



CHAPTER NEWS

Volume 1 Number 1

September 1992

President's Message

In March, soon after becoming President, I attended the midyear Executive Committee (EXCOM) Meeting of the Parent Society in Charleston, South Carolina. It was a two-day affair in what AFS President Rich Gregory described as a "roll-up-your-sleeves" work session. One of the main issues was whether AFS should be fisheries advocates and/or lobbyists. Several authors have addressed the topic in Fisheries, including Paul Brouha's editorial (July/August 1991), a letter by Rod Moore (Nov./Dec. 1991), and a column by President Gregory (March/April 1992). From the arguments presented, I think it boils down to the differences between "advocate" and "lobbyist" and between "facts" and "opinions", and that it appears to be okay to be advocates and present the facts when called upon, but not okay to lobby as a special interest group, to express opinions, and to speak out when not called upon. In reality, I doubt the difference is very distinct. Over the past two and a half years, Pete Kornegay, Scott Van Horn, and the Environmental Affairs Committee have worked very hard on a report entitled "Current Status of Environmental Permitting Processes in North Carolina as Related to Protection of Fish Habitat" which was presented to the N.C. Chapter at the 1992 meeting. This document summarizes the state and federal laws and points out some of the exemptions and "loop holes" that allow continued degradation of fisheries habitat. Now that we have their report, what should we do with it? Should we become advocates and/or lobbyists to try to change some of the problems that the report identifies? The Executive Committee decided to make the report available to the main offices of the fisheries organizations in the state (e.g. Wildlife Resources Commission, U.S. Forest Service, NOAA, Division of Marine Fisheries, etc.).

I also attended the Fisheries Student Colloquium of the Southern Division in April held at Tennessee Tech. I am glad to see the interest that the students are showing in AFS and their contributions are, and will continue to be, considerable. If you haven't read the student section in the last few issues of Fisheries, I urge you to do so. The student paper session at our 1992 meeting was excellent, and I think the Chapter is the AFS unit that should encourage the fullest student input and participation. We are planning another student paper session for the 1993 meeting.

The EXCOM met in May and began planning for the 1993 meeting to be held February 8-9, 1993 at Betsy Jeff Penn 4-H Camp near Reidsville, a site that we have enjoyed in the past. In addition to a student paper session, we are planning a session tentatively entitled "North Carolina's Growth Pains and What They Are Doing to Fish Stocks." Begin making plans to attend this meeting.

The format of the midyear meeting of the Executive Committee of the Southern Division is being changed this year by the addition of technical sessions and continuing education courses. These changes are to address some of the criticisms of the Southern Division's annual meeting with the Southeastern Association of Game and Fish Agencies, including meeting extravagance and expense, requirement to publish in the Proceedings, inability to have concurrent sessions, and inability to attend because of the attendance of higher administrators. The First Annual Midyear Technical Session and EXCOM Meeting will be held February 25-28, 1993, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, site of the new Tennessee Aquarium, with the Tennessee and Georgia Chapters. Even though it is only two weeks after our N.C. Chapter meeting, the EXCOM decided that it was best that we not meet with the Tennessee and Georgia Chapters at this midyear meeting because of the difficulty many NCAFS members have in attending out-of-state meetings, and because we felt it might take away from the informality and camaraderie of our meeting. I think the move to change the midyear meeting is a good one and it may become as large as the annual Southern Division Meeting.

Dr. Jerry West
President

Executive Committee Concerns

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, May 20, 1992, Archdale Building, Raleigh, NC.

The meeting was convened at 1:00 p.m., with President Jerry West presiding. In attendance were Dr. West, Past President Don Cloutman, President-Elect Frank McBride, and Secretary-Treasurer Liz Noble. Liz Noble read the minutes from the 1992 annual business meeting held at B.H. Corpening Training Center in Crossnore, NC on February 25, 1992. The following topics were discussed or acted upon:

Environmental Affairs Committee Report - It was decided that this report would be distributed by Liz Noble to all major employers of fisheries biologists in North Carolina, such as the NCWRC, NCDMF, USFWS, NMFS, USFS, Duke Power, CP&L, NCSU, and IMS. Dr. West will write a cover letter.

Environmental Affairs Committee Long Range Plan - No specific recommendations were made at this time. Dr. West will write a letter of appreciation to the NCDOT for hiring a liaison officer, if a letter was written to the DOT from the Chapter recommending such a position. Don Cloutman will investigate if such a letter was written.

Chapter Logo - The Chapter logo chosen by the membership at the 1992 annual meeting was the darter on top of a rock shaped like North Carolina. This logo can be used on t-shirts, hats, etc. Dr. West will send Liz Noble the logo so stationary can be printed. The color of the letterhead should be a dark royal blue.

Endangered Species Act - It was decided that the best way to address such a major issue was for Dr. West to contact Paul Brouha to see what steps the national organization was taking. If they are not actively involved, the next step would be to contact the Southern Division of the AFS and see what could be accomplished at that level.

