



Arkansas Chapter American Fisheries Society Fall 2003 Newsletter

September 2003

President's Message

First, let me introduce the new members of the Executive Committee. Colton Dennis has agreed to take over the position of Secretary following the resignation of Susan Rogers. Colton will serve until the annual meeting next February when we will elect a new Secretary. Susan has transferred to Minnesota where she will be working with wolves and lynxes as well as mussels. Boy isn't that a variety. We'll sure miss her in Arkansas but congratulate her on the promotion. And, the election results are in. By a wide margin, the student sub-unit Presidents are now full voting members of the EXCOM. This change reflects the importance of these sub-units to our chapter.

While we have three student sub-units (Arkansas Tech, U of A., and UAPB) as well as lots of support and members at ASU, we are losing contact with other colleges and universities as their professors pass on or retire. In many cases the institutions are now concentrating on laboratory type biology, pre-med or other fields with no or fewer field biology classes. However, some of their students may still be interested in the aquatic environmental fields and plan to go that way in grad school. I remember when I attended a primarily pre-med college as an undergrad because of its proximity to home. We need to make a special effort to contact students in those institutions who may be interested in aquatic biology but simply do not know about us. In that light, I (or a volunteer! Any takers?) will prepare a one page tri-fold folder describing the AR Chapter and our activities. Any ideas to add to it are welcome. I hope to have a draft for the next EXCOM meeting and then have some printed off before the next annual meeting. I will

ask individual chapter members to distribute them to the proper department at their local institutions. Appropriate consulting firms, agencies and industries would be other places to take the folders.

EXCOM members and committee chairs don't forget, the next EXCOM meeting will be held on December 3 at 11:00 AM in the Delta Nature Center in Pine Bluff. We'll be finalizing plans for the annual meeting. Non-EXCOM members are always welcome at these meetings, especially if they have something specific to introduce. Or, you are invited to contact me if you want something put on the agenda.

Ken Shirley, President

Fisheries Infobase

The American Fisheries Society (AFS) is pleased to announce its newest online service – Fisheries InfoBase, providing abstracts and the full-text PDF versions of 1988-1997 articles appearing in AFS journals.

For subscription information, visit http://www.fisheries.org/publications/Infobase/af_s_infobase.shtml Or go online to the AFS Homepage at <http://www.fisheries.org/> and click on "Fisheries InfoBase"

President-Elect's Message

I have been working this summer on details for the 2004 Annual Meeting of the Arkansas Chapter AFS. As suggested at the 2003 Business Meeting in Jackson, TN, we will hold the annual meeting February 3-5, 2004 at the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission's Delta Rivers Nature Center in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

The Hampton Inn (adjacent to the Pines Mall and 5 minutes from the nature center; 3103 E. Market St.) has reserved a block of rooms for us at a rate of \$55.00 + tax. Call 1-870-850-0444 for reservations. Visit our website for additional details:

www.sdafs.org/arkafs/2004_annual_meeting.htm

**2004 Annual Meeting
February 3-5, 2004
Proposed Agenda**

Tuesday 2/3/04

- 10 am – 4 pm Registration
- 12:30 - 5 pm Large River Fisheries Symposium at the Delta Rivers Nature Center
- 6:30 – 11 pm Mixer in the Meeting Room of the Hampton Inn

Wednesday 2/4/04

- 8:15 am – 12 pm Technical Session 1 at the Delta Rivers Nature Center
- 12 – 1 pm Lunch on your own
- 1 – 3 pm Technical Session 2 at the Delta Rivers Nature Center
- 3:15 – 5 pm Business Meeting at the Delta Rivers Nature Center
- 6:30 pm – 12 am Social at the Waterfront Community Center in Regional Park (Catering by: Who-dats)

Thursday 2/5/04

- 8:30 – 12:30 Technical Session 3 at the Delta Rivers Nature Center

Please send abstracts to Chris Davidson by November 30, 2003. Send abstracts by email to davidson@adeq.state.ar.us. This should be an exciting meeting and a great opportunity for those of you that have not seen the nature center to view the resources offered by the nature center. Make your plans now to attend. A registration form is attached in this newsletter.

