

Mainstream

Spring 2002, Volume 19(1)

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



President's Message

By Tim Goeman

Many AFS members in the NCD and across the continent are likely feeling the pinch of reduced budgets and the inevitable fallout from the recent economic recession. For some, this means less project money or doing the same or more work with fewer resources to others it may mean a loss of employment. Regardless of how you are personally influenced by these uncertain times, AFS continues to function in providing stability for the profession, and will be there when better times return.

Perhaps you have never thought about your professional society in this way, so some examples may be in order. The Society continues to publish journals and books, regardless of agency or individual commitments to publication. This means the latest science is available for managing resources with the best information available. Networking among AFS professionals continues, even though politicians may make shortsighted decisions to the detriment of aquatic resources. Networking provides us with a broad perspective that will be used to help steer future decisions using a long-term perspective. Sometimes we will need to be involved in reparations of the damage caused by crisis-based decision-making. Additionally, AFS professional standards are maintained, regardless of short-term pressures that may influence much around us. It is good to know that the standards are unchanging and are valuable, having withstood the test of time.

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Quote of the Issue:

"There is no adequate defense, except stupidity, against the impact of a new idea." Percy Williams Bridgeman, scientist (1882-1961).

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. Do not print this—save the trees. From the website: <http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs>
Editor: Paul Radomski



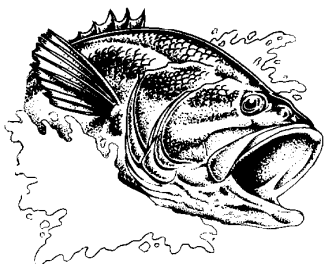
In recent months, the NCD has contributed to the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biologist Program, which will provide high school juniors and seniors with a chance to experience the fisheries profession during the coming summer. I have had the privilege of serving on the selection committee for Hutton recipients. Additionally, the NCD has contributed financial support for the AFS Annual Meeting in Baltimore, and the sculpture "Spring Stocking" at the DC Booth National Historic Fish Hatchery in Spearfish, SD. At the mid-March AFS Governing Board meeting, good news was that AFS finances are solidly in the black, thanks to efforts by AFS leadership and the home office. Pass along a word of thank to these folks if you get the chance.

Plan now to attend the first-ever Midwest Fisheries Conference planned for December 3-5, 2002. This conference will be held in place of the annual Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, which will not be held in 2002. This low-cost conference will provide a unique blend of NCD Technical Committee meetings and presentations, and more traditional formal professional presentations. The Annual NCD Business Meeting will be held in conjunction with this meeting on December 4. See elsewhere in this newsletter for more detailed information.

Thinking ahead to the December Midwest Fisheries Conference, did you know that the NCD will match any Chapter's travel grant up to \$100 to help send a student to this meeting? And further, did you know that fewer than half of the NCD Chapters take advantage of this "free money", known as the Joan Duffy Student Travel Award? Don't let this opportunity slip by. Help out the students in your Chapter. Notify NCD Treasurer Don Kline of your Chapter recipient prior to, or at the December 2002 meeting.

Finally, if you have a fisheries issue that has implications broader than those that can be addressed by your local AFS Chapter, please feel free to contact me. AFS is a member-driven, grass roots organization in the truest sense. Nothing pleases me more than elevating important member issues to the appropriate level for action within the organization. Have good fishin'.....

Committee Reports



Centrarchid Technical Committee

by Mike McInerny (MN)

The Centrarchid Technical Committee (CTC) held a business meeting on 9 December 2001 in conjunction with the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Des Moines. This

meeting was chaired by Randy Schultz (KS). Twenty-one people were in attendance representing seven states (IL, KS, MN, MO, NE, SD, and WA, yes WA!). The treasury report was submitted, and the CTC currently has \$468.59. A special thanks to Doug Beard (WI) who picked up the tab for the 2001 summer meeting.

Randy Schultz commented that the summer meeting in Prairie du Chien, WI had a good turnout with eight states being represented. Steve Fischer (MO) discussed that the Lepomis symposium included nineteen papers and three posters. About half of the authors were interested in publishing the symposium as a block in North American Journal of Fisheries Management. Steve has since contacted the editors of NAJFM, but no decision has been made, as of this time.

Randy Schultz discussed that the CTC Student Travel Grant is now defunct. Previously, the North Central Division offered to match a student travel grant, but now students must go through their state or provincial chapter for this grant.

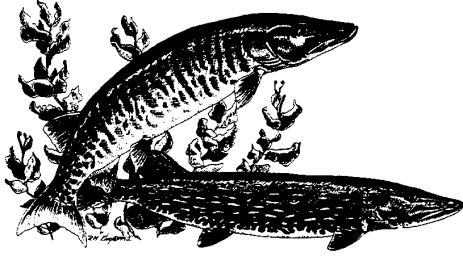
I took over as chair on 9 December, and Cindy Tomcko (MN) replaced Craig Paukert (SD) as secretary-treasurer. The CTC decided to forego the annual summer meeting at Wyalusing State Park, WI and focus on the upcoming Midwest Fisheries Conference in December. We also discussed direction and potential projects including special regulations on black basses, acquiring long-term data sets on black bass population characteristics, and posters, but no specific action was taken on any of these items.



Lately, the CTC has begun doing more business via the internet so that those who are unable to attend the meetings can participate. The CTC is now interested in doing a nationwide survey of regulations on black bass, crappies and sunfishes. Currently, we are developing a questionnaire so that information on current regulations, history of past regulations, and rationale for regulations can be gathered. Hopefully, the final product will be an article(s) in Fisheries similar to the one done by the Esocid Technical Committee on northern pike. We also learned that related work on black basses (why they are often not managed separately by species) was being done by students at Texas Tech University. We have been in contact with them so that redundancy is avoided.

Based on feedback via the internet, the CTC will probably focus on habitat-centrarchid interactions as a theme for the upcoming Midwest Fisheries Conference. Therefore, we are encouraging those working on this topic to submit abstracts for papers or posters when the first-call is announced sometime in June. If anyone has any questions about the CTC meeting, please contact Mike McInerny, mike.mcinerny@dnr.state.mn.us or 320.234.2562.





Esocid Technical Committee

by Daniel Isermann (SD)

Your invited to the Esocid Technical Committee's summer meeting.

When: July 17-19th, 2002

Where: Kemp Natural Resources Station near Woodruff, WI

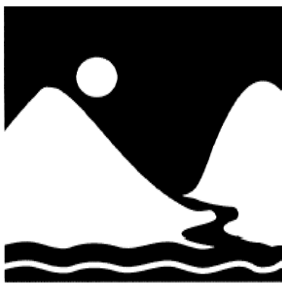
Theme: "Assessment and Management of Esocid Habitats"

We are currently looking for speakers who would be interested in presenting information regarding esocid habitat or habitat assessment in general. Although papers related to our main theme will be given priority, we are planning on having an open session for other topics regarding esocids. Interested persons should contact ETC chair Daniel Isermann, disermann@hotmail.com or 605.688.6121.

