



American Fisheries Society Arkansas Chapter

Annual Business Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2001

President Charlie Gagen called the meeting to order at 1627 hours. Charlie made opening remarks and then asked for the secretary's report.

Secretary Diana Saul presented the minutes to the Chapter for approval. The reading of the minutes was waived. Tom Bly made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mark Oliver seconded the motion. There was no discussion or questions and the motion carried.

Rich Standage then presented the Treasurer's Report, which is attached. Rich also commented on the computer that had been purchased for the treasurer. The cost had been about \$200 more than the approved \$2,700. The overage was due to software that was purchased and installed on the laptop. Rich stated that the Chapter had a total of 81 paid professional members and 30 students last year. This year's total membership, as of the meeting, was 74 professional members and 39 students. Rich asked that everyone look over the membership list to see if their address, phone numbers and E-mail addresses were correct. Tom Bly commended Rich on his work as Treasurer and made a motion that the Treasurer's Report be approved. Ken Shirley seconded the motion. There was no discussion or questions and the motion carried.

Mark Oliver, the Newsletter Editor, thanked everyone for sending in information for the newsletter. Mark also asked that everyone check the address list. He asked the members to let him know if they knew of someone that would like to become a member and receive the newsletter.

Chris Davidson, the Webmaster, was unable to attend the meeting, so Charlie spoke for him. Charlie stated that the website looked really nice and that it had a lot of valuable information on it. He asked everyone to check out the website. Charlie commented that since the Arkansas Chapter will be hosting the 2002 AFS Southern Division Meeting, information pertaining to the meeting will be available on the website. The website address is www.sdafs.org/arkafs/arafs.htm.

Tom Bly, the Chairman of the Activities and Raffles Committee, reported on the door prizes and auction items for the meeting. He asked that everyone let him know who donated prize items so he could send them a letter of appreciation. Tom stated that he was resigning as Chairman of the Activities and Raffles Committee.

Charlie then recognized Joe Stoeckel, the Chairman of the Nominations and Awards Committee, and had him begin handing out ballots. Joe passed out ballots for President-Elect and Treasurer. A mix-up on the ballots caused the biographies for the two Treasurer nominees to not be on the ballots. Joe had the two nominees stand and give a brief oral biography. While the votes were being counted, Joe presented the Best Student Paper awards. He first recognized Sam Barkley, Betty Crump and Barry Beavers as the student paper judges. The Best Undergraduate Paper Award went to Chao Mwatela. Chao's paper was titled "Use of Relative Abundance and Condition to Predict Survival of hybrid Striped Bass (*Morone chrysops x M. saxatilis*) Fingerlings". The Best Graduate Paper Award went to Daniel Dauwalter. The title of Daniel's paper was "The Sampling Effort Required to Characterize Fish Communities in Arkansas' Wadable, Ozark Highland Streams." Joe then presented the Bayou Bartholomew Alliance with the Robert M. Jenkins Award for Outstanding Conservation Achievement. Joe gave a brief description of all of the activities in which the Bayou Bartholomew Alliance had been involved. Bill Layer, the Coordinator for the Bayou Bartholomew Alliance, accepted the award on the organization's behalf. Bill gave a description of how the Alliance was organized and thanked the Chapter for the award. Joe then turned the floor over to Charlie Gagen to present the Joe Hogan Award for Individual Achievement. Charlie began the presentation by stating that he had nominated Red Tatum as this year's recipient. Charlie read Red's nomination, which included his achievements. Charlie then presented Red with the award. Red thanked the Chapter for the award and made a few remarks.

Chairperson Bill Shinn presented the Education Liaison Committee report. Bill handed out the schedule for this year's Science Fairs. (Schedule is attached.) Bill then took names of volunteers to judge the Science Fairs. The volunteers for the various regional science fairs are as follows:

- ◆ **Central** – Bill Shinn, Clifton Jackson, Rob Beadle, John Jackson and Ed Buckner
- ◆ **South Central** – Stuart Woolridge and Brett Hobbs
- ◆ **West Central** – Betty Crump and Lisa Hlass
- ◆ **Northeast** – Sam Barkley and Sam Henry
- ◆ **Southeast** – Jerry Smith, Diana Saul and Steve Lochmann
- ◆ **Northwest** – Ron Moore
- ◆ **North Central** – Stan Todd, Mark Oliver

Charlie then asked Bill to get the rest of the names of judges after the meeting. Charlie advised the Chapter that the EXCOM had decided to make the Past-President a member of the Education Liaison Committee to act as a liaison to the subunits. The purpose of

this action was to allow for more interaction between the Education Liaison Committee and the subunits without putting extra responsibility on Bill.

The subunit reports began by Charlie stating that no one from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville Subunit was able to attend. However, they had reported to Charlie that they had elected Andrea Radwell to receive the Outstanding Student Award.

