

OKLAHOMA CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Volume 20(1)

THE LATERAL LINE

April 1999

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

As the countdown to the year 2000 continues, I hope all are doing well. As many of you know by now we have lost a valued member of this society; Jimmie Pigg was indeed a kind and generous man and a true professional. He will be missed by all.

I would like to extend my appreciation to all who were involved in the February Meeting. I felt that it was a success both our student turnout and the variety of presentations. Thank you very much.

For those of you who couldn't make it to the meeting, we have a new president-elect, Paul Balkenbush. Paul is the stream management biologist for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. He is working out of the Higgins office. As plans start for the next meeting I would hope you would give him your full support. Congratulations Paul!

Julia Matlock
OK AFS President

As we proceed into the new millenium, natural resources conservation will face new challenges. Meet those challenges with the support of others in the fisheries field by joining the Oklahoma Chapter American Fisheries Society today. Dues are only \$5 per year and the benefits of membership certainly outweigh that meager sum. Fill out the attached form on page 7 and send it in!!!

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“Department Mourns Environmental Pioneer”

“Jimmie Pigg, a former member of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation’s Wildlife Diversity Technical Committee, died of a heart attack February 24 in Memphis, Tenn.”

“An ichthyologist for the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Pigg was traveling to a business meeting at the time of his death.”

“Born and educated in Bartlesville, Pigg earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in biology and health and physical education in 1953 from Oklahoma A&M. He completed his Master of Science Degree in Natural Sciences from Oklahoma A&M in 1962.”

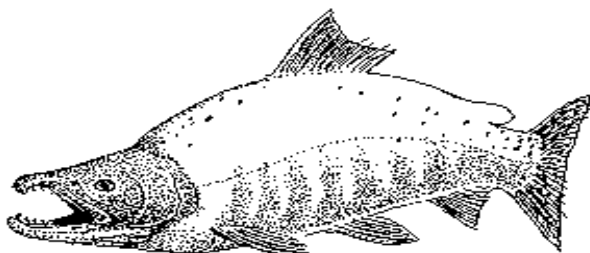
“He began his career in Oklahoma government in 1974 as a part-time research biologist. During his tenure as an ichthyologist with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, he worked as the biomonitoring director and senior environmental specialist.”

“Among his many awards, Pigg was named Oklahoma Conservationist of the Year by the Oklahoma Wildlife Federation in 1974 and 1996. In 1983, he received the Presidential Award of Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching from President Ronald Reagan. This award meant the most to him because his students nominated him for it.”

ODWC Weekly News Bulletin
March 3, 1999

“I first met Jim at UOBS in the summer of 1961 -- we were being inspired by another great Oklahoma ichthyologist, Dr. George A. Moore, in his summer field class. I suspect that George little knew what a dynamo he was fueling in the form of Jim. Most of the waters of the state have passed through the seine of Jim and we will all miss him.”

Dr. William Shelton
University of Oklahoma



Activities Committee

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OKLAHOMA CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, on October 8, 1998, companion bills were introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R. 4717 - The Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1998) and Senate (S.2566 - The Reinvestment and Environmental Restoration Act of 1998): and on January 19, 1999, the Senate reintroduced S.25 - The Conservation and Reinvestment Act; and

WHEREAS, both bills in their Title III sections dedicate a percentage (10% in H.R. 4717 or 7% in S.25) of federal offshore oil and gas revenues to state fish and wildlife agency programs and related recreation and education; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Fisheries Society promotes scientific research and enlightened management of aquatic resources for optimum use and enjoyment by the public; and also encourages comprehensive education of fisheries scientists and continuing on-the-job training; and

WHEREAS, with year 2000 oil and gas revenues estimates of \$4.59 billion, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation could receive additional federal revenues equal to or greater than current combined PR and DJ/WB income for a comprehensive wildlife program, and especially for nongame fish and wildlife, allowing the development of proactive, fully responsive programs to prevent additional listing of aquatic species, and to protect water quality, and to conserve the broad range of game and nongame species; and

WHEREAS, both bills were introduced in Congress with bipartisan sponsorship and with the support of more than 3,000 conservation organizations and related businesses, including this organization;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Fisheries Society meeting on February 3, 1999, that the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation is urged to support passage of these bills, and the Wildlife Conservation Commission is urged to work diligently to ensure these bills' passage in Congress.

