year. The presentations reflected Dr. Sheehan's longstanding interest in large-river fisheries and included sixteen papers (many of them by former colleagues at SIUC) addressing the fisheries of the Mississippi, Illinois, Wabash, and Hudson rivers.

The third and last day of the meeting was devoted to contributed papers on subjects as diverse as control of invasive aquatic plants, the effects of lowhead dams on stream fishes, electronic barriers to prevent the spread of exotic fishes, and the relative effectiveness of various sampling gears. Dr. James Garvey of SIUC and Chapter President-elect Bob Schanzle collaborated on the meeting program.

Camaraderie and good food highlighted the evening festivities. Following the Rogers Symposium on Tuesday, the attendees were bused to Twin Oaks Park near Benton for a fish fry organized by Mike Hooe and prepared by chefs extraordinaire Ron Brown and Ken Clodfelter. The bill of fare included more than one hundred pounds of deep-fried paddlefish and buffalo, smoked sturgeon, and paddlefish and sturgeon caviar, all supplied by Chapter member and licensed commercial fisher Rob Maher. A variety of liquid refreshment was also available to help ward off the late-winter chill and the fearsome ravages of untreated sobriety.

The annual banquet and raffle were held in the Great Room of the Rend Lake Resort after the Sheehan Symposium and Chapter business meeting on Wednesday. A lavish meal was provided including Italian baked chicken, pork loin, three types of salad, four vegetables, and two desserts, all washed down with coffee, tea, free beer, and mixed drinks from a cash bar. The banquet was followed immediately by the annual raffle, organized and hosted by Raffle Chair Brenda Garver, featuring fishing rods, reels, assorted lures, tackle boxes, framed wildlife prints, and other goodies contributed by dozens of businesses across the state, as well as the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Cabela's.

Highlights of this year's business meeting included the election, by acclamation, of Steve Pallo of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources as the Chapter's next secretary-treasurer. Steve will serve in 2003-2004 with incoming president-elect Bruce Lippincott, president Bob Schanzle, and past-president Gary Lutterbie. Long-time Chapter members and past-presidents Leonard Durham, Larry Jahn, and Weldon

Larimore were each presented the Chapter's Award of Excellence for their years of dedicated service to the Chapter, the American Fisheries Society, and the fisheries profession in general. Letters of nomination detailing their many contributions over the years were read to the members in attendance and will also be published in the Chapter's newsletter.

Travel awards were also given to four deserving students to help defray their expenses at the meeting. This year's winners included Shari Fanta and Brian Metzke of Eastern Illinois University, Michael Siepker of the University of Illinois, and Eric Duttlinger of Western Illinois University. The AFS North Central Division's Joan Duffy Award went to Clinton Kowalik of the University of Illinois to support his attendance at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, and Derek Aday, also of the University of Illinois, received the Chapter's Lewis L. Osborne Best Student Paper Award providing for attendance at either the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference or the American Fisheries Society annual meeting. Last, but not least, Dr. Robert "Bud" Fischer of Eastern Illinois University won the Best Professional Paper Award for the second (or is it third?) year in a row.

The most memorable event of the 41st annual meeting came on the final day, when Dr. Larry Jahn of Western Illinois University asked to be recognized and took the floor to address the members. Dr. Jahn spoke eloquently of his years as a member of the Illinois Chapter, including serving as its president in 1975-76, and of the friendship and good will that have always characterized the group's meetings and activities. Assuring the members that what he was about to do had been planned in advance and had no relation to the unexpected honor of receiving the Award of Excellence earlier in the meeting, Dr. Jahn handed president Lutterbie a check for \$5,000 to be used in any way the Chapter deems appropriate! On that dramatic note, the 2003 meeting was adjourned.

