

Hey NCD, Happy New Year, Happy New Decade, January 2020!

I decided to do something a little different this week. With the Midwest F&W Conference coming up later this month, and all of the annual chapter meetings following suit, I decided to reach out to all the chapter presidents in the NCD and see how things were going. It was great to talk to folks from every chapter, and to learn a few things about what each are doing. Chapter meeting plans are coming together, and a bunch of folks are actually using the Ambassador Program to find some talks to add to their program. Hurray!

I was also asked a really good question – “How do you know you are doing the right things as a chapter president?” This question came up because as leaders we always hear about what we are supposed to do from our predecessor in the position, but what if they missed something? How do you know? My first answer was to make sure to attend the “Leadership at all levels of AFS” Continuing Education Course at the next AFS Annual Meeting you attend. But, not everyone has the opportunity to attend an AFS Annual meeting. So, what else is available?

AFS conducts a regular webinar series, and about once a year there is one for unit leaders. Here is a link to the video of one of these recent webinars - <https://fisheries.org/unit-leader-webinar-recordings/>

AFS also has a web page devoted to helping out units and their leaders, with stuff like a Unit Leaders Guide, links to more webinars, and so much more. <https://fisheries.org/about/units/guidelines/>

I also told this chapter president that every AFS chapter has a few folks who are really involved in AFS. They have likely been president at one time or another, and have likely also served on other AFS committees. Seek them out, they will help you. Remember, as a member of AFS, you want your leaders to be successful, so check in with them and see how they are doing.

Enough of the stuffy AFS material. Here are some pictures and a video from an ice fishing trip I took with my middle daughter last January. Please click on the video, it's hilarious: [VIDEO](#)

Thanks,

*Jeff*