Genetics Technical Committee

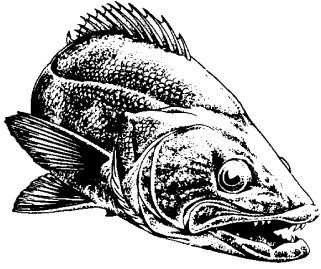
By Loren Miller (MN)

The Genetics and Biodiversity Technical Committee is searching for a new chair. The committee has been relatively inactive lately and we hope to become reinvigorated under new leadership. Genuine interest is the number one qualification. Please contact Loren Miller, Imm@fw.umn.edu.



Rivers and Streams Technical Committee

see the next issue for March meeting minutes.



Walleye Technical Committee

by R. H. (Dick) McWilliams, Sec. (IA)

Chair Steve Newman (WI) opened the business meeting of the WTC with 38 members in attendance. Minutes from the 2001 summer workshop were approved as published in the Mainstream.

Financial report: Dick McWilliams (IA). The subaccount of the WTC had a balance of \$5690.61 at the end of the summer workshop. The WTC has received an interest payment of \$241.70 and the balance as of the beginning of the winter meeting was \$5,932.31.

Certificate of Appreciation: Chair Steve Newman presented Ron Brooks (IL) with a certificate of appreciation from the Walleye Technical Committee for Ron's work in setting up a website, constructing the web-pages and keeping the web-site current. Thank you Ron.

Walleye Tournament Synthesis update: Kendall Kamke (WI) and Steve Kerr (ON). Chair Newman reported that Kendall and Steve have received quite a lot of good information from the survey sent to the various agencies and are in the process of putting the information together. They hope to have the final report out fairly soon, and also the hope is that the report will be published sometime soon – perhaps as an article in Fisheries. One of the techniques used in some walleye tournament to try to help survival was fizzling. Steve Kerr has completed a report on fizzling titled "A review of "fizzling" – a technique for swimbladder deflation". If you're interested in a copy of the report, please contact Steve.

Walleye Management Symposium module publication: Tim Goeman (MN). Tim reported that ten articles have been approved for publication from the Walleye Symposium. Six have been accepted and four are in the process of some minor revisions. The plan is to have everything complete within a couple of months and ready to go to a journal.

The committee discussed whether the WTC should purchase a number of copies of the Walleye Symposium module for re-sale to interested persons. Several questions were raised concerning timing, probable costs of purchasing the module and probably costs of re-selling the module. No decision was made and it was left to the Excom to check into costs and marketing possibilities prior to making a decision. If the WTC decided to purchase copies for re-sale they could be advertised via AFS Chapters, website, through the AFS parent society.

Walleye Yield Database update: Joe Larscheid (IA). Chair Newman reported Joe is working on the database and planned to have the project completed by the next meeting of the WTC.

Team Saugeye: Tom Mosher (KS). The report is out. A thank you goes to Tom for all his work, and also to all the individual WTC members associated with the project. There is quite a lot of information in the report. The consensus of the Excom was the saugeye report be distributed to state representatives and project participants.

Walleye Synopsis update: Chair Newman. At the 2001 summer meeting of the WTC the members decided to look into the possibility of updating the UNFAO publication. The goal of the work would be to update the work, incorporating the material in the 1979 publication. Pete Colby and Nick Baccante had been working on synopsis material over the years. However, although information has been drawn together, up to about 1996, there is still much information and background work before the synopsis could be updated.

The WTC decided to continue to look into the possibility of up-dating the synopsis. A major point is whether or how the material has been copyrighted, and whether this material could be used. The Excom committee (Jeff Hendrickson/Steve Newman/Tim Banek) will check into the copyright status of the current publication. The Excom will also determine how much information is gathered together and what format the information is in.



It was suggested that if the copyright is not a problem in re-writing, maybe Pete or Nick would attend a WTC meeting to discuss options, ideas, etc. It was pointed out this is a major project and would require considerable expenditures of time and resources to complete within a reasonable time frame. Several options brought up included: (1) have state/provincial members contribute enough money to hire someone for a year or so to compile and complete the synopsis; and (2) break the synopsis down into components handled by sub-committees within the WTC, and then paste those sections into a complete report.

Walleye Intensive Culture project: Paul Brown (Purdue). At the summer meeting Paul bought up the idea of re-starting the intensive culture program. There was interest from various agencies. However, in recent months interest has waned due to fiscal restraints and the project is now lacking funds. At this point the program has been put on hold, and will be brought up in the future.

State/Provincial Representatives: Chair Newman. The state/provincial list has been updated. State/provincial representatives are the core committee members and assist the Chair in information dissemination, feed back, etc. The representatives are also invaluable in assisting the WTC Secretary in checking member's addresses, etc and keeping the membership rolls current.

Steve mentioned he will be contacting the state/provincial representatives shortly for help in outlining a list of WTC priorities.

WTC member survey: Chair Newman will also be sending out a survey for all members concerning WTC activities.

NEW BUSINESS:

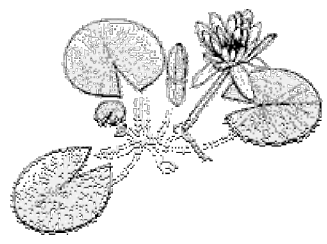
2002 Chair/ Chair-elect: Chair Newman introduced the incoming Chair Jeff Hendrickson (ND), and Chair-elect Tim Banek (MO).

Certificate of Appreciation: Chair Hendrickson presented Past Chair Steve Newman with a certificate of appreciation for his work as Chair this past year.

WTC Secretary: Dick McWilliams (IA) will be 'retiring' as Secretary. Several members volunteered to assume these duties... to all "Thank You". Donna Muhm (IA) was appointed Secretary of the WTC. She will be assuming the duties of the Secretary of the WTC prior to the next meeting.

2002 summer meeting: As there will be no Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference next winter it was proposed that the North Central Division technical committees forgo their normal summer workshops, and instead hold their workshops next winter in early December. The committees would run under their normal schedules (presentations and so forth) and combined meeting would be held with all committee members in attendance. Members felt this was a good option, and hopefully would allow additional WTC members the opportunity to attend the workshop.

Technical Discussions: Preliminary gear evaluation of Minnesota, New York and Ontario index gear. George Morgan (ON).