Indiana Chapter by Kent Hanauer

IAFS held a joint (with Indiana Chapter The Wildlife Society) spring technical meeting and business meeting on March 6&7 at the Fourwinds Resort and Marina in Bloomington, Indiana. The first day of the meeting included invited experts on various fish and wildlife diseases from around the country. From the fisheries side we had Dr. John Grizzle give a presentation on Largemouth Bass Virus and its effects on fish populations, Dave Meuninck gave a presentation on the Great Lakes Fish Health Monitoring Program, and Dylan Sickles spoke about Fish Health Monitoring for State Hatcheries and Public Waters in Indiana. At the business meeting a special award for Excellence in Fish Science was presented to Gary Hudson for 37 years of service to Indiana fish recourses. A write-up of Gary's achievements and contributions to Indiana fish management can be viewed in the April 2003 IAFS newsletter available at <http://www.bsu.edu/csh/bio/inafs/index.html> . There was a technical poster session held concurrently with the evening social. The second day included nine technical presentations related to projects occurring in lakes in stream in and adjacent to Indiana or studies occurring at Indiana business or educational institutions. The best professional presentation was awarded to Dan Carnahan, Indiana DNR, the best student



presentation was awarded to Holly Truemper, Ball State University, and the best poster was awarded to Dan Daugherty, Purdue University.

Minnesota Chapter by John Hiebert

In January, chapter members attended a legislative forum put on by the Minnesota Environmental Partnership. At this forum, state legislators were in attendance to discuss natural resource issues with variety of environmental groups. After a reception, Minnesota Speak of the House Steve Swiggum, Senate Majority Leader John Hottinger and other House and Senate leaders discussed the topic of "Protecting our Environment in an Era of Budget Deficits". After the program there was an opportunity for questions to the speakers and more time to meet with legislators.



Over the past few months, chapter members have been involved in judging student science projects at eight Regional Minnesota Academy of Sciences State Science Fairs. Chapter members judge aquatic biology related projects at the regional science fairs held throughout the state. Winners are given the MNAFS Aquatic Sciences Award, a Silva compass and a fish identification book. Regional winners then head on to the State Science Fair where MNAFS presents the MNAFS Aquatic Sciences Award of Excellence to students in grades 7-8 and 9-12. Each winner receives a framed certificate, a fishing rod and reel and a Stream Biology book.

The chapter held its annual meeting March 3–5 at the Oak Ridge Convention Center in Chaska. A total of 42 oral presentations and 5 posters were presented at the conference. A wide variety of fisheries related topics were covered and ranged from trout stream management and the impacts of logging practices to radio telemetry of lamprey and hydroacoustic mapping of submersed aquatic plants. At the annual banquet, the Chapter presented \$500 and \$300 Scholarships to two aquatic biology students at Winona State University, Robert Mueller and Jessica Sutherland. The Chapter also presented the MNAFS Best Student Paper award, sponsored by Minnesota Sea Grant, at the annual meeting. This year's recipient was Dan Wilfond, a student Chapter member and an intern at the Minnesota DNR, who presented a paper entitled "Seasonal Movements, Habitat Use, and Harvest Rates of Trophy Brown Trout in an Urban Minnesota Stream." His co-author was Jason Moeckel, a DNR biologist and Chapter member.

The chapter has also been involved in the political process, writing letters to legislators on a variety of environmental legislation. In February, the chapter wrote letters to Minnesota Senators Dayton and Coleman and Representative Oberstar opposing the bill to provide funding for the outlet project and water diversion on Devil's Lake. The Chapter detailed the potential for interbasin transfer of water and associated organisms between the Red River and Missouri River drainages. A letter was also written supporting the expansion of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) to include the lower Mississippi River in SE Minnesota and the Red River in NW Minnesota. The original CREP program combined the USDA Conservation Reserve Program with the state's Reinvest in Minnesota Reserve (RIM) program to retire up to 100,000 acres of

environmentally sensitive lands in the 37-county Minnesota River Basin by September 30, 2002. CREP matches approximately 2.3 federal dollars to each state dollar appropriated for RIM Reserve easements in the Minnesota River basin. The initiative is one of the largest efforts to restore habitat and improve water quality in the Minnesota River—one of the nation's most polluted rivers—and its tributaries. While gains have been made in this watershed, a push is on to begin this process in the watershed of the Red River of the North and the Lower Mississippi River Basin. The chapter has sent letters in support of this process to key Minnesota legislators, to encourage funding this program to improve water quality and fisheries resources in the Red and Mississippi Rivers.