Subunit President Chris Racey presented the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Subunit report. Chris recognized the subunit officers. Chris stated that during the past year Dr. Ed Pert had left UAPB, but had been replaced by Dr. Ed Buckner. The subunit had 23 members, at the time of the meeting. Chris stated that they had had a meeting with the Mississippi Subunit, in which they had given presentations and then gone canoeing the next day. Susan Rogers of the USFWS and Jerry Ludwig of the National Research Aquaculture Center had both given presentations to the subunit. Activities that the subunit were involved in this past year were the Annual Arkansas Cleanup, the Pine Bluff Fishing Derby, their annual fund-raising raffle during the UAPB Homecoming football game, the UAPB Homecoming parade and the Angel Tree Program. The UAPB subunit plans to paint some Arkansas Game and Fish Commission signs this year. Chris told the chapter that they were always looking for good speakers in their meetings and issued an open invitation to any of the chapter members that would like to speak at one of their meetings. Chris also told the chapter that they were always willing to help any of the chapter members with their sampling. Joe Stoeckel stated that Chris had been selected to receive the Outstanding Student Award and then presented this award to Chris.

The Arkansas Tech University subunit report was presented by Kendall Molls. Kendall reported that they had 28 members in their subunit. Activities they had participated in during the past year were National Public Lands Day, fishing derbies at both Lake Dardanelle and Longpool, work on the Illinois Bayou with Stream Team coordinator Darrell Bowman and Quacking in the Valley. The ATU subunit had sent 28 students to 6 meetings. Twelve students had gone to the Southeast Wildlife Conclave in which they had taken second place overall. Kendall stated that the ATU subunit had gotten a Stream Team grant for purchase of a hydrolab. Kendall told the Chapter that the ATU subunit had selected Mark Harness to receive the Outstanding Member Award. Joe Stoeckel then presented Mark with the award.

Charlie applauded the subunits and the work that they were doing. He then asked for the Environmental Affairs Committee report. John Jackson presented the Environmental Affairs Committee report, which is attached, for Chairperson Lisa Hlass who was unable to attend.

Charlie began addressing old business by asking Mark Oliver to update the chapter on the Fishes of Arkansas CD-ROM. Mark stated that he had found out that the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission had donated money to help publish the Fishes of Arkansas book. Mark stated that the book would first have to be OCR scanned, so it could be put into electronic media. Vital Records of Little Rock had given Mark a bid of approximately

\$250.00 to have the book OCR scanned and converted to a word processing program. Mark stated that if the book was OCR scanned then he would need several volunteers to help edit the scanned pages. The University Press had been contacted and they think that the CD-ROM is a good idea and they would also like to see the book revised. Joe Stoeckel made a motion that the Chapter should spend \$250.00 to have the book scanned. Steve Filipek seconded the motion. Mark also stated that Dr. Lochmann would like the CD-ROM to have the capability to produce species lists by drainages. He stated that there are a lot of options that could be added to the CD-ROM. John Jackson asked if we could scan in the old version of the book, get the book updated and then do the CD-ROM. Mark replied that the University Press would like to sell the updated book and CD-ROM as a package. Steve Filipek asked if the graphics in the CD-ROM could be used in slide shows. Mark replied that he was not sure if a slide show could be made from the graphics because of copyright laws. Steve Filipek also wondered if the Chapter would be able to make money from the project. Allen Carter wanted the Chapter to make sure of the legal aspects to the CD-ROM. Tom Bly amended the previous motion that there not be a money amount on the scanning. Steve seconded the amendment. There was no discussion or questions and the amended motion carried.

Charlie told the chapter how the updating of the Procedures Manual was going. The update of the manual should be completed by the next EXCOM meeting. He clarified that the bylaws were not being changed, but only the Procedures Manual which did not require a vote by the membership. If the bylaws need changing, then information about the proposed changes would be sent to the whole Chapter and a vote would have to take place.

Charlie told the Chapter about a new Ad Hoc committee that had been appointed to produce a T-shirt for the 2002 meeting. Diana Saul, the committee chairperson, told the Chapter that the EXCOM had decided to produce a T-shirt that could be sold at the 2002 meeting and other meetings. This T-shirt would not have date on it. The committee would like to use some of Tomelleri's prints on this shirt. Bill Posey asked to be put on this committee. April Layher suggested that the committee contact Gordon Bagby about using Tommelleri's prints. Diana stated that Gordon had already been contacted and he had referred the committee to Jane Rice. The potential cost of using Tommellri's prints was also discussed.

Charlie then told the Chapter that Diana had one more year to serve as the secretary. He told the Chapter that Diana was producing detailed as well as summary minutes of the EXCOM meetings. The summary minutes are placed in the newsletter and the detailed minutes are placed on the website.

Charlie then began the new business by recognizing outgoing Treasurer Rich Standage. He presented Rich with a plaque and commended Rich on his work as the Chapter Treasurer.

Charlie then installed Steve Lochmann as the new President. Steve's first act as President was to present Charlie with his Past President Award. Steve commended Charlie on the excellent job that he had done as President.

Joe then announced the President and Treasurer election results. Betty Crump had been elected President and John Jackson had been elected Treasurer.

Steve then recognized Southern Division Vice President Steve Filipek. Steve greeted the Chapter on behalf of the Southern Division. Steve reminded the Chapter that Arkansas had been selected the best Chapter in the Southern Division a few years ago. Steve solicited suggestions from the Chapter on how the parent society could gain and maintain new memberships. Bill Posey suggested that the parent society lower their membership costs. Steve responded that the parent society would be establishing lower membership rates for recent graduate school graduates. New members would also get a lower rate for at least a year. Tom Bly commented that he thought that all professionals should be members of the parent society and the chapter. Bill Shinn commented that not many federal employees attended Chapter meetings. Steve Lochmann stated that it had been discussed that the parent society could give more benefits to members. Steve reminded the attendees of the upcoming Southern Division meeting as well as the upcoming Stream Team Conference. Steve also encouraged everyone to vote in all upcoming Southern Division and parent society elections. A very small percentage of members had voted during past elections.

Plans for the 2002 Southern Division meeting, which the Arkansas Chapter will host, was presented by Brian Wagner. Brian announced that the meeting would be held at the Doubletree Hotel on February 20-24, 2002. Brian then listed the committees and chairpersons that will be handling meeting arrangements. The committees and chairpersons are as follows: Brian Wagner will chair the Oversight Committee; Betty Crump will chair the Program Committee; April Layher will chair the Publicity and Advertising Committee; Mark Oliver will chair the Local Arrangements Committee and Mike Armstrong will chair the Finance Committee. Brian asked that those wishing to serve on a committee contact him after the business meeting.

For the sake of time, Steve decided to forego his New President's Address. Steve addressed the Chapter about creating an Ad Hoc Committee to deal with the black carp issue. He wants a resolution to be developed for the Chapter before the next annual business meeting. Steve wants the Ad Hoc Committee to hammer out the details of the resolution and present it to the Chapter. This brought up the subject of how the Chapter could vote on the resolution without convening a business meeting. This caused several comments to be made about how the voting could be done anonymously. Some of the members felt that the voting needed to be done anonymously to stave off any repercussions. Other members felt that the vote did not need to be anonymous.

John Jackson read the statement that Lisa Hlass, Chairperson of the Environmental Affairs Committee, had prepared. John told the Chapter that this was Lisa's personal

beliefs on the black carp issue and not a statement from Environmental Affairs Committee.

April Layher commented that she didn't think that the voting needed to be done anonymously and that voting by E-mail would be fine.

Mike Armstrong endorsed Steve's idea to create an Ad Hoc Committee. Mike also stated that this is a very touchy and polarizing issue that needs to be looked into deeper. He also noted that a large proponent of the aquaculture side of the issue was not at the meeting and they need to be considered. Mike wondered if triploid carp could be used. Mike also supported April's suggestion that the voting did not need to be anonymous because we should be able to be professional.

Steve Filipek suggested that the discussion be open but that the voting should be anonymous.

Carol Engle then addressed the Chapter with her perspective on the issue. She stated that this is not an urgent issue because black carp have been in the state for 25 years. Most of the statements that she has read have all come from one type of view and have not been based on the literature. She told the Chapter that black carp are being used in ponds already and most are triploid. Most resolutions that she has read have usually been made of generalizations. Carol also stated that black carp and grass carp have usually been compared as the same but they are different. The black carp are very important to catfish farmers and that black carp are good control over the trematode in snails. Allen Carter commented that it was interesting to see the different sides of the issue. He stated that bighead carp were not stocked in Arkansas but they are out there. He hasn't seen any detrimental effects of grass carp even though they've been stocked.

Allen stated that his personal opinion was that the black carp does pose a threat to native molluscs if it does populate in streams. We do not know the threat that black carp poses in the future. We already have black carp but have not had extensive use. There needs to be a strong regulation on the use of triploids. The Chapter needs to be conservative on this issue.

Bill Posey commented that he does not support bringing in exotics to control exotics. He feels that black carp pose a threat to the native mussels. His general belief is that he is against exotics.

Bill Layher stated that just little by little things change until things are messed up.

Betty Crump made a motion that an Ad Hoc Committee be formed to look at the black carp issue and that there be an anonymous vote on the resolution. Mark Oliver seconded the motion.

Steve solicited volunteers for the committee. He also stated that anyone could write a resolution and bring it before the EXOM. Allen Carter asked for a timetable for the

resolution. Steve said that he would like to see a resolution within 6-8 weeks. Betty Crump suggested that the resolution could be brought before the Arkansas Academy of Science since their meeting was in April. Mark Oliver suggested that there be more than one person counting the votes and he volunteered to be the other counter. The motion for the Ad Hoc Committee was voted on and passed.

Steve read a resolution for expression of thanks to the Arkansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society for participating in this joint meeting. Tom Bly made a motion to approve and Mark Oliver seconded. The motion passed.

Steve then asked for any new business. Joe Stoecke asked if the Chapter had formed a position on the White River issue. Steve Lochmann told Joe that a resolution had already been written. Steve Filipek stated that it might be helpful if Lisa Hlass would send out the resolution again. Joe made a motion to send the old resolution again and Steve seconded. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Charlie Gagen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Filipek seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1827.

Respectfully submitted by,

Diana Saul, Secretary
American Fisheries Society
Arkansas Chapter

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Treasurer's Report
- Science Fair List
- Environmental Affairs Committee Report