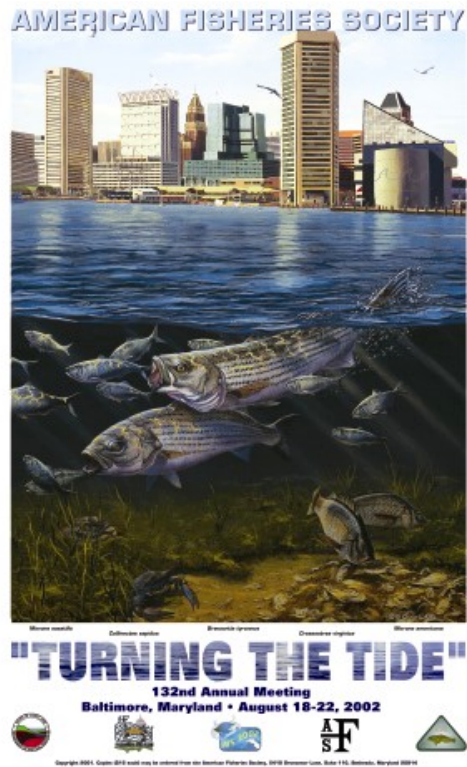


Upcoming Events

August 2002:

**2002 Annual American Fisheries Society Conference
August 18-22, 2002
Baltimore, Maryland**

See <http://www.fisheries.org> for more information.



October 2002:

**56th Annual SE Assoc. of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference
October 26-30, 2002
Baltimore, Maryland**

Take advantage of this opportunity to share your research and work by publishing in a peer-reviewed publication or through a poster presentation. We are again encouraging the submission of case history manuscripts, focusing on the interplay of science and human dimensions in the fisheries management process. In keeping with our conference theme "From the Chesapeake Bay to the Gulf- Keeping it Wild: Managing Our Resources in the Face of Increasing Development we would like to extend a special invitation for papers, posters, and workshops that discuss fishery management issues in relation to the loss of aquatic habitat and declining water quality brought about by increasing development and urbanization.

The deadline for manuscript and poster abstract submission is May 10, 2002. Manuscripts must follow SEAFWA instructions to authors guidelines, available in past issues of the annual proceedings, at the Maryland SEAFWA 2002 website (<http://www.seafwa2002.org>, click on "Call for Papers" icon), or by contacting the Fisheries Associate Editor (Dr. John Galvez, galveji@juno.com) or Fisheries Program Chair (Alan A. Heft).

December 2002:

**Midwest Fisheries Conference
Bettendorf, Iowa
December 3-5, 2002**

Meeting Announcement–Mark Your Calendars!

Due to the cancellation of the 2002 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, the American Fisheries Society (AFS) – North Central Division (NCD) will be sponsoring a Midwest Fisheries Conference in December

Place: Isle of Capri Hotel
1777 Isle Parkway
Bettendorf, Iowa
1-800-724-5825

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

Contact: Chris Guy, chrisgy@ksu.edu or 785.532.6634

Registration: There will be NO onsite registration. Pre-registration information and the 1st call for papers will be available by June. Participation will be limited to the first 400 registrants.

Program: The conference will begin on December 3 with mid-afternoon AFS-NCD Technical Committee meetings followed by a social. Concurrent technical presentations are being planned on December 4 and 5 (approximately 81 platform presentations and 12 poster papers), with the conference adjourning by noon on Thursday. The AFS-NCD business meeting will be held late afternoon on December 5. All this, plus social arrangements featuring the best of Iowa hospitality, all at a modest price. Plan to attend.

July 2003:

**Percis III
The Third International Percid Fish Symposium
July 20-24, 2003
Madison, WI USA**

We invite you to attend Percis III -The Third International Percid Fish Symposium, to be held in Madison, Wisconsin, USA on July 20-24, 2003. The scientific program will include symposia on many aspects of the biology, management and aquaculture of percid fishes. A call for abstracts will be sent by email and regular mail in November, 2002. The abstract deadline will be February 1, 2003. Additional information is available at: <http://www.seagrants.wisc.edu/percis>

Chapter Reports

Dakota Chapter by Michael Brown

Greetings from the Dakota Chapter! For those unfamiliar with our unit, the Chapter is composed of approximately 140 fisheries professionals (biologists, academics, administrators, and so on...) from the great states of South and North Dakota. The following provides a sampling of the issues that kept us "entertained" this year.

The James River Water Development District (JRWDD) requested that the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) develop an EIS for restoration of the Lake Plain Reach of the James River. Their restoration plan considerably differs from typical restoration plans and supports a "Limited Channel Clean-out Alternative" and a low-flow cut-over concept. Much aquatic habitat in the lower James River has been lost or degraded due to similar "restoration" activities. The Chapter recommended that the USACE and the JRWDD, as an Alternative in the Environmental Impact Statement process, the conservation and restoration (as defined by the National Research Council, 1992) of the floodplain within the Lake Plain Reach by restoring the river's natural structure and function. Furthermore, we indicated that the Floodplain Management Concept is an effective alternative that will preserve the natural and beneficial values of the James River.

The Dakota Water Resources Act passed the Senate on October 13, 2000. This act amended Public Law 89-108 and subsequent Acts which authorized the Garrison Diversion Unit and authorized expenditures for certain aspects of the water projects. The Act provides few fish and wildlife resource benefits, but the real issue is whether North Dakota will try to move forward on the interbasin transfer of water. Manitoba and several states have opposed any diversion of water from the Missouri River.



Efforts are underway for the construction of state and federal outlets that would drain Devil's Lake into the Sheyenne River. The federal outlet is currently undergoing an EIS sponsored by the USCAE. Cost estimates to build the Federal outlet are \$80 to 100 million. Members employed by North Dakota Game and Fish are providing biological input into the EIS and will be involved in the review of the final document. The state of North Dakota is forging ahead with an outlet plan that is estimated to cost \$8 to 10 million. Plans call for work to begin this year. In order to meet water quality standards in Sheyenne River (if the state sponsored outlet is completed), it is estimated that the outlet will only impact lake levels by a few inches. There is considerable opposition to the project by downstream interests and neighboring states.

Our Chapter recently wrapped up our annual meeting, held at the Cedar Shore Resort in Chamberlain, SD. This was a joint meeting between the Dakota and Nebraska chapters.

The meeting began with a workshop on how to effectively use media resources to convey information to various publics. Outdoor writers and hosts of television and radio shows from the Dakotas were on hand to share tips and perspectives with the membership. The following two days were filled with technical paper and poster presentations on topics ranging from larval carp distribution to landscape-scale GIS projects.

A social and a banquet provided opportunities to mingle and offer kudos to award recipients. Awards presented this year included: Doug Hansen, Distinguished Service Award; Barnes County Wildlife Federation, Aquatic Resource Conservation Award; Mike Barnes, Best Professional Paper; Dan Isermann, Best Student Paper; Mike Barnes, Best Professional Poster; and Patrick Hanchin, Best Student Poster. Also, some lucky members walked away from the social with items such as guided pheasant hunts, shotguns and fishing electronics.

A new standing committee was established this year to serve Chapter information and communications needs. The information committee will be composed of a chair (i.e., webmaster) and two at-large members. The initial duty of this committee will be to construct a web page for the chapter. Afterwards, the primary role of the committee will be to maintain the Chapter web page with updates such as Chapter newsletters, brochures, posters, history documents and resolutions. Current Dakota Chapter officers include: Mike Brown (Pres.), Wayne Nelson-Stastny (V.P.), Steve Krentz (Pres. elect), and Robert Hanten (Sec./Treas). Incoming officers (September 2002) of the Chapter will be: Wayne Stancill (Pres. elect), Dave Fryda (V.P.), and Dray Walters (Sec./Treas.). The 2003 meeting will likely be a joint meeting with the North Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society in Bismarck, ND.