Dues Increase - Yearly dues have been increased to \$7.00 to help cover the expense of the newsletter. Liz Noble will notify the membership of the increase. Four dollars of the student dues will be returned to the student subunit.

Student Subunit - It was decided at the 1992 annual meeting to form a student subunit. Elijah Waters is the subunit President. To accomplish this, the Chapter's bylaws must be amended. Liz Noble will make the necessary changes and submit them to Dr. West for distribution to the membership. No changes are necessary in the constitution. The Secretary-Treasurer should assist the student subunit in setting up an account for nonprofit organizations and also provide \$100.00 to this account.

Southern Division Meeting - Dr. West read a letter from the Southern Division requesting that we hold our 1993 annual meeting in conjunction with their February 25-27, 1993 meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The EXCOM decided that we would not be able to do this because of the extra travel involved for our membership. We will, however, encourage members to participate.

1993 Annual Meeting - the meeting will be held at the Betsy Penn 4-H Center in Reidsville, NC. No date was set. It was agreed that the meeting will probably be during the first two weeks of February and that it should not conflict with either the Southern Division or Tidewater Chapter meetings. Liz Noble was to find out when the

Tidewater Chapter will meet. There will be both a student session and a special topics session. the title of the special topics session is "North Carolina's Growth Pains and What Are They Doing to Fish Stocks."

Promoting - It was decided that one way to promote our profession and the issues we deal with to the public would be to add the names of outdoor writers and sportsman's groups to the newsletter mailing list.

Raffle Committee - A committee will be appointed by the President for the 1993 NC Chapter meeting.

Proposed Amendments to the By Laws of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.

Please read the following proposed changes to the Chapter By Laws (changes are underlined). Any changes in the By Laws must be voted on by the membership. If passed, these changes will become effective at our 1993 annual meeting.

...Section 5 - Association Committees

Committees and the Chairman of Committees shall be appointed by the President as may be necessary for the conduct of the Association activities. The committees shall include but not be limited to Nominations, Program, and Arrangements. The terms of office for members of Association Committees shall end upon the discharge of the duties for which they were appointed, or the next annual meeting of the Association, whichever comes first.

- a. Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers, student subunit representative, and immediate past president. The Committee is authorized to act for the Association between meetings and to perform appropriate duties and functions...

Committee Reports

Environmental Concerns - Members of the Environmental Concerns Committee will be receiving a newsletter soon from Chair Stephanie Goudreau outlining various concerns discussed at the annual meeting in February. A committee meeting will be scheduled for this fall. Interested NCAFS members who are not already a part of this committee should contact Stephanie Goudreau at 320 South Garden Street, Marion, NC 28752 (704-652-4257).

Symposia & Conference Summaries

Don Cloutman attended the summer meeting of the southern Division Warmwater Streams Committee in Lexington, Kentucky, on July 22-23, 1992. The Committee finalized a resolution urging the USDA Forest Service to retain a full range of management options, applied on a site-specific analysis in such a manner that will incur the least damaging impacts to aquatic resources.

The Committee is going to try to organize a hydro relicensing workshop for its winter 1993 meeting. For further information, call Don Jackson at Mississippi State University (601-325-7493).

The First International Smallmouth Bass Symposium Proceedings published by the Warmwater Streams Committee is now available for \$25 per copy. To order, send a check to Don Jackson, Mississippi State University, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Drawer LW, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

Upcoming Events

The American Fisheries Society will hold its annual Meeting on September 13-17, 1992 in Rapid City, South Dakota. Contact Bud Griswold, National Sea Grant Program, 13335 East-West Highway, Room 5216, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, (301-427-2431).

The 46th Annual Meeting of the southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is scheduled for October 25-28, 1992 in Corpus Christi, Texas. Contact Dr. Barbara Gregg, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas, 78744, (512-389-4859).

The North American Lake Management Society International Symposium is planned for November 2-7 at the Clarion, Cincinnati, Ohio. Contact Bob Mason, Hamilton County Park district, 10245 Winton Road, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45231, (513-521-7275).

The Estuarine Research Federation Biennial Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Hilton Head, South Carolina on November 14-18, 1992. Contact Rick DeVoe, South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium, 287 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC, 29401, (803-727-2078).

A Symposium on Otolith Research and Application is planned for January 24-27, 1993 in Hilton Head, South Carolina. Contact Dr. S.E. Campana, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Box 1006, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, CANADA, B2Y 4A2 or Dr. J.M. Dean, Belle W. Baruch Institute, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, 29208.

NCAFS Officers

Dr. Jerry West (President)
Department of Biology
Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723
(704)227-7244

Frank McBride (President-Elect)
NC Wildlife Resources Commission
512 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
(919)733-3633

Liz Noble (Secretary-Treasurer)
NC Division of Marine Fisheries
P.O. Box 769
Morehead City, NC 28557
(919)726-7021

NCAFS Newsletter Deadlines

December Issue: November 1, 1992
March Issue: February 1, 1993
June Issue: May 1, 1993

Send contributions to:
Sheryl A. Bryan
7 Crandon Court
Asheville, NC 28804
(704)645-4387 (home)
(704)682-6146 (office)