The above resolution was drafted after being approved by the members present at the 1999 business meeting of the Oklahoma Chapter American Fisheries Society at Roman Nose State Park, Oklahoma. It is provided above to provide discussion among those members who were not present but would like to have their voices heard. Any comments may be directed to the President-Elect, Paul Balkenbush at:

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**Oklahoma Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
1999 Annual Business Meeting
Roman Nose State Park
February 5, 1999**

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m.

Julia Matlock welcomed the 23 members in attendance.

1. Treasurer's Report - Bill Wentroth

A 1998 financial summary was presented showing Income vs. Expenses for the year. Overall, there was a \$1,886.00 surplus last year. Investment funds yielded 4.2% in 1998 compared to 6.4% in 1997.

A brief discussion concerning the chapter membership followed. The decreasing membership trend was addressed and possible solutions were entertained.

2. Environmental Concerns - Bill Wentroth

From a communication from **Brian Bristow**: Brian reported little action from the committee. He expressed a desire to be replaced by someone that is more involved with environmental issues. He felt like the "lag time" that is produced from the time he first sees an issue to the time that action is taken is counter-productive for the Chapter. Nominations were taken from the floor with **Jimmie Pigg** being elected as the new chairman.

A resolution concerning the Reinvestment Act was read and the wording discussed. A motion was made to support the passage of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act of 1998 and the Reinvestment and Environmental Restoration Act of 1998 if the wording was changed in paragraph 4 line 5 and 6 reading: "allowing the development of *conservation* programs to prevent additional listing of aquatic species". The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. It was agreed to put the resolution in the March Newsletter to receive additional comments for a 30 day period and evaluate the responses to determine the chapter's position statement.

3. Newsletter Committee - Jim Long (OSU)

The Student Chapter has permanently taken over the newsletter responsibility for the Oklahoma Chapter. Ken Cunningham received appreciation for his hard work in previous years as Newsletter editor. There was discussion on who should receive the newsletter. The decision was made to send newsletters to all current chapter members, parent society members, and all large installations in the state with fisheries professionals.

4. Activities Committee - Keith Thomas

The "White Elephant" Gift Exchange at the banquet went over well and will surface again at the next annual meeting. Keith resigned and **Barry Bolton** jubilantly accepted the chairman's position and is excited about the Y2K events of the future! It was asked that the EXCOM recommend what kind of emphasis on outreach the Activities Committee pursues in the future.

5. Nominations - Kim Erickson

Kim presented a plaque from the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society for *The Outstanding Chapter Award in 1998* to the President.

There were no nominees for the Outstanding Fisheries Worker of the Year.

The Jimmie Pigg Student Travel Scholarship winner for 1998 was **Keith Gido** from The University of Oklahoma for his fisheries research on Lake Texoma. Keith will be using this award for travel to the AFS Southern Division Mid-Year meeting. Congratulations Keith!

President Elect nominations were announced with **Paul Balkenbush** having no opposition. Paul was elected by proclamation. **Bill Wentroth** was elected to another 2-year term as Secretary/Treasurer for the chapter.

BUSINESS OLD

The chapter's Pond Management Coordinator position was never filled. Bill Wentroth nominated **Glen Gebhart** to the position. Glen was elected from the floor, unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A proposal was received concerning the protocol for handling resolutions, as a chapter. It was decided that the EXCOM should review and modify the protocol if needed.

The need for a Chapter Web Page was addressed and the Student Chapter volunteered to set one up from the OSU network. Any assistance from experienced web page managers would be greatly appreciated!! Contact Jim Long at longjm@okstate.edu

Student Chapter Report – Jim Long

The Student Chapter reported that they were in good standing, financially, with a good supply of T-shirts available for sale in 1999. The Fisheries Demonstration event for 1998 was sponsored by **NEOSU** at Lake Tenkiller. There were 25 participants who observed gillnetting, electrofishing, and trap netting gear demonstrations. Otolith removal was also demonstrated as a special technique for age and growth determination.