Kansas Chapter by Robert Friggeri

John Reinke, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks district fisheries biologist, will be serving on the newly formed North Central Division Ictalurid Technical Committee chaired by Greg Pitchford. John works out of the Milford Fish Hatchery near Junction City. John is an experienced management biologist who has been very active in the Kansas Chapter of AFS, serving as president in 1997. John has a lot of experience working with catfish, and currently is involved with a blue catfish study on Milford Reservoir. We feel fortunate that John is willing to share his expertise on Ictalurids, and know that he will continue to make significant contributions.

The 64th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference will be held in Kansas City in December of 2003.

Minnesota Chapter by Brian Borkholder

In January, the MN Chapter held its annual meeting in Duluth, and by all accounts, it was a huge success. We had 163 registered attendees, which is the most I've seen attend an annual meeting when we weren't meeting jointly with another Chapter. The

meeting started out with an evening social at the new Great Lakes Aquarium, complete with food, drink, and free admission, compliments of the Aquarium staff. For the first session, tribal natural resource managers presented the work being performed throughout Minnesota by eight Native American Natural Resource Departments. It was an interesting overview of the work being done by the various Tribes, as well as the opportunities that have developed to build cooperative efforts between the Tribes and the MN DNR. Following the Tribal session, we had the opportunity to hear 31 additional papers being presented over the next day and a half. At the banquet, the Chapter awarded its first scholarships to two deserving undergraduate students; Kerry Accola and Tessa Diedrich, both of the main UMN campus. The Chapter is looking forward to continuing this scholarship effort to support students enrolled in fisheries programs throughout the MN college system. The grand prize of the Chapter raffle was won by Peter Sorensen, who graciously donated his newly-won O/U shotgun back to the Scholarship Committee for auction. This generated an additional \$195 for next year's student scholarships!

The MN Chapter has recently formed the Science Fair Committee, and is in position to award the first "Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Aquatic Sciences Award" this April at the state science fair in the Twin Cities. There will be two awards given, one for grades 7 and 8, and one for grades 9 - 12, to students demonstrating exceptional projects related to aquatics, be it fish, invertebrates, or water quality. All aquatic sciences projects visited by the MN Chapter judges will be provided with a copy of the Hutton Jr. Fisheries Biologist program brochure and application. In addition, the winning students may be encouraged to participate and present their projects at the annual Minnesota Chapter of AFS meeting. The ExCom feels that this will be a positive relationship between our Chapter and young science students, and will hopefully encourage students to pursue their interests in aquatic biology. For next year, the Chapter has the goal of judging at each of the eight regional fairs, in addition to the State fair.

The Chapter has had several opportunities recently to contribute to the political process. One proposed project would have developed an agricultural ditch to empty into a shallow hyper-eutrophic lake, already near winter and summer kill thresholds. The



Chapter voiced its concerns, and recently the request was withdrawn. The Chapter has sent letters of support to several politicians in support of a bill that would close some of the loopholes and tighten down on violators with overlimits of fish. Minnesota has been troubled over the last few years with gross overlimit situations, with enforcement being limited in what they can do. Hopefully this bill will pass and enable our enforcement staff to properly do the job that they need to do to adequately control this problem. And lastly, the Chapter recently learned of a proposed road expansion along the western shore of Mille Lacs Lake. The proposal is complicated, with multiple alternatives on the table. We've worked with the MN Wildlife Society, and have submitted a letter outlining our concerns to the MN Department of Transportation.

Missouri Chapter by Bob Distenfanso

The Missouri Chapter hosted the 2002 Missouri Natural Resources Conference at Lake Of The Ozarks, where we also held our annual business meeting on January 31st . The following new officers were installed: Bob DiStefano (President), Trish Yasger (Treasurer), Mike Roell (Past-President), and Harold Kerns (President-elect). Lisa Bonneau remains in office as Secretary for another year. As is typical with these meetings, several awards were presented, including our "Award Of Excellence" which went to Wisconsin-transplant Al Buchanan for his longtime and tireless work with Missouri's mussel fauna and work on water quality issues. Some of the more important issues that were discussed are highlighted below.

The Chapter will be co-sponsoring the 2003 Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference in Kansas City. The conference theme will be "Voyage of Discovery: Exploring the Past, Present, and Future". Member Vince Travnichek will lead this effort.

We worked with many organizations in bringing to fruition "Wonders of Wildlife: the American National Fish & Wildlife Museum" in Springfield, Missouri. The museum opened recently and is enjoying tremendous popularity.

Our new watershed poster is a product of member John Fantz and the Rivers and Streams Technical Committee. This poster was designed as an educational tool for schools and other public forums. Already, 2000 have been printed and distributed, with more on the way.



Last year we became officially recognized "stakeholders" in the FERC relicensing negotiations for Bagnell Dam. The Chapter hopes to help insure that the process gives proper consideration to downstream riverine and "upstream" (Lake Of The Ozarks) fisheries issues. Various members have been attending stakeholder and subcommittee meetings. We soon will submit a letter detailing our official position.

For the past several years, our Chapter has sponsored and held a fishing tournament on Table Rock Lake. The main purpose of the tournament is to raise money for our Student Support Committee funds. Each year, this event has raised about \$5,000, which is being used to build a permanent fund for sending students to A.F.S. meetings. This April, the tournament moves to Lake Of The Ozarks, and is being coordinated by Greg Stoner.

Nebraska Chapter by Mark Porath

Nebraska Chapter establishes Bob Thomas Memorial Fund

Nebraska recently lost one of its most dedicated fishery resource professionals. Robert Thomas lost his life in a weather related traffic accident while serving as the chapter's Past President. Bob's love of the fisheries resource and professionalism was very evident by his continuing participation in the NE AFS Chapter. Most recently he served

as the chapter president and could always be counted on to express the most informed views of the society in the political issues of the day. Bob was a charter member of the Nebraska Chapter, which was established in 1970. He also served as Secretary/Treasurer and President of the Fisheries Administrator Section for the Parent Society.

Bob began his career as a fisheries biologist with the Nebraska Commission of Game, Forestation and Parks in 1956 following the completion of his BS from Colorado State. Thirty years later he retired as Fisheries Division Chief. Bob's successor as Division Chief, Wes Sheets



described him this way. "Many of us will remember being a part of the fisheries division during Bob's tenure as our co-worker and/or our ever gentlemanly leader. I can tell you that Bob never had a disparaging word for or with any of the fisheries professionals during his tenure in the Nebraska Game and Parks Department. He was equally supportive of every member of the team whether they were the temporary creel clerks, hatchery culturists, or the senior research biologist. He was just a good guy and most important to providing the basis of the great resources which we enjoy today. His quiet ways could never be construed to be easy going, but rather he possessed a demeanor, which conveyed the pursuit of excellence from each member of his staff. He expected the very best from each of our individual abilities. His stewardship ethic may be equaled but will not be exceeded."

