

Joint Session of the Fisheries Administration and Fisheries Management
Section



Brian Graeb called the meeting to order on August 17th in Quebec City.

Tom Bigford was introduced by Brian Graeb. Tom started discussing that membership was slightly down. The American Fisheries Society (AFS) has several new personnel and is now providing increases in services to the membership. Tom suggested that AFS publications are doing quite well now and is providing several new titles. Tom and Doug (Austen) are currently reaching out to a number of other agencies in both the private and public sector to develop better relations for a stronger membership. Tom asked that members should feel free to contact him directly if you have any questions.

Beverly Pike was then introduced by Brian Graeb. Beverly is the new director of student and professional development. She has been in this role for about 4 weeks. Beverly is excited to develop and expand continuing education opportunities for both professionals and students within AFS. She is especially interested in creating educational products for AFS. She believes that web based educational products should be incorporated into AFS continuing education. She foresees lots of potential in AFS to develop educational topics and wants to tailor this to our needs. Please feel free to contact Beverly if you have thoughts or ideas on continuing education topics.

Donna Parish (President Elect) was introduced by Brian Graeb and expressed that she was hopeful that she could work with all of us throughout her term as president.

Mike Stone then introduced Eamon Cusack from the Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM). Mike Stone really enjoyed his interactions with IFM and really enjoyed the hospitality at the conference. Eamon is the chairman of IFM and outlined some of the ideas that they worked on the previous year. He really would like to see more collaboration between IFM and AFS. IFM has approximately 2,000 members and a much lower proportion of anglers (relative to North America). IFM has had some setbacks in terms of their membership renewals. They have taken action to counteract these drawbacks by reducing membership fees, holding unique conferences (lampreys, sportfish), partnering with other agencies, branch involvement and have put effort forward to make strides toward young professionals and students to be more involved (e.g., electrofishing workshops). He ended with thanking the American Fisheries Society for our hospitality and hoped that we could continue to develop more collaborative partnerships between the IFM and AFS.

Brian Graeb then introduced Ken Kurzawski, FAS President-elect. Ken discussed having a symposium on the effectiveness of licensing approaches to recruit license buyers. Ken had several folks that were interested in the symposium and wanted to see if others were interested

Brian Graeb then introduced Hilary Meyer. Hilary is a member of the Young Professional Committee (YPC) within the Fisheries Management Section (FMS). The YPC has had several conference calls and outlined several projects. One of those projects is updating the Hall of Excellence (HOE) inductees and capture brief video interviews. This project connects young professionals to HOE inductees.

Brian Graeb concluded the joint meeting.

Brian then called to order the FMS Annual Business Meeting and started by approving the business meeting minutes from Little Rock, Arkansas. A total of 41 FMS members and 6 guests were in attendance (Please see attached). Brian then introduced Quinton Phelps, FMS Secretary/Treasurer who provided the financial summary for the previous year (Please see attached financial summary).

Brian then reported on the Newsletter and Website activities on behalf of Geno Adams, FMS Newsletter Editor and Travis Neebling, FMS Webmaster- No issues. Brian then introduced Mark Porath, FMS Pres-elect. Mark discussed the joining of the YPC and the HOE Committee, and the recent activity of the joint committee. Mark presented the potential bottlenecks facing young professionals and some ideas for keeping them involved in AFS. Mark then introduced all of the members of the YPC. The YPC desires to design projects that are employer centric. Three specific recommendations came out the YPC for this year and they were: 1. Reduce section dues from \$5 to \$0 for YP's 2. Continue Hall of Excellence project and requesting \$4,000 (or as available) to continue this YP project. 3. Set aside IFM travel funds for the proposed YP exchange program also being requested. Tom Lang made a motion to reduce membership dues for YP's to \$0 and provide a \$4,000 budget for the YPC and Steve Lochman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mark Porath then presented the following FMS Awards.

Dr. Jake Rice was presented the Award of Excellence. Dr. Rice could not attend but Steven Cooke accepted on his behalf.

The FMS Conservation Achievement Award was presented to the Bonefish and Tarpon Trust. David Philipp accepted the award on behalf of the trust.

The Hall of Excellence received two new inductees. Gordon Robertson and Hal Schramm.

Scott Bonar provided an update on the international standard sampling symposium- FMS has pledged support for this effort with \$10,000. This project has been very successful. The standard sampling book and online tool provides methods for collecting standardized data and means for comparisons. Although this has received much attention in North America, other locations throughout the world are now becoming involved. The symposium is intended to expand the scope of this discussion to our international peers. This has really developed traction and there will be a symposium in Portland.

FMS election results were provided by Mark Porath. Incoming Excom members include Randy Schultz as President-Elect; Quinton Phelps as Secretary/Treasurer (2nd term); Eileen O'Donnell as the NED Regional representative; Jason Olive as the SDAFS Regional representative; and Mike Colvin as the WDAFS Regional representative.

Brian then handed over the reins of FMS to Mark Porath who thanked the previous division representatives and Brian Graeb for his service as FMS President.

Mark asked if there was any new business. Tom Lang moved that \$1500.00 be made available to support the FAS's efforts to evaluate licensing efforts as presented earlier by Ken Kurzawski. Motion passed unanimously. Karl Berger representing the International Fisheries Section (IFS) reported on a major recreational fisheries management symposium (EIFAAC) to be held in Norway in June 2015 and to make us aware they are looking for support, primarily non-financial. Mark suggested we support IFS and AFS in support of this symposium. Mark presented the idea forwarded by the YPC to develop a trial exchange with IFM and asked for \$2,500 for travel support. Fred Harris made a motion to develop the exchange program and provide \$2,500 for travel support, Steve Lochman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mark closed the meeting with a video tribute assembled by Hilary Meyer for former FMS Past President and avid FMS advocate, Dr. David Willis who passed away recently.