A new Student Involvement Award was presented to **Jason Schaffler of NEOSU**. Jason has a 3.56 GPA, earned several Honor Rolls, assisted with teaching university classes and is active with Zebra Mussel collections.

Congratulations Jason!! He received a chapter membership and his choice of a parent society student membership or \$50 towards any AFS Journal or Book.

The Student Chapter Bylaws were put on the OSU web page for review and final voting is still in progress. (Note: notification from the Student Chapter confirmed the approval of the Bylaws in late February.)

Officers for the 1999 term are **President: Lisa**

Kiner, Vice President: Terry Malloy and Secretary/Treasurer: Randy Hyler.

9. Julia Matlock adjourned the meeting at 9:26 a.m.

VIBRATIONS AND OTHER STIMULI SENSED BY THE LATERAL LINE

AFS will join the Council of Aquatic Sciences (CAS) effective this year. The council consists of nonprofit scientific and professional organizations interested in exchanging information across disciplinary boundaries for purposes of marshalling science in support of public aquatic policy. The Society had participated in the formation of this group under Past-president Chuck Coutant's leadership, but we did not become a dues-paying member in part because the group seemed inactive. AFS member Mike Falter attended CAS's annual meeting in Banff, Alberta, last November and found the council alive, well, and planning a joint conference of member societies for 2004. The Special Management Committee subsequently directed that we establish formal ties to the Council and participate meaningfully in its activities. (AFS *Fisheries Diary*)

Aquaculture America '99 will convene 27–30 January in Tampa, Florida. Sponsored by the National Aquaculture Society and the U.S. Chapter of the World Aquaculture Society, this conference will have a strong international flavor; more than 50 countries are expected to participate. The AFS Fish Culture Section will be strongly represented as an Associate Sponsor. Get more information from John Cooksey at 425/485-6682; FAX 425/483-6319.

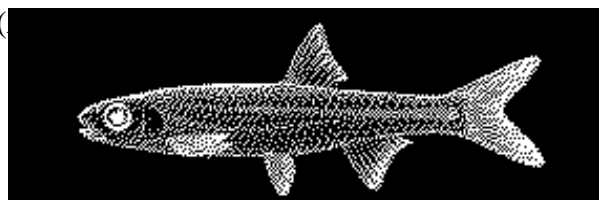
Also mark your calendars for World Aquaculture '99 in Sydney, Australia, 27 April–2 May, and Aquaculture America 2000 in New Orleans, 1–5 February 2000. (AFS *Fisheries Diary*)

VIBRATIONS CONT'D

Anyone interested in continuing education opportunities should check out the World Wide Web site of the Center for Environmental Studies (<http://www.vcu.edu/cesweb>) for a schedule of its Environmental Technology Training Workshop series. Non-cyber professionals can call 804/828-7202 for information. Such workshops are good ways to meet the strengthened requirements of the AFS Certification Program. A list of AFS continuing education courses will appear in the July Fisheries. (AFS *Fisheries* Diary)

The population of introduced Chinese mitten crabs has exploded in California, writes Lloyd Hess; the species has spread from San Francisco Bay up both the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. This catadromous crab rears in freshwater and returns to estuaries for spawning. The estimated number of mitten crabs passing downstream at the Bureau of Reclamation's Tracy Fish Salvage Facility (alone) grew from 50 in 1996 to 30,000 in 1997 to 1 million in 1998. A 9-minute video ("CLAWS 2") demonstrating the magnitude of this problem and what the Bureau is doing about it is available for \$9.95 (postage included) from AM Productions, 916/489-9921.

Contributions to *Vibrations* are most welcome. Any information of interest to Chapter members is appropriate. Send contributions to Jim Long, OK Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, 404 Life Sciences West, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078; phone 405/744-6342; fax 405/744-5006; e-mail longjim@okstate.edu.