In keeping with his passion for the resource, his wife Marilyn and sons Bill, Jeff and Scott established an endowed education fund entitled the "Robert E. Thomas Memorial Fisheries Fund" with an initial donation of \$2,000 to the University of Nebraska Foundation. The Nebraska Chapter following its full endowment of \$10,000 shall manage this fund for the benefit of fisheries students. A chapter committee has been established and charged with defining the guidelines for fund administration and achieving the permanent endowment level. Individuals and organizations across the nation who share Bob's stewardship ethic have sent contributions and the fund has grown to over \$6,500 in a few short months. Anyone interested in more information or donating to the fund should contact Rick Eades, Bob Thomas Memorial Fund Chair at the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, 2200 N. 33rd Street, Lincoln, NE 68503.

I will always remember Bob for his dedication and professionalism. They say the future of the resource is in our hands, and only by standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before us can we see farther ahead. Thanks to men like Bob with broad shoulders. We can all learn by following his actions.

Ohio Chapter by John Navarro

The Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society has moved into the 21st century. We are now on the WEB at <http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~ocafs>. At the new site, you can find information about: OCAFS, membership, chapter news, resources, and jobs. OCAFS will use this medium as the main contact point for our members. Come visit us on the WEB.



Contributions

Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Challenge to Other Chapters from Brian Borkholder, MN Chapter

In his fall address to the Division, President Goeman encouraged all NCD units to consider monetary support of this program. In their budget for this year, the NCD committed to donating the \$3000 needed to cover one sponsorship. At their annual meeting in January, the Minnesota AFS Chapter approved a donation of \$300.00 to the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program, along with a challenge to the other NCD Chapters. The MN Chapter would like to see the NCD not only sponsor a second scholarship of \$3000, but also provide mentors and identify students for the Program. To meet that goal, the MN Chapter has contributed 10%, with the anticipation that other Division Chapters will also contribute towards this. The MN Chapter will be looking at providing mentors and students as well. This Program deserves our support! Applications for interested students and mentors are available at <http://www.fisheries.org>.

Midwest Student Conclave from Steve Fischer (MO)

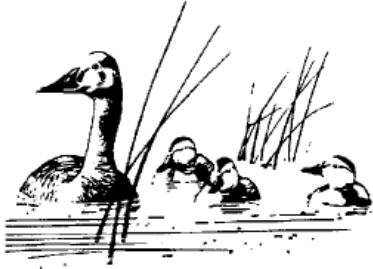
Attention all fisheries students and potential fisheries students throughout the North Central Division. Are you interested in participating in a future Student Conclave? Interested in meeting students from other universities throughout the North Central Division? Looking for a chance to present your data, preliminary results, final results, or project designs? Here is your chance!

One of my plans as NCD First VP is to develop such a Student Conclave within the NCD. What I envision is arrival on a Friday afternoon, sessions / presentations on Sat, and depart on Sunday. Obviously I can't do it without some input from you! I would be most appreciative if you would take a few minutes and reply to the following questions:

- 1 - are you interested in participating in a NCD Student Conclave: Y/N
- 2 - if NO ... why not?
- 3 - If YES, when is the best time of year to hold such a function? a) Fall semester (late Sept/early Oct); b) part of Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference (early December); c) mid-winter; or d) spring (April?).
- 4 - would you be willing to serve on a committee for the meeting?

- 5 - what is a good place to hold such a meeting? Wisconsin is the most central location (Wyalusing State Park in Prairie Du Chien is one possible option).
- 6 - what else would you like included on the agenda?

Please feel free to contact me at 573.882.9880, ext 3271 or fischsa@mail.conservation.state.mo.us. Thanks!



Editorial

The Walleye Pond

Fill the tank with water, add a scoop of salt.
Load the gritty blue magic crystals into the boat.

Yesterday's crew set too many nets, hoping to get it over with.
What we'll do for goodwill costs my principles,
fingerling by fingerling.

Around the pond we go. Anticipation no more.
Done that, been here. Save the product, toss the rest.

Time is critical; weaklings of unselected egg and sperm.
Load the mass, check the O₂. By night we stock these babies.

Yet fill in the forms and do the math.
Spent 77% of everything for 15% more kill (or should I call it harvest?).

Places for fish and us degrade about us. Too many of us,
with habits that make things worse. Forget that now. Stock the fish.

Ignore the obvious. Placate the current crop of anglers.
They don't know what's been lost,
and they're happy thinking they can catch these.
Shallow minds fishing shallow waters. When will we go deep?

Beauty becomes rare and our world disintegrates.
We're too arrogant and afraid to stop it.
Requires thinking about and acting on the taboo.

Add some fish, play with the other species, and 'heavens

don't do something that affects me or mine.'

It looks like 60 years or more of playing, and it appears like a Fool's game from a distance. We call this management.

Keep me busy, stock more fish. Don't think the big picture. Fill the tank with water, add a scoop of salt...



Interesting Publications

Historical Overfishing and the Recent Collapse of Coastal Ecosystems. Jackson et al. 2001, Science, Volume 293, July 27, 2001.

The authors review historical information and show that great losses of large animals have occurred from overfishing.

Canada's Recreational Fisheries: The Invisible Collapse. Post et al. 2002. Fisheries, Volume 27, Number 1, January 2002.

The authors' observations on some high profile recreational fisheries indicates overfishing. A good discussion on depensatory processes.

Biotic influences on habitat selection by young-of-the-year walleye (*Stizostedion vitreum*) in the demersal stage. Pratt and Fox. 2001. Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences 58:1058-1069.

The observations on young walleye in different habitats were fun to read about.

The Ostrich Factor. Garrett Hardin. 1999. Oxford University Press. ISBN 0-19-512274-7
In college I read Dr. Hardin's 'tragedy of the commons' paper. He is a clear thinker and writer, and he is gifted at pointing out the obvious which only a few see. I requested the book from the local library, and I could not put it down once I started to read it. The issue is put into a fine and broad context. Until natural resource managers, including fisheries managers, understand the problems discussed in this book and act accordingly, our environment will continue to disintegrate.