The continuing education committee of MNAFS has planned a number of courses for this year. First, a public involvement techniques course will be held May 21. They are also planning to host a stream restoration techniques workshop this summer and a fall workshop covering the topic of geo-spatial statistics relating to GIS data. Details will be available on the MNAFS Chapter website: <http://www.fw.umn.edu/mnafs/>

Nebraska Chapter by Rob Hofpar

On February 10 and 11, 2003 the Nebraska Chapter held its annual meeting at the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's Aksarben Aquarium, near Gretna, NE.

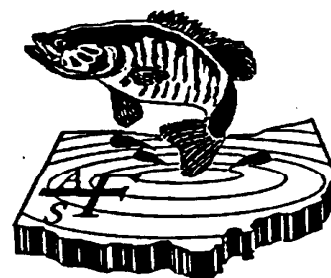


The Nebraska Chapter was honored to have in attendance Steve Fischer from the North Central Division and Fred Harris from our Parent Society. Both guests shared important information with the Nebraska Chapter regarding the resources available through AFS and how the AFS can help all fisheries professionals advance their level of significance in their careers.

Also during the meeting educational sessions were held covering various fisheries topics. Topics include "Fish Consumption Advisories: A Confusing Issue For Anglers", given by Dave Tunink, NG&PC and Mike Callam, NDEQ, "Operational Issues and Strategies at Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District", given by Mark Peyton, CNPPID, "Future of Fisheries Education in Nebraska", given by Dr. Ed Peters, UNL, "The Missouri River System, Selected Issues Review", given by Gene Zuerlein, NG&PC, Scott Luedtke, NG&PC, Mark Drobish, USACE, and Gerald Mestl, NG&PC, "Threatened and Endangered Fish of Nebraska", given by Julie Godberson, NG&PC, and "Update on Electrofishing Efficiency/Fish Injury", given by Mark Porath, NG&PC and Andy Glidden, NG&PC.

Ohio Chapter by Scott Hale

Ohio Fish and Wildlife Conference: OCAFS, Ohio Wildlife Society, and Ohio Fish and Wildlife Management Association members joined together for a meeting on February 7, 2003. The meeting featured three invited speakers, 9 platform presentations, and eight posters, and was attended by 270 fish and wildlife professionals and students. NCD President-Elect Steve Fischer



joined OCAFS members at their annual business meeting held during this gathering.

Spring EXCOM Meeting: The Ohio Chapter of AFS met on March 21, 2003 to discuss direction for the coming year. Our focus for 2003 will be development of a 2005-2009 Strategic Plan that will be aligned with the planning cycle and have a format similar to that of the Society and planning our first Student Life Science Forum, which will be held in April 2004. In addition, we set a date for our summer meeting, which will be held on August 22, 2003 at Put-In-Bay, Ohio.

OCAFS membership is forming three teams for developing the new strategic plan, each focusing on one of the three major goals described by the Society's plan, Information Transfer and Outreach, Member Services, and Aquatic Stewardship. Drafts of each component of the plan are due by August 1, 2003 and will be reviewed and discussed at our summer meeting on August 22, 2003. We intend to complete a draft of the plan by February 2004, distribute the draft for external review, revise the plan based on review comments, then seek membership approval in February 2005.

Planning for the 2004 Student Life Sciences Forum began late in 2002. The forum is intended to be a one-day meeting of undergraduate science students that provides an opportunity to present research and interact with other students and fisheries professionals. This year we conducted surveys of 22 universities to determine the most appropriate time, place, and format for the meeting. Meeting preparation will be in full swing during fall of 2003 when students return to school. We are hoping to have representation of at least 10 universities and 100 participants in this first attempt.