Licensed anglers decline. In late September 1998, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released figures indicating the number of fishing licenses sold nationally declined from 29.9 million in 1996 to 29.3 million in 1997. However, the expenditures for these licenses and permits rose from \$447 million in 1996 to \$498.4 million in 1997. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Release)

Gulf Coast Fish Kill. On Sept. 23, 1998, TX Parks and Wildlife Dept. biologists conducted aerial surveys in response to an extensive mortality event involving hundreds of crabs, shrimp, redfish, trout, flounder, and other species along the Texas coast from Galveston to Beaumont and eastward to Louisiana's Atchafalya and Mississippi river basins. This event was blamed on a sudden influx of low oxygen waters flushed from coastal marshes into bayous and bays by extensive rainfall. (Fort Worth Star-Telegram)

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

IF NOT, DO SO TODAY!!

Your 1999 Chapter dues are due! Unless you have paid you dues via the Parent Society, please send your dues payment to Bill Wentroth ASAP. The Chapter needs your support (\$5 per year) to continue its vital mission. Consider renewing for two or three years and avoid the hassle. Alternatively, you might consider renewing for life (\$50). Dues collected from life memberships go to support the Chapter's Student Travel Grant/Scholarship Fund. Oklahoma Chapter AFS Membership Renewal Forms are located on Page 7.

And while your renewing, consider serving on one of the Chapter's committees. If one of the committees on the renewal form looks appealing, give the committee chair a call and offer your assistance.

CALENDAR

OKLAHOMA AFS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

April 26-28, 1999 - *Managing Natural Resources in the Twenty-first Century Conference*. Williamsburg, Virginia. Contact Eric Myers, (202) 508-5508; ericmee@eei.org.

May 25-28, 1999 - *Annual Meeting of the North American Benthological Society*. Duluth, Minnesota. Contact Stephen W. Golladay, (912) 734-4700; <http://www.benthos.org>.

August 29-September 2, 1999 - *129th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society*. "Integrating Fisheries Principles from Mountain to Marine Habitats." Adams Mark Hotel, Charlotte, NC. See the December issue *Fisheries* Vol 23 (12) for meeting details. Contact Betsy Fritz, (301)897-8616 ext. 212; bfritz@fisheries.org for meeting information.

October 24-27, 1999 - *4th Microcomputer Applications in Fish and Wildlife Conference*. Hosted by the Computer User Section AFS and the GIS and Remote Sensing Working Group of the Wildlife Society. Abstracts are due by April 30, 1999. Questions can be directed to Doug Beard, (608) 267-9427; beardt@dnr.state.wi.us.

November 7-10, 1999 - *53rd Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies*. Holiday Inn Four Seasons/Joseph S. Koury Convention Center in Greensborough, North Carolina. The theme this year is "Fish and Wildlife Management in the New Millennium". Manuscript submission deadline is May 1, 1999 to Dr. Patricia M. Mazik, WV Univ. Coop. Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, 322 Percival Hall, Morgantown, WV, 26506-6125 (304)293-3794; e-mail: pmazik@wvu.edu.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

1 Year	\$5	_____
2 Years	\$10	_____
3 Years	\$15	_____
LIFE	\$50	_____

COMMITTEES (Please check at least one)

Activities Committee _____
 Aquatic Education _____
 Continuing Education _____
 Environmental Concerns _____
 Newsletter _____
 Nominating and Awards _____
 Program _____
 Raffle _____

Detach, make check payable to *OKAFS*, and send to: Bill Wentroth, Secretary-Treasurer, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Route 2 Box 480, Ponca City, OK 74604. For parent society information, contact Bill at 580/762-2248 or bill_wentroth@mail.fws.gov.



OKLAHOMA STUDENT CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Volume 5(1) **THE LATERAL LINE STUDENT SUPPLEMENT** April 1999

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PAST-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The student chapter has come a far way from the early days when we borrowed \$50 from the state chapter to help buy hot dogs for our 1st Annual Techniques Demo. Since then we have become monetarily independent with a balance in excess of \$700. We have hosted two more techniques demos since the first and that event keeps getting bigger and better. We were able to create a student chapter award to encourage involvement in AFS. That award will be offered annually (provided we still have funds in the coffers) and we hope that students will take advantage of it and apply.