Division Business Stuff

NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION- AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
2001 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, December 10, 2001, Des Moines Marriot, Des Moines, Iowa

The following members were in attendance:

Bill Franzin, MB, Greg Busacker, MN, Tim Goeman, MN. Chris Guy, KS, Don Kline, IA, Tim Strakosh, KS, Matt Wolfe, IL, Ken Beal – AFS President, MA, Dave Willis, SD, Linda Eastwood, MN, Darrell Feit, NE, Mark Porath, NE, Jerry Sweeten, IN, John Deller, OH, Dave Bergerhouse, IL, Bob Schanzle, IL, Steven Cooke, IL, Mike Quist, KS, Mike Brown, SD, Carl Burger – AFS Past –President, WA, David Lonzarich, WI, Steve Fischer, MO, Jeff Koppelman, MO, Jeff Reed, MN, Ira Adelman – AFS First Vice-President, MN, Brad Parsons, MN, Jack Wingate, MN, Craig Paukert, SD, Mike McInerny, MN, Jim Triplett, KS, Stan Proboszcz, KS, Tracy D. Hill, MI, Jason Vokoun, MO, David Philipp, IL, John Epifanio, IL, Tom Coon, MI, Tom Wills, MI, Bob Stuber, MI, Brian Borkholder, MN, Bill Taylor, MI, Charlie Rabeni, MO, Don Pereira, MN, Steve Newman, WI, Jeff Hendrickson, WTC, Jim Diana, MI, Bill Thorn, MN, Shannan Fisher, MN

1. The 45th annual meeting was called to order at 3:35 P.M. A quorum was determined to be present.

2. The first order of business by NCD President Tim Goeman was introductions of officers, Bill Franzin immediate Past President, Chris Guy President Elect, and Greg Busacker Secretary Treasurer. Honored guests were introduced (AFS President Ken Beal and AFS Past President Carl Burger), past presidents of the North Central Division in the audience were recognized (AFS First Vice President Ira Adelman, AFS and NCD Past Presidents William Taylor and Jack Wingate, and NCD Past Presidents Tom Coon, Jim Diana, Don Pereira, David Philipp, Jim Triplett, and Dave Willis).

3. Ken Beal remarked that he was glad to be here. He spoke about what is happening within the AFS. There are four themes for this year and he asked members to check the AFS Web Site <http://www.fisheries.org> for details. The Hutton Jr. Fisheries Biologist Program is forwarding one of the goals of diversity. Minority High School students are matched with an AFS Society mentor and they conduct summer fieldwork. There were 23 students last year and as a group, they indicated they were now thinking of going to college and that they had an interest in fisheries. This is a long-term program and a long-term investment for the AFS. We are making participants student members of AFS. We received a grant of \$60,000 from the US Forest Service for last year. This year, we are expanding for the coming summer with \$60,000 from the US Forest Service and \$100,000 from the National Fish and Wildlife Commission. Professionalism is a standard topic within the AFS and is part of our strategic plan. We would like to make professional certification mean more. The United States Office of Personal Management is rewriting the standards for fishery biologist. We can input into this process. Partnerships are another major topic. We met with five other natural resource societies to look at areas where we can work together. We are taking a position that seeks to help federal employees attend professional meetings. We have an ongoing effort to convince US Department of Justice that serving in professional societies is not a conflict of interest. In the area of Visibility – we are focusing on communication and providing expertise for congressional use. In the past year, we gave testimony before the Oceans Policy Commission, there were no other professional societies testifying and they asked AFS Executive Director Gus Rassam to ask other societies to give testimony.

4. The minutes from the 2000 Annual Meeting were accepted as printed in the Mainstream.

5. Secretary/Treasurer Greg Busacker gave the year 2001 Treasurer's Report Copies of the spreadsheet summary and a narrative of the past year were available for review. As of December 7, 2001, we had a total of \$55,706.29 in the treasury: \$5.00 in the Share Account, \$52,784.44 in the Money Market, and \$2,916.85 in the Checking Account. The 3-Month Certificate of Deposit was closed in September because a higher interest rate could be earned with the Money Market Account over \$50,000. The Technical Committee balances were as follows, Walleye, \$5,932.31, Esocid \$431.01, Centrarchid \$468.59, Rivers and Streams \$1631.48, and Salmonid \$7,227.19. The Catfish 2000 Sub-Account started the year with \$3,355.00 being held in reserve. The remaining funds of \$3,316.18 were transferred to NCD in January. In May we received \$2,011.25 from AFS for "Catfish 2000: book sales. With an interest distribution of \$332.46, the Sub-Account balance is \$9,014.89. Dave Day has audited the books, and no problems were found. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

6. President Goeman made a request for suspension of the normal order of reports to get to the action items, noting that most reports were published in the Briefing Book. The request was approved.

7. Annual Plan of Work for 2002:

Item 1: Move the Mainstream to electronic format and publish on the World Wide Web in PDF format for distribution. Member's notification of availability would come from the AFS list server. Plus, the Chapter Presidents and the Technical Committee Chairs would be notified of its availability. The Mainstream publication has been the single biggest expense for the NCD. We don't want to maintain a big email list because of bad addresses. Bob Schanzle spoke to concerns about distribution to non-computer literate members. It was noted we could send out a hard copy to people who really want it.

Item 2: Partner with the Hutton Jr. Fisheries Biologist Program. Support the program financially and help with the recruitment of students for mentoring in the summer months. Tim Goeman will be the committee chair for the division and all Chapter Presidents will be members of the committee.

Item 3: Continue to offer the Joan Duffy Student Travel Grant. Tim urged the Chapters to support student travel to the annual meeting.

Item 4: Update NCD Rules and Procedures in the upcoming year to be consistent with AFS.

Item 5: Continue to financially support the AFS Annual Meeting.

Item 6: Support the new project at the DC Booth Historic Fish Hatchery in Spearfish, SD – this falls under the visibility effort for the AFS. DC Booth Historic Fish Hatchery is a national historic site. It is a facility that describes and demonstrates past fishery practices. It is really a museum of fishery history and management. Our donation would go towards the sculpture of stocking fish from milk cans. AFS is donating a portion of next year's raffle proceeds toward the sculpture. The Booth Foundation is receiving the support, not the federal government.

Item 7: A proposed budget of \$10,700 income and \$11,100 in expenses was presented. There was some general discussion regarding supporting the AFS Annual Meeting if the

meeting is held outside of our division. We did support meeting at St. Louis in 2000. We are looking to have a Midwest Fisheries Conference next year, December 4 & 5, 2002. Student travel would be supported to that meeting. We will try to keep it low cost and we expect 200-400 people. Technical Committees are fronting their expenses so we may not need monies beyond what we now expending for the Midwest. Dave Phillip moved to expand the Midwest Annual Meeting expenses to \$1800 from \$800 and Tom Coon provided a second. The motion carried. Dave Willis moved that the Work Plan Items and proposed budget be accepted. Tracy Hill provided a second. The motion carried. There were no additional Action Items.

8. Summary reports of the Technical Committees, Standing and Special Committee reports are on the NCD web site <http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs/>.

9. Chris Guy presented awards – Jack Wingate received the NCD Fisheries Excellence Award. The Minnesota Chapter received the Most Active Chapter Award. The Past President’s Award was given to Bill Franzin. Bob Schanzle received a certificate and plaque for being the editor of Mainstream for four years. Greg Busacker received a certificate and plaque for serving as Secretary/Treasurer for three years.

10. Reporting the results of the NCD elections, Chris Guy congratulated Steve Fischer of Missouri as First Vice President for the coming year and Don Kline of Iowa as the new Secretary/Treasurer. Chris Guy will be the President Elect, Tim Goeman President, and Bill Franzin as Past President.