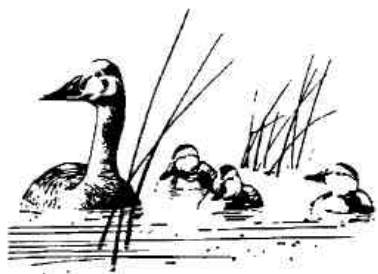
Wetlands Conference: OCAFS will sponsor a wetland conference with the theme "Compatible Use of Delineated Wetlands with Fisheries", on May 9, 2003. Details are available on the OCAFS website. The conference is a one-day gathering with an anticipated attendance of 100.

Ohio Streams Book: The Ohio Streams book, a widely praised compilation of Ohio Stream Information should be available on the OCAFS website later in 2003.



Contributions

You are invited to submit articles, notes, pictures, etc. for this space.



Against the Current (Editorial)

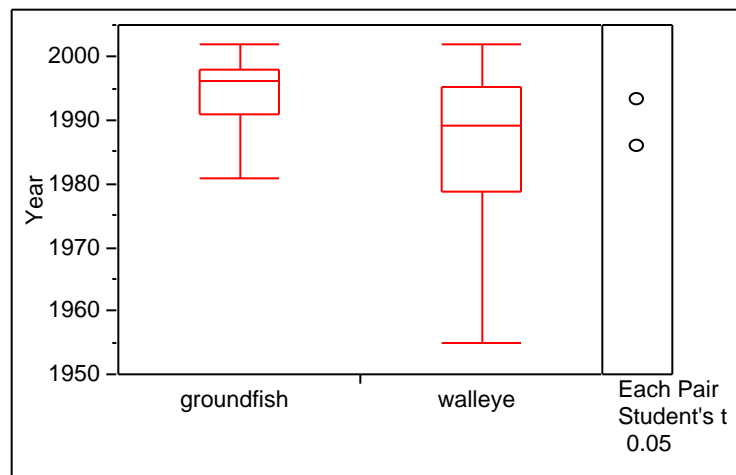
To continue an assertion that I made in 1994 [Vol. 12(1)], I believe that freshwater recreational fisheries management has become somewhat stalled. The science of fisheries management continues to grow, and most of the work done by within the agency is really no different than that when I started working and perhaps not much different than 50 years ago. Perhaps I am just cynical or naive, or so I was told back then when I expressed my perceptions of internal forces maintaining the status quo. Here, I will rant about the external forces. For now, I think conflict is also an important ingredient in the advancement of management. I mean 'in your face' and 'see you in court' conflict, not your 'run-of-the-mill' typical DNR public meeting conflict.

Of course, recreational fisheries management needs the right kind of conflict. The vocal public here is more often against regulations or policy intended to improve fisheries than advocates for science-based fisheries management. Most organized fishing groups in this state are not strong advocates for fisheries management change; in fact they appear to cling to tradition, e.g. add fish, or remove undesirable fish (who can we blame for this? I blamed agency middle managers for maintaining the status quo before). Sure numerous organized fishing groups are successful and important in securing money and resources for the agency, especially for walleye stocking, but are they advocating for policy and action to improve fisheries across the state? Habitat loss and fish harvest are the biggest impediments to improving many fisheries. Many citizens and some groups are doing great work on habitat related issues, and with an ever-increasing human population, this work will only become more important. What of fish harvest?

Angling can have a profound effect on fisheries and fishing quality. How many people and organized groups are aggressively working to restrict fish harvest? Earlier I outlined 3 ways to change our existing internal priorities to those dominated by habitat issues and effective fisheries management (i.e., tools, training, and peer review). Things happen faster with conflict.