My time serving as president of the student chapter was challenging, rewarding, educational, and most enjoyable. I was challenged to encourage involvement at all levels, and met mostly with success. I was rewarded when things turned out right and educated when they did not. I was educated in the process of running a professional organization and in dealing with other fisheries professionals. I have enjoyed my tenure as president by getting to know students, professors, biologists, and others in the field. I could not, however, have done any of the work that the student chapter accomplished without the help of the student chapter EXCOM, state chapter president Julia Matlock, and student chapter advisor Bill Fisher and I thank them enormously. I wish Lisa the best of luck with her tenure and invite all others who wish to be involved with this rapidly growing chapter to contact her and express that interest.

Jim Long
Oklahoma Student AFS Past-President

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I am both excited and honored to serve as the President of the Student Subsection this coming year. As the Secretary/Treasurer last year, I was able to make a contribution to the subsection and am proud to be able to continue service this year. Also, I would like to put forth thanks to all those last year who contributed to our success!

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (cont'd)

Last year we developed a Fisheries Involvement Award to recognize leadership and accomplishment in fisheries science to a senior undergraduate or first year graduate student. The award pays for membership to the Parent Society and the Oklahoma Chapter for one year. If the recipient is already a member, he/she may choose the alternate option of a subscription to one of the society journals. We plan to accept applications for the award again this year.

Last year's techniques demo went off without a hitch thanks to the folks at Northeast. This year we are considering a stream techniques demonstration and hope to involve students from other universities, especially Southeast and the University of Oklahoma.

Fund raising has been successful in the past allowing us to host the techniques demo and create our involvement award. Success has been largely due to t-shirt sales and an annual fish fry hosted in conjunction with the Wildlife Society. Our new t-shirt designs were very successful (we're temporarily sold out!), and we hope to have more designs available soon.

This year we hope to become more involved through stream cleanups, Aquatic Education Programs through ODWC, and by hosting speakers at monthly meetings. The organization is becoming increasingly active and involved. We hope to build on this in the coming year.

Lisa Kiner

OK Student AFS President

REPORTS

TREASURER

Starting Balance (14 December 1998) **\$ 647.31**

Credits

T-shirt sales \$ 776.60

Misc. \$ 0.64

\$ 777.24

Debits

Shipping \$ 3.85

Postage \$ 6.60

Copies \$ 3.75

\$ 14.20

Ending Balance (14 April 1999) **\$ 1410.35**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Οκλαχομα Χηαπτερ ΑΦΣ Α2

THE 4th ANNUAL FISHERIES TECHNIQUES DEMONSTRATION will be at Rocky Ford State Park on Spring Creek on Saturday, April 17 from 11-?. This year's event will focus more on stream sampling techniques for fish and other biota. Some of the demonstrations will include back-pack and pre-positioned electrofishing as well as sampling for benthic macroinvertebrates. For more information contact Terry Malloy at mterren @okstate.edu or phone (405)744-5554.

STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

- Keith Gido received the Jimmie Pigg Student Travel Award from the OK AFS Chapter at their annual meeting at Roman Nose State Park.
- Randy Hyler presented a paper on his research on angler attitudes towards a differential harvest regulation on black bass populations at Skiatook Lake, Oklahoma at the SDAFS Mid-Year Meeting in Chattanooga, TN.
- Jim Long presented a paper on his research on black bass responses towards a differential harvest regulation at Skiatook Lake, Oklahoma at the SDAFS Mid-Year Meeting in Chattanooga, TN. Jim also received a second year of funding from the SDAFS Reservoir Committee's Robert M. Jenkins Memorial Reservoir Research Award.
- Terry Malloy presented a paper on his research on the genetics of introduced and native smallmouth bass populations in Broken Bow Reservoir at the OK AFS Annual Meeting at Roman Nose State Park.
- Scott Haywood presented results from a study on the effects of trailered boat traffic on the spread of zebra mussels in Oklahoma at the Annual Meeting of the OK AFS at Roman Nose State Park.

We apologize to anyone whose accomplishments were not recognized, if you would like to be recognized in the next newsletter, please e-mail Jim Long at longjm@okstate.edu.