11. The Wisconsin Chapter was acknowledged for their efforts in advocacy and outreach and for updating their strategic plan.

12. The revised NCD Strategic Plan is near completion. Bill Franzin is working on it and expects a draft out soon.

13. Bob Schanzle presented the Best Chapter Newsletter Award to the Missouri Chapter noting that the Indiana Chapter was a close second. Bob is leaving as editor of Mainstream and Paul Radomski of the Minnesota Chapter is taking over.

14. Chapter Highlights: Full Chapter reports will be posted on the NCD web page. The Division and Chapter web sites can also be reached through the AFS web site at <http://www.fisheries.org>.

Dakota Chapter: has reduced student membership dues to \$5.00 to encourage enrollment and participation. They are also looking into creating a fund or foundation where interest could be used for an education fund. The fish trading card project is complete with 17,725 sets printed. The cards present fish identification information in an entertaining format for children and adults. The Chapter met jointly with the Minnesota and Mid-Canada Chapters in Fargo.

Iowa Chapter: held a joint meeting with the Wildlife Society. A \$500 annual scholarship is to be awarded to an undergraduate student in fisheries at Iowa State University. The

Iowa Chapter pamphlet is completed and available as PDF files for the membership as needed. The Chapter also sponsored a continuing education workshop on the use of X-GOBI data visualization software as applied to fish community data sets.

Indiana Chapter: passed a resolution on dam removal and recommended the NCD support the resolution in writing (Note: no resolutions were presented at the NCD business meeting.) The Chapter continues to look into new ways to meet with and communicate to legislators. Student subunits now constitute over 1/3 of the Chapter's membership. The Ball State Subunit is planning a student natural resource meeting at Ball State University. Invitations are being sent to universities in a five-state area.

Kansas Chapter: held a continuing education workshop on the impacts of mining in southeastern Kansas. The Chapter newsletter is now available on the website, no further hard copy mailings are planned. A new pamphlet to educate the public and increase membership is complete. The membership committee has announced that the Chapter will fund two memberships to AFS for deserving KAFS student members.

Michigan Chapter: has been active as advocates for aquatic and riparian resources. They opposed the burning of tire-derived fuels at an electrical generating plant without scrubbers to reduce emissions. They also opposed "beach grooming" on Great Lakes Shorelines. They supported passage of the Aquatic Species Conservation Act at the state level.

Missouri Chapter: has been involved in bringing to fruition "Wonders of Wildlife: the American National Fish and Wildlife Museum" in Springfield, Missouri. Curt Goody spoke at the dedication. A new poster on watersheds has been produced and there is a lot of positive feedback from those receiving them. Getting more posters into the hands of Missouri educators is the next focus. Several web-related services have improved communication among members and the public. The newsletter is now on the web site for significant cost savings. Science-based advocacy has been undertaken on many issues in Missouri.

Minnesota Chapter: met with the Dakota and Mid-Canada Chapters, sponsored two continuing education workshops, developed criteria to award the first Chapter scholarship, improved the public display board and the Chapter brochure, hosted an Australian scientist, and worked on five issues relating to public environmental policy. One \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a junior or senior undergraduate student at a Minnesota college or university annually. The student is required to have a major in fisheries, water resources, aquatic biology, or aquatic environmental science. The Chapter maintains a seat on the DNR's Fishing Roundtable. The Chapter is working on water diversion and interbasin transfer of water between the Red River and the Missouri River drainages. Other issues include lower yellow perch bag limits, Sen. Tom Harkin's Conservation Security Act, and student travel to the AFS meeting in Phoenix in under represented categories.

Nebraska Chapter: has established an endowed education fund for fisheries students in memory of Robert Thomas, Chapter Past President. The Chapter provided continuing

education opportunities with a workshop on AFS Resource Policies, and a tour of mitigation sites on the Missouri River. The Chapter has also developed a web page that includes current activities and current and past newsletters. The Chapter presented an "Outstanding Aquatic Resources Conservation Award" to the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.

Ohio Chapter: distributed "A Guide to Ohio Streams." The Chapter's Rivers and Streams Committee completed the book in 2000. The Chapter developed a PowerPoint presentation as a tool for recruitment of new members and to promote both the Chapter and AFS. In August, the Great Lakes Committee sponsored the first Interagency Trawl Comparison Workshop. Two workshops are planned for 2002, a wetland workshop and a stream restoration/geomorphology workshop. A new version of the Chapter web site should be up and running by January 2002. The Chapter provided financial support for the Milt Austin Science Award, and developed a position statement on exotic and aquatic nuisance species.

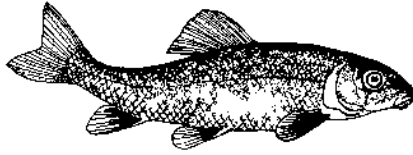
Southern Ontario Chapter: is focused on renewing involvement of members and recruiting new members, raising the profile of AFS by aligning with other complimentary professional organizations (A Professional Liaison Committee has been established), and providing a meeting other than the annual meeting for Chapter members to come together. The Education Committee has planned a three-day workshop in Predicative Terrain Modeling and an evening presentation by Dr. Ed Crossman.

Wisconsin Chapter: revised their strategic plan, created a Chapter web page to enhance communication between Chapter members, and sponsored two continuing education workshops. The web site houses current and past newsletters and other Chapter communications. The workshops addressed fish identification and aquatic plant identification. A statistics workshop is being developed. The Chapter achieved its monetary goal for the Frie Scholarship, which provides \$500 per year for a fisheries student at the University of Wisconsin – Stephens Point. The Chapter is exploring establishing similar scholarships for students at other universities in the state. In 2002 the Chapter will address advocacy; the members felt the Chapter needed to strengthen and clarify its role on environmental advocacy. The planning for the 2004 Parent Society annual meeting in Madison is underway.

15. Joan Duffy Student Travel Awards were presented to Steven Cooke of the Ontario Chapter, Stan Proboszcz of the Kansas Chapter, Matt Wolfe of the Illinois Chapter, and Todd Wills of the Michigan Chapter. Congratulations to those receiving the awards. Chapters are encouraged to provide nominations to NCD to promote student travel to the NCD annual meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted.
Greg Busacker Secretary/Treasurer



On the Underside

by Charles Anderson and others

Subject: Useful Math

Ever wonder about those people who say they are giving more than 100%? We have all been to those meetings where someone wants over 100%. How about achieving 103%? Here's a little math that might prove helpful. What makes life 100%?

If A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z is represented as: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26, then,

H A R D W O R K = $8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98\%$

K N O W L E D G E = $11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96\%$

But, A T T I T U D E = $1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100\%$

And, B U L L S H I T = $2+21+12+12+19+8+9+20 = 103\%$

So, it stands to reason that hard work and knowledge will get you close, attitude will get you there, but bullshit will put you over the top.