Examine this shallow analysis. Below is a set of box plots for year of reference in the literature cited section from all papers from two conferences held in 2000 and recently published in the North American Journal of Fisheries Management. West Coast Groundfish Harvest Policy (**groundfish**) papers (n=11) were published in Volume 22, No. 1 (total number of references = 291). Walleye Management in North America (**walleye**) papers (n=11) were published in Volume 22, No. 3 (total number of references = 322). The reference year means were significantly different. The median year for references in the groundfish papers was 1996, whereas, the median year for references used in the walleye papers was 1989. Why a difference? West Coast groundfish are managed with quotas and many stocks are in decline. Walleye are

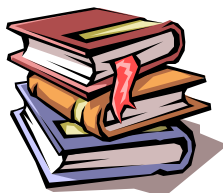
managed mostly for recreation, are heavy stocked, and are managed with creel and length-based regulations. For the most part, walleye management lacks the conflict and pressures from quota management or commercial fishing. I believe conflict forces the application of newer science, and conflict with uncertainty encourages the adoption of policy and methods from leading experts in the field.



There are plenty of shortcomings to conflict and competition for limited resources, and conflict may not always lead to the adoption of science-based policy. However, the lack can lead to management stagnation. Anglers may not see recreational fisheries crisis's, just as today's hunters are not outraged with the meager number of ducks due to overexploitation (i.e., Pauly's ratchet). In addition, anglers might not accept the possible solutions, which often limit angler opportunities to kill fish. So, is it wrong to wish for conflict so that recreational fisheries management may evolve to something more than fish stocking and monitoring the decline of the resource?

Who will challenge the mediocrity, the waste, the ineffective, and the poorly set priorities in the management of recreational fisheries? The challenge can't all come from within. Our leaders are too busy fighting for more resources, and they attempt to squelch conflict that plants the agency in bad light over fears of funding consequences. For example, when people organized and called for improved walleye fishing and demanded more walleye stocking, the agency re-evaluated stocking quotas then bumped them up. Given extensive history with substantial walleye stocking and knowledge that stocked walleye only contribute about 13% of the total statewide walleye harvest, evaluations have not been conclusive to answer a simple question like, "How much, if any, will an additional \$1m/year for walleye stocking improve fishing?" Yet today, models and some experience exist to simulate and predict how angling catch rates will change with harvest restrictions.

Conflict and policy challenges that are needed are not likely to come from our traditional anglers and angler groups, because many believe the solution is to just stock more fish. I wonder if it is coming and from where it will come.



Interesting Publications

Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment is a new publication from the Ecological Society of America. Articles of interest to fisheries biologists include: ecological effects of dam removal, Pacific salmon (Vol. 1, Issue 1), wetland and agriculture, deformed amphibians, overexploitation of fisheries (Vol. 1, Issue 2), and ecological impacts of roads (Vol. 1, Issue 3).

Division Business Stuff

Presentation Awards from Bettendorf by Brad Parsons

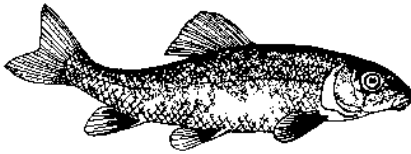
At the Midwest Fisheries Conference in Bettendorf last December, the Division once again had the opportunity to present awards for the best presentations. Given the somewhat smaller scale of this conference, we decided to present awards for both student and professional talks, and a single best poster award. Finding enough judges for 47 papers and 11 posters could have been a difficult chore, but there was tremendous cooperation by conference attendees as far as their willingness to judge papers and posters. Many thanks for the service of all 31 people who participated in the judging.

The high quality of the presentation was obvious in the tight range of high scores. It is unfortunate that we can have only one winner in each category.

The best student paper went to **Stan Proboszcz** from the Kansas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit for his presentation "Habitat Structure Use by Spotted Bass in an Experimental Stream". His co-author was Chris Guy.

The best professional presentation went to **Mark Flammang**, Iowa DNR, for his presentation "Evaluation of a Largemouth Bass Catch-and-Release Regulation in a Southern Iowa Impoundment".

Best poster went to **R. Douglas Workman**, Michigan State, for "Steelhead Spawning Habitat Selection in the Pere Marquette River, Michigan". His co-authors were D. B. Hayes and T. G. Coon.



