

1989-1990 OFFICERS
IOWA CHAPTER AFS

PRESIDENT
Larry Mitzner

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Jim Wahl

PAST PRESIDENT &
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
Mike Mason

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Martin Konrad

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NEWSLETTER

November, 1989

ELECTION RESULTS

Jim Wahl is the newly elected President elect and assumed his duties in September, coinciding with the Parent and North Central Division change of officers. It was a nip-and-tuck race; however, Tom Boland was edged-out by a single vote. No one demanded a recount, so Wahl, congratulations. Thanks to candidates Wahl, Boland and Don Herrig. Past president elect Larry Mitzner became president in September, while Martin Konrad ran unopposed for another term as Secretary-Treasurer and won hands down. So, the executive committee will be Mitzner, Wahl, Konrad and past president, Mike Mason. If you have any suggestions, complaints, or would like to volunteer for service, please contact one of the executive committee.

1990 IOWA CHAPTER MEETING

Preparation is underway for a joint meeting with the Wisconsin Chapter on January 17-18. Planning by both excoms this summer yielded a preliminary program which should provide an excellent meeting you'll definitely want to attend. First, a word about the program itself. The program is subject-oriented, thus we won't be relying upon submitted papers, in fact, most of the papers will be solicited. For example, the following is a preliminary list of the subjects which will be covered.

- Mississippi River monitoring, management and research
- Exotic and hybrid species
- Fish contaminants
- Great Lakes fisheries

- Fish culture, primarily walleye and northern pike
- Bluegill/crappie management and research
- Hydroacoustic monitoring
- Walleye stocking assessment

Approximately 22 papers will be presented, with nearly equal numbers from each chapter.

Final plans have yet to be made, but for now it appears the meeting will start midmorning on January 17 with papers until noon. This segment will include the Mississippi River. Papers will continue after lunch until 3:30 when each chapter will hold business meetings, after which there will be a social hour followed by an evening meal. The following day (January 18) papers will be presented from 8:00 until adjournment at noon.

The Wisconsin Chapter is hosting the event at Prairie du Chien; meeting site will be at the Barn ... sounds rather dubious at first? Well, it's a fine facility, trust me. We will also hold a raffle with Mr. Raffle, Lannie Miller, heading up the Iowa effort. He may be tapping you for help, so please, give him a hand.

As I mentioned, things are in the planning phase and you may be hearing from Jim Wahl regarding a contribution to the program. Be a good trooper and volunteer your help when he asks. Finally, I'll be sending out another newsletter about three weeks before the meetings listing the details of locations, programs and activities. Until then you may want to keep in mind that

lodging is somewhat limited on the Iowa side and you may want to make reservations before the next newsletter comes out. Following is a list of motels:

Holiday Shores (319) 873-3449 McGregor
approx. 20 double rooms \$35-\$45 per room
8 single rooms \$28-\$30 per room

Mississippi Inn (319) 873-3477 Marquette
approx. 15 rooms \$48 per double room
\$35 per single room

Frontier Motel (319) 873-3497 Marquette
approx. 12 double rooms \$45-\$50 per room
8 single rooms \$30 per room

P R E S I D E N T ' S C O R N E R

First, some housekeeping chores. I've made several committee appointments including Lanny Miller for Raffle Committee. He's had much experience, is well qualified and works cheap ... I think. Dennis Scarnecchia will be the Resolutions Committee chairman. In fact, he even joined the IA Chapter just to serve. Although not a committee appointment, John Ramsey will be helping gather information for the newsletter. Bernie Schonhoff will graciously serve as chair for the best paper award and John Pitlo will head up the nomination committee. And by tradition, if not by bylaws edict, past president Mike Mason will chair the membership committee. These people need help. Boy, do they need help. Let me phrase that in a different fashion. These people will be asking various of you for assistance; please do it. Or, surprise the chairman -- volunteer before being asked!