Chris Davidson, President-Elect

Past President's Message

Greetings! I extend an apology for my lack of involvement in the AR AFS meetings for the past several months. As Plan Revision Ecologist for the Ouachita National Forest, my time has been strongly directed towards other endeavors, so I have been missing out on all the fun of helping to plan next year's meeting and Chapter business. I see that I am not greatly missed by the way that Chris and the Excom have taken charge and gotten things organized for the 2004 Annual Meeting.

The endeavors that have so monopolized my time are certainly not anything to complain about! I have been working in a challenging and rewarding atmosphere of producing great (viable) products by last week! Some of you have seen the start of the Species Viability Evaluation (SVE), and I hope to demonstrate further development to the AR AFS Review Committee within the next few months.

I have always been an advocate for "being involved" in those matters that are close to the heart, as in activities that affect the habitat of aquatic and terrestrial species, and particularly, the sensitive species. The Plan Revision efforts of the SVE allow me to bring all of my concerns (and hopefully yours) as far as Forest Service management influences, to the table and address them appropriately for the Ouachita National Forest.

This Plan Revision process also reinforces to me that the voices of our publics, particularly our agency and academic partners, can greatly influence the degrees of review, data gathering efforts, analysis, and ultimately the direction of management activities on FS lands. I encourage everyone to be involved in whatever is important to you, to whatever degree that you can handle among your other responsibilities.

Get involved in any subject that you are passionate about, not just Forest Service Plan Revision, but the American Fisheries Society, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Corps of Engineers, and even your local school or college.

It does take some effort, but the payoffs are well worth it. A little or a lot—any involvement makes a difference. Don't hesitate, or you will talk yourself out of the effort. Just do it!

FYI-There will be six Open House meetings in September for the public to share their comments and concerns on the use of Off-Highway Vehicles on the Ouachita NF. In October, there will be three Open House meetings for the public to share their comments and ask questions about the Plan Revision efforts. For the schedule and locations of these open houses or to share comments, concerns or to ask questions, go to: ouachita_plan@fs.fed.us. Your participation in any form and to any degree, is welcome and appreciated.

Betty G. Crump, Past-President

**Arkansas Chapter AFS
Unit Financial Report**
January 1, 2003 – Aug. 31, 2003

INCOME	
Balance brought forward (January 1, 2003)	15,975.91
Interest (Simmons Bank)	80.07
Membership dues AFS	810.00
TN Meeting registration	1,750.00
Auction	307.00
T-Shirts	90.00
Donations	250.00
AFS Parent contribution	223.12
Total Income	3,510.19
SUBTOTAL	19,486.10
DISBURSEMENTS	
Trophies	370.15
TN Meeting Registration	2,100.00
TN Meeting Expenses	472.00
Awards	723.95
Postage	85.42
Printing	115.70
Charge back on bad check	10.00
Additional Meals 2002 AFS Meeting <i>Who Dats</i>	375.00
Office expenses (checks, computer battery)	194.89
Total disbursements	4,447.11
Balance on hand 8/31/2003	15,038.99

IRS forms 990 and 990T have not been filed.
Gross receipts are not over \$25000 any of the

past years and there was no income from activities not germane to the mission of the Chapter. The AR Chapter EXCOM serves as the Chapter's auditing committee and regularly oversees the financial records as noted in the EXCOM minutes.

Mike Bivin, Treasurer

4TH WORLD FISHERIES CONGRESS
Vancouver, BC CANADA
May 2 - 6, 2004
The Congress theme, "Reconciling Fisheries with Conservation: The Challenge of Managing Aquatic Ecosystems," will be addressed by a world class list of Keynote speakers, session topics, posters, limited presentations, round table discussions, forums, workshops and debates.

1st CALL FOR PAPERS

For the

2004 Annual Meeting
of the
**Arkansas Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society**

FEBRUARY 3 -5, 2004
DELTA RIVERS NATURE CENTER
PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS

PLEASE SEND ABSTRACTS TO:
Chris Davidson, ADEQ
8001 National Drive
Little Rock, AR 72219
davidson@adeq.state.ar.us

Hotel Reservations
Hampton Inn
(Adjacent to Pines Mall, Pine Bluff, AR)

A block of 40 rooms (20 double; 20 king) for February 3rd and 4th have been reserved at the Hampton Inn. The cutoff date for the guaranteed room rate is January 16, 2004. The room rate is

\$55 per room, regardless of single, double, triple or quadruple occupancy. The room rate **does not** include tax. Individuals are responsible for their own reservations and payment.