Subject: Alternate Meanings

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

1. Coffee (n.), a person who is coughed upon.
2. Flabbergasted (adj.), appalled over how much weight you have gained.
3. Abdicate (v.), to give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. Esplanade (v.), to attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. Willy-nilly (adj.), impotent
6. Negligent (adj.), describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightie.
7. Lymph (v.), to walk with a lisp.
8. Gargoyle (n.), an olive-flavored mouthwash.
9. Flatulence (n.) the emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.
10. Balderdash (n.), a rapidly receding hairline.
11. Testicle (n.), a humorous question on an exam.
12. Rectitude (n.), the formal, dignified demeanor assumed by a proctologist immediately before he examines you.
13. Oyster (n.), a person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddish expressions.
14. Circumvent (n.), the opening in the front of boxer shorts.
15. Frisbeetarianism (n.), The belief that, when you die, your soul goes up on the roof and gets stuck there.

Subject: Socioeconomic Systems Compared

Feudalism

You have two cows. Your lord takes some of the milk.

Communism

You have two cows. You must take care of them, but the government takes all the milk.

Capitalism

You have two cows. You sell one and buy a bull. Your herd multiplies, and the economy grows. You sell them and retire on the income.

Enron Capitalism

You have two cows. You borrow 80% of the forward value of the two cows from your bank, then buy another cow with 5% down and the rest financed by the seller on a note callable if your market cap goes below \$20B at a rate 2 times prime. You now sell three cows to your publicly listed company, using letters of credit opened by your brother-in-law at a 2nd bank, then execute a debt/equity swap with an associated general offer so that you get four cows back, with a tax exemption for five cows. The milk rights of six cows are transferred via an intermediary to a Cayman Island company secretly owned by the majority shareholder who sells the rights to seven cows back to your listed company. The annual report says the company owns eight cows, with an option on one more and this transaction process is upheld by your independent auditor and no Balance Sheet provided with the press release that announces that Enron as a major owner of cows will begin trading cows via the Internet site www.cows.com.

Subject: 2001 Darwin Awards

Note that of the 6 described, only 2 survive; one with an arrow through 8 inches of his brain, the other with his lips, tongue and teeth blown away. Fortunately, neither seems to have suffered injury to any FUNCTIONING brain matter. These awards are given each year to bestow upon (the remains of) that individual, who through single-minded self-sacrifice, has done the most to remove undesirable elements from the human gene pool.

5th RUNNER-UP

Goes to a San Anselmo, California man who died when he hit a lift tower at the Mammoth Mountain ski area while riding down the slope on a foam pad. The 22-year old man was pronounced dead at Central Mammoth Hospital. The accident occurred about 3a.m, the Mono County Sheriff's department said.

The man and his friends apparently had hiked up a ski run called Stump Alley and undid some yellow foam protectors from lift towers, said Lt. Mike Donnelly of the Mammoth Lakes Police Department. The pads are used to protect skiers who might hit towers. The group apparently used the pads to slide down the ski slope and Hubal crashed into a tower. It has since been investigated and determined the tower he hit was the one with its pad removed.

4th RUNNER-UP

Goes to a 32 year old man who was apparently being disorderly in a St. Louis market. When the clerk threatened to call the police, the man grabbed a hot dog, shoved it into his mouth and walked out without paying. Police found him unconscious in front of the store. Paramedics removed the six-inch wiener from his throat where it had choked him to death.

3rd RUNNER-UP

Goes to a poacher in Spain, who shot a stag standing above him on an overhanging rock and was killed instantly when it fell on him.

2nd RUNNER-UP

"Man loses face at party." A man at a West Virginia party (probably related to the winner last year, a man in Arkansas who used the .22 bullet to replace the fuse in his pickup truck) popped a blasting cap into his mouth and bit down, triggering an explosion that blew off his lips, teeth, and tongue. The man, 24, of Kincaid, bit the blasting cap as a prank during the party late Tuesday night, said Cpl. M.D. Payne. "Another man had it in an aquarium hooked to a battery and was trying to explode it."

"It wouldn't go off and this guy said "I'll show you how to set it off." He put it into his mouth, bit down and it blew all his teeth out and his lips and tongue off, Payne said. "I just can't imagine anyone doing something like that," Payne said.

1st RUNNER-UP

Doctors at Portland University Hospital said an Oregon man shot through the skull by a hunting arrow is lucky to be alive and will be released soon from the hospital. A 25 year-old man lost his right eye during an initiation into a men's rafting club, Mountain Men Anonymous (probably known now as Stupid Mountain Men Anonymous) in Grant's Pass, Oregon.

A friend tried to shoot a beer can off his head, but the arrow entered the man's right eye. Doctors said that had the arrow gone 1 millimeter to the left, a major blood vessel would have been cut and he would have died instantly. Neurosurgeon Doctor Johnny Delashaw at the university Hospital in Portland said the arrow went through 8 to 10 inches of brain with the tip protruding at the rear of his skull, yet somehow managed to miss all major blood vessels. Delashaw also said that had the man tried to pull the arrow out on his own he surely would have killed himself.

The man admitted afterwards that he and his friends had been drinking that afternoon. Said the 1st runner up, "I feel so dumb about this." No charges have been filed, but the Josephine County district attorney's office said the initiation stunt is under investigation.

THE 2001 WINNER

(The late) John "Doe" and his friend, (the late) "Bill Smith", of Washington, decided to attend a local Metallica concert at the George Washington amphitheatre. Having no tickets (but having had 18 beers between them), they thought it would be easy to "hop" over the nine-foot fence and sneak into the show.

They pulled their pickup truck over to the fence and the plan was for John, who was 100-pounds heavier than Bill) to hop the fence and then assist his friend over. Unfortunately for (the late) Mr. Doe, there was a 30-foot drop on the other side of the fence. Having heaved himself over, he found himself crashing through a tree. His fall was abruptly halted (and broken, along with his arm) by a large branch that snagged him by his shorts. Dangling from the tree with a broken arm, he looked down and saw some bushes below him. Possibly figuring the bushes would break his fall; he removed his pocketknife and proceeded to cut away his shorts to free himself from the tree.

Finally free, Mr. Doe crashed into holly bushes. The sharp leaves scratched his ENTIRE body and now, without the protection of his shorts, a holly branch penetrated his rectum. To make matters worse, on landing, his pocketknife penetrated his thigh. Mr. Smith, seeing his friend in considerable pain and agony, threw him a rope and pull him to safety by tying the rope to the pickup truck and slowly driving away. However, in his drunken haste/state, he put the truck into reverse and crashed through the fence landing on his friend and killing him.

Police arrived to find the crashed pickup with its driver thrown 100 feet from the truck and dead at the scene from massive internal injuries. Upon moving the truck, they found John under it half-naked, scratches on his body, a holly stick in his rectum, a knife in his thigh, and his shorts dangling from a tree branch 25-feet in the air.

Contacts

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

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North Central Division of AFS	http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs
Walleye Tech. Comm.	http://ws3.coopfish.siu.edu/walleye_tech