I recently received a letter from NCD President Lee Redmond and would like to pass on a few of his comments.

"You have heard it before, but never stronger than from me. The Chapters are the Division. What needs to be done -- in your state? in the midwest U.S. and mid-Canada? How can the Divisions and Parent Society help you do them?"

I agree 100+% with Lee -- the Chapters are the Division. Lee has also outlined advances he would like to make within the NCD.

1. larger, stronger Canadian membership
2. increased availability of sound

socio-economic data at the state level on the true value of fish and fishing

3. more recognition of chapters, officers, outstanding students and individuals who devote considerable time, talent and energy on behalf of the resource and Society
4. a higher level of professionalism and credibility.

Lee will undoubtedly address these in more detail at the NCD business meeting in December.

Ed Kocal is pursuing the handy-dandy, fact-at-a-glance, fisheries reference booklet. Within this issue you'll find his request for your input. We often ask "what can the Chapter do for me?" Well, I believe Ed's pursuit is worthy of completing and your input will be valuable in attaining a fine product we all can use. Please give Ed your ideas; this may become a major project.

Lastly, I will be attending the NCD excom and regular business meeting and am open to thoughts, criticisms, etc. regarding the NCD and Parent Society. I'll pass it on.

FISHERIES REFERENCE MANUAL

The Chapter is looking into developing a compact reference manual for fisheries people for use in daily activities such as fieldwork and hatchery operations. The idea behind the manual is to have a quick reference available at all times to look up a variety of information relating to the profession with emphasis on Iowa fisheries. A soft-cover, pocket-sized "field guide" might be a format that could be kept handy and yet be relatively inexpensive to produce.

The following is a tentative list of just some of the information that could be included:

- average growth rates of fish in Iowa
- spawning temperatures
- C.-F. temperature conversion chart
- fish disease chart
- quickest facts page
- Iowa drainage map
- length-weight charts for various species
- PSD and W_t standards and calculations
- standard abbreviations and Latin names for fishes

mathematical conversion tables for weights, lengths, volumes, etc.
addresses and phone index for fisheries stations, ISU, and E. P. division offices
fish anatomy chart
dictionary of selected terms

By now, I'm sure many ideas are clicking in your head as to what we might include! As you can see, we need every member's input as to the content of such a manual.

So far, a few people have expressed interest in being on a review committee. We still need a few more people.

I urge all members to give their input/ideas by calling me at Fairport Biology Station (319) 263-5062 as soon as possible. We hope to have a tentative draft ready for review at the January meeting. --Ed Kocal--

AFS DIARY ITEMS

* AFS is endorsing national beverage container legislation in keeping with the Society's position statement. We are one of 25 national conservation groups that are involved in the coalition to achieve passage of a recycling bill. The coalition has asked us to provide the names of AFS subunit leaders who can become part of state activist networks. These leaders will be hearing from the coalition and will be asked to voice their support for the legislation among members of local political delegations.

* We're working to obtain passage of the American Heritage Trust. It's H.R. 876 in the house and S. 370 in the Senate. The companion bills would expand and provide a stable funding base of \$1 billion per year for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. AFS members can help by calling members of Congress (202/224-3121) to urge their support for these important bills. For the latest information on the legislative progress of the American Heritage Trust legislation call Barry Findall (703) 820-4940.

* A new Resource Enhancement and Protection Act has passed the Iowa legislature with support from the Iowa

Chapter. The new act will result in \$30 million per year natural resource enhancement expenditure for the next 10 years. The Chapter orchestrated a "contact your legislator" campaign which helped the cause and demonstrated again the benefits of Chapter-organized and informed political activities. Congratulations to Chapter president Mike Mason and his members.

* New AFS president is Joe Dillard of Missouri, who succeeded Bob White at the September 6 annual business meeting. Larry Nielsen of VPI moved up to president-elect, Rich Gregory of Colorado became first vice-president, and Carlos Fetterolf of Michigan was installed as second vice-president. The AFS presidency is becoming a greater responsibility each year and President Joe wants your help as he needs to know your concerns.