Ask for AR Chapter AFS when registering

Hampton Inn

**3103 E. Market St.
Pine Bluff, AR 71601
Located off Hwy 65B
1-870-850-0444**

**Environmental Affairs
Committee Report**

The Environmental Affairs Committee regretfully must continue to update you on recent activities within the Grand Prairie Project, which unfortunately won't go away. Senator Blanche Lincoln recently had language inserted in the Senate version of the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill that calls for using previously allocated money to begin construction on the water-diversion features of the project. This is new language, as previous documents such as the House bill have stated that monies could only be used for on-farm conservation features such as the construction of reservoirs. A more environmentally-friendly approach would be the targeting of conservation-based funds, such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). Please contact your local senators (Lincoln and Pryor) and request that they consider more long-term solutions that are less environmentally damaging.

On the national front, a similar event has been occurring on the Klamath River in Oregon, where extensive irrigation water has been diverted for the past year to local farmers. Cause and effect are often difficult to ascertain, yet this water diversion was followed by a massive salmon kill within that system. Attempts to stop the irrigation have been futile. Once the tap is turned on it is nearly impossible to turn off.

Ron Johnson, Chair

NEW RELEASES FROM AFS

Common and Scientific Names of Aquatic Invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Cnidaria and Ctenophora, Second Edition
Stephen D. Cairns et al.

ISBN 1-888569-39-5
List Price: \$39 AFS Member Price: \$27

Strategies for Restoring River Ecosystems: Sources of Variability and Uncertainty in Natural and Managed Systems
Robert C. Wissmar and Peter A. Bisson, editors

ISBN 1-888569-46-8
List Price: \$69 AFS Member Price: \$48

A Guide to Sampling Freshwater Mussel Populations
David L. Strayer and David R. Smith

ISBN 1-888569-50-6
List Price: \$55 AFS Member Price: \$38

Mysteries from the Yukon: The Adventures of a Junior Biologist
Lawrence S. Buklis

ISBN 1-888569-52-2
List Price: \$21 AFS Member Price: \$15

To order:
Online: <http://www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi>
Phone: (678) 366-1411, or Fax: (770) 442-9742
Email: afspubs@pbd.com



Spotted gar, *Lepisosteus oculatus*

Student Sub-Unit Reports

Arkansas Tech University

Hello and greetings from the AFS student sub-unit at ATU. The past summer was relatively slow and uneventful for our sub-unit. In lieu, some of our members worked as interns for various agencies, while others assisted graduate students with field research. We do have a busy fall semester planned. One important fall project (that is still pending) is the construction of an observation deck. The deck will be adjacent to a wetland area located northeast of Dover, AR. We have several other activities planned; these include National Public Lands Day, a duck calling contest during "Fall Fest", and several different fundraisers. As a sub-unit, we are always looking for ways to increase our membership and to encourage incoming students to join. One approach that we are taking this year is forming an intramural flag football team, men's and women's. Hopefully, this will provide an opportunity for newer members to become more acquainted with the "older" members. As with last semester, we also plan to have several joint venues with another club here at Tech, The Venture Crew. This club is affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America and they participate in numerous outdoor activities. We look forward to the upcoming semester. It has the premise to be enjoyable and eventful. In closing, we also encourage individuals and all of the different agencies to call upon us for any help and assistance that we may be able to provide. We look forward to hearing from you.

Lee Holt, President

University of Arkansas – Pine Bluff

Hello from the UAPB Sub-unit. We elected new officers in April. The new officers for 2003 are: Nate Wiese, president; Jeremy Trimpey, vice-president; Kraig Ruebush, secretary, and Liz Heitman, treasurer. It has been an eventful spring and summer for the Sub-unit. Our joint camping/canoeing trip to the Buffalo River with the Arkansas Tech Sub-unit was quite an adventure. At least the majority of us made it off the river before midnight! We may have to pick

a shorter float in the future! Nevertheless, we had excellent weather and some beautiful water to float. Of course, we're still involved in fundraising activities most of the year. At our last catfish cleaning fundraiser, we cleaned a ½ ton of fresh catfish. Most of us were covered in head to toe catfish guts, but at a price of \$0.50 a pound, it was one of our best fundraisers of the year.