On the Underside

By Charles Anderson, Dennis Schupp, and others

George Carlin quotes:

1. Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.
2. I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
3. What if there were no hypothetical questions?
4. Where do forest rangers go to "get away from it all."
5. What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
6. How do they get the deer to cross at that yellow road sign?
7. What was the best thing before sliced bread?
8. How is it possible to have a civil war?
9. If you ate pasta and antipasta, would you still be hungry?
10. If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?

Question: If you could live forever, would you and why?

Answer: "I would not live forever, because we should not live forever, because if we were supposed to live forever, then we would live forever, but we cannot live forever, which is why I would not live forever,"

--Miss Alabama in the 1994 Miss USA contest.

"Whenever I watch TV and see those poor starving kids all over the world, I can't help but cry. I mean I'd love to be skinny like that, but not with all those flies and death and stuff,"

--Mariah Carey

"Smoking kills. If you're killed, you've lost a very important part of your life,"

--Brooke Shields, during an interview to become spokesperson for a federal anti-smoking campaign.

"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body,"

--Winston Bennett, University of Kentucky basketball forward.

"Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country,"

--Mayor Marion Barry, Washington, DC.

"I'm not going to have some reporters pawing through our papers. We are the president,"

--Hillary Clinton commenting on the release of subpoenaed documents.

"That lowdown scoundrel deserves to be kicked to death by a jackass, and I'm just the one to do it,"

--A congressional candidate in Texas.

"Half this game is ninety percent mental."

--Philadelphia Phillies manager, Danny Ozark

"It's no exaggeration to say that the undecideds could go one way or another"

--George W. Bush, US President

"We've got to pause and ask ourselves: How much clean air do we need?"

--Lee Iacocca

"The word 'genius' isn't applicable in football. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein,"

--Joe Theisman, sports analyst.

"If somebody has a bad heart, they can plug this jack in at night as they go to bed and it will monitor their heart throughout the night. And the next morning, when they wake up dead, there'll be a record."

--Mark S. Fowler, FCC Chairman

The Washington Post annually publishes a contest for readers in which they were asked to supply alternate meanings for various words. The following were some of the winning entries:

Coffee (n.), a person who is coughed upon.

Flabbergasted (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.

Abdicate (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.

Esplanade (v.), to attempt an explanation while drunk.

Willy-nilly (adj.), impotent.

Negligent (adj.), describes a condition in which you absent-mindedly answer the door in your nightie.

Lymph (v.), to walk with a lisp.

Flatulence (n.), the emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steam roller.

Balderdash (n.), a rapidly receding hairline.

Testicle (n.), a humorous question on an exam.

Rectitude (n.), the formal, dignified demeanor assumed by a proctologist immediately before he examines you.

Oyster (n.), a person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddish expressions.

Circumvent (n.), the opening in front of boxer shorts.

Frisbeetarianism (n.), the belief that when you die, your soul goes up on the roof and gets stuck there.

Pokemon (n.), a Jamaican proctologist.

And, each year the Washington Post's Style Invitational asks readers to take any word from the dictionary; alter it by adding, subtracting or changing one letter; and then supply a new definition. Here are some past winners:

Intoxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.

Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a hill billy.

Foreplay: Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting laid (familiar to all men).

Giraffiti: Vandalism spray painted very, very high.

Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

Hipatitis: Terminal coolness.

Osteopornosis: A degenerate disease.

Karmageddon: It's like when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.

Glibido: All talk and no action.

Dopeler Effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

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(Please send changes, corrections or additions to the editor, thank you)

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Websites

American Fisheries Society
North Central Division of AFS
Walleye Tech. Comm.

<http://www.fisheries.org>

<http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs>

http://ws3.coopfish.siu.edu/walleye_tech



Photo 4. NCD '02-03 Governing Board members (l to r): Steve Fischer (President Elect), Chris Guy (President), Don Kline (Sec. - Treasurer), and Tim Goeman (Past-President).