* A net income of nearly \$11,000 will come from the AFS raffle conducted this year under the chairmanship of T. Wayne Jones of North Carolina. The Excom has dedicated the proceeds to the Permanent Home Expansion Fund because past investments are paying off more than double in office rental savings.

* I have informed the AFS officers and Excom that I will retire no later than April, 1991. If my health permits, I hope to work until the World Fisheries Congress which is two months after my 65th birthday. I also stressed that there is every possibility that I will take a medical disability retirement well before that deadline. Meanwhile, I intend coming to the office, challenging myself as in the past, and putting up a good fight. The AFS officers have announced that a thorough Society-wide search for candidates for the position of executive director will be launched early in the new year. — Carl Sullivan

* Color slides of 669 different fish species are available from the AFS Fish Photo Committee under Chairman Don Flescher. Flescher hopes to add another two or three hundred photos in the next year. Slides sell for \$1.50 each, with a catalog available to anyone sending a self-addressed, 8 1/2 x 11 inch envelope with 65 cents postage. Total sales in 1988 were approximately \$4,000.

Following are selected action items approved at the Parent Meeting in Anchorage:

* An AFS policy statement on aquaculture was adopted contingent upon the following editorial changes: (1) the scope of the policy include all of North America; (2) USDA not be specifically identified as the lead agency for U.S. Government aquaculture; and (3) language be added to assure protection of natural fish stocks. The draft statement will be published in Fisheries with comments solicited in membership.

* The design and conduct of a state fish health advisory survey was approved. All states will be requested to detail how they collect, analyze and evaluate fish tissue samples for contaminant content. In addition, they will be asked to provide information regarding the policies and processes used to publish and disseminate fish health advisories. The data accumulated will form a valuable database to be used by the EPA to develop fish health advisory guidelines. The survey will be conducted by AFS central office staff with financial support from EPA.

* Six resolutions won endorsement from Excom and the full membership. The resolutions addressed the following issues:

- Opposition to proposed Great Lakes Inland waterway
- Support for increased Great Lakes Fishery Commission funding
- Restricting discharge of ballast water from ocean-going vessels in the Great Lakes and other North American waters
- Seeking international agreement to reduce drift gillnet by-catch of salmon, steelhead, sea turtles, marine mammals, and sea birds
- Encouraging the mitigation of acid mine drainage

* A proposal that AFS establish a new "Aquatic Scientist" certification category was defeated. Instead the Excom directed the development of a new certification scheme that embodies competency testing to

be modeled after the Fish Health Section program. An appointed committee will meet to review prior work and to develop a proposed new structure.

* A contest with a \$500 prize will be established to provide artwork for an annual AFS poster beginning in 1991. The contest--to produce a poster that best addresses the proposed meeting theme--will be announced in Fisheries and will be managed by the Display and Advertising Committee. The contest will not be restricted to AFS members and the winning poster will be selected by a panel of judges.

* State Aquatic Resource Education Coordinators will be asked to become a Society subunit. They have been invited to become a subunit of the Education Section but have not yet formally responded.

* Policy and procedures for AFS endorsing political candidates were modified. Because of the potential for damage of working relationships with political appointees, the requirement to publish news of AFS candidate support actions in Fisheries was stricken from the policy. As it stands, the executive director and Society officers shall review requests for AFS support or opposition to candidate political appointees. Division presidents will immediately be informed concerning decisions made and actions taken.



A lucky night for Goldy

FROM FISHERIES

A transgenic carp developed at the Alabama Experiment Station at Auburn University has been placed in a containment tank where it can reach sexual maturity. Brood fish of the experimental carp were placed in the research pond in June under guidelines from the National Institutes of Health, which were developed to assure that experimental animals are contained without chance of release. Stocking of young fish produced by these brood fish to evaluate production characteristics will be done later upon appropriate government approval.

In this genetic engineering research the growth hormone genes from rainbow trout were isolated and duplicated at Johns Hopkins University and then injected into carp eggs at Auburn University. Once the fish hatched they were maintained in laboratory tanks for study. Tests have confirmed that the rainbow trout genes are present in the fish, along with the carp's growth hormone genes. The objective of the research is to improve the rate and efficiency of fish growth.--Wow, what next?

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

According to our records, there are still almost 30 members, or 40% of the Iowa Chapter who are not members of the Society. Of the 30 or so non-society Chapter members, most are Department of Natural Resource employees. Attendance at meetings is greatly appreciated and we always need the dues money, but is it fair to the other 60% who spend the \$43.50 to join our professional society? Are the benefits the Chapter gets from non-AFS members equal to those it receives from AFS members? Forty per cent of our membership is composed of people who cannot hold Chapter, Section, Division or Society office, serve on AFS Committees or represent the Chapter at Society meetings. The North Central Division receives 10% of the dues paid to the Society by General Members and the Chapter also receives a monetary rebate. The non-Society member contributes \$0 to the fiscal operations of the North Central Division and the Society. Some Chapters have recently begun charging non-Society members the cost of AFS general membership to gain admittance to annual chapter meetings as a way to increase their Society

membership. I'm sure attendance by our non-Society members would drop precipitously. Most non-Society members say the reason they fail to join the Society is the cost (\$43.50 = \$3.63 a month). My perception is it's one of misplaced priorities and the "I've gotten by thus far without paying any Society dues" attitude. Perhaps most important in all this is, do we as a Chapter even perceive the non-Society member as a problem? (Now, all you non-Society members are supposed to feel guilty and will join the AFS today so we don't have to face this issue...Thanks!)
--Mike Mason--

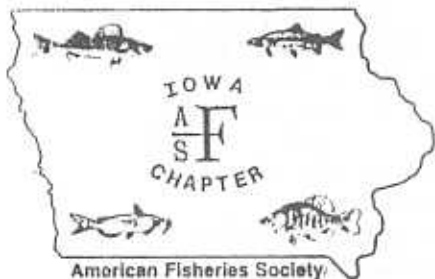
Martin Konrad attended the annual Fish and Wildlife Coordinators meeting in Sandusky, Ohio on October 3-5. Dick Kotis, President of Fred Arbogast Co. presented the Association of Tackle Manufacturers perspective on how Sport Fish Restoration funds were being spent by the states. Interesting comments were:

- There is too much duplication of fisheries research projects.
- There is not enough effort spent on informing the public of accomplishments received through the Sport Fish Restoration Act.
- Some states are commercial fish orientated and are spending Sport Fish Restoration Funds for the purpose of enhancing commercial fisheries.
- The Manufacturers believe the Federal Aid Staffs did not feel it is their obligation to expand recreational opportunities.
- Development of angling access areas should be a top priority item and fisheries research should receive a low priority.

ISU student member Jeff Dankert received a \$500 J.N. "Ding" Darling Foundation Scholarship for outstanding work in academics and conservation communication. Jeff writes a weekly outdoors column for the ISU Daily and is editor at The Niche, the student publication of the Animal Ecology Dept.

Bruce Menzel reports that there were 303 undergrads and 54 grad students (including 23 in fish and aquatics) registered in Animal Ecology this fall, a new high for the department. There were 16 academic staff--including 3 from the Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit--of which 8 are in fisheries and aquatic sciences.

New member Joe Morris joined the ISU Animal Ecology Dept. as an extension fishery biologist last year. He received his B.S. at Iowa State, M.S. at Texas A & M, and Ph.D. this year at Mississippi State (with Jess Muncy, former Leader of the ISU Coop. Fishery Unit). Joe's family still farms in the Council Bluffs area.



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