The Sub-unit has remained quite active throughout the summer months. Members have helped out at a couple of fishing derbies. Seeing kids catch their first fish reminds me of my own childhood fishing trips, it's a real treat. The Sub-unit has also had opportunities to participate in the rotenone surveys on Lake Chicot and assist with electrofishing surveys on Bayou Bartholomew with Dr. Bill Layher. We also participated in tree planting activities with the Bayou Bartholomew alliance. Earlier this summer, we recruited Bauer Duke at our UAPB hatchery to put on a short net-mending course for Sub-unit members. After a brief lecture, we put in a long afternoon lab learning the art of net repair on some of the catfish seines at the hatchery. We found out that there's a lot more to proper net mending than a bag of zip ties!

As you've probably already noticed, the UAPB Sub-unit has also taken over responsibilities as the newsletter editors. If you would like to make any contributions, suggestions, comments, or just speak with the complaint department; feel free to drop me a line. We're looking forward to tackling this endeavor and towards another exciting semester of AFS projects this fall.

Nate Wiese, President



Taillight Shiner, *Notropis maculatus*

University of Arkansas

Hello from the University of Arkansas. The results of our recent Sub-unit elections were:

President: Chris Bare, Master's student, Fisheries Biology

Vice President: Trevil Johnson, Junior, Biological Engineering

Secretary: Angela Brown, Junior, Biology

Treasurer: Mike Rabalais, Master's student, Stream Ecology

During the spring semester our club sponsored two speakers. Dr. Charles Rabeni of the Missouri Fish and Wildlife Coop spoke about spatial scale issues in smallmouth bass management. Ken Shirley of AR Game and Fish presented slides from his time doing fisheries work in Columbia with the Peace Corps. Other spring activities included a campout below Beaver Dam, and helping out at an educational booth at Fayetteville's annual SpringFest.

Mandy Scott, Past president

The Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program

The Hutton is an educational program for high school students designed to develop interest in a career in fisheries among groups underrepresented in the fisheries profession, including minorities and women. AFS encourages its members to consider mentoring a student during the summer of 2003.

For information on how you can get involved, go to

<http://www.fisheries.org/Hutton.shtml>, or contact Christine Fletcher at: cfletcher@fisheries.org phone: 301-897-8616, ext. 213.

2004 Southern Division Meeting



Bricktown, Oklahoma City, OK
Westin Hotel
26-29 February 2004
1st call for papers October 1

Details at:

www.sdafs.org/

Call for Nominations

This is the first call for nominations for officers and special recognition awards for the year 2004.


Nominations are open for President-Elect, Secretary, the Joe Hogan Award for Individual Achievement, and the Robert M. Jenkins Award for Outstanding Conservation Achievement

Please forward the names of AFS members that you know will be good officers for our state chapter. Please also forward the names or individuals or groups that you know are worthy of recognition for their contributions to aquatic resource conservation and management.

You can mail (Joe Stoeckel, Fisheries and Wildlife Program, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR 72802), e-mail (joe.stoeckel@mail.atu.edu), fax (479-964-0837), or phone in (479-964-0852) your nominations.

Joe Stoeckel, Nominations Committee

Meetings and Stuff

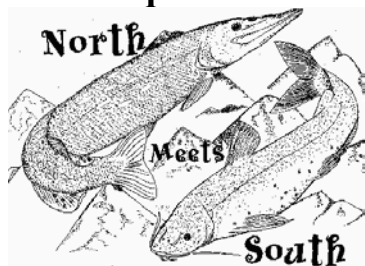


57th Annual Conference
SOUTHEASTERN
ASSOCIATION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES
October 11-15, 2003
Mobile, AL

Details at: www.dcnr.state.al.us/seafwa2003/



Future Fisheries Professional Student Colloquium 2003



November 7-8th, 2003
West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia
Deadline for papers October 15

Details at: www.forestry.caf.wvu.edu/wvuafs/

Boo on the Bayou



The 2nd Annual “Boo on the Bayou” Halloween festival will be held on October 24 and 25th at the Governor Mike Huckabee Delta Rivers Nature Center in Pine Bluff. The festivities start at around 7 pm, so if you want to join in the fun or volunteer contact the Nature Center.

Fourth World Fisheries Congress

*Reconciling Fisheries with Conservation:
The Challenge of Managing Aquatic Ecosystems*

Fourth World Fisheries Congress to be held in [Vancouver](#), British Columbia, Canada from May 2 - 6, 2004. The Congress will be headquartered in the historic [Fairmont Hotel Vancouver](#) and the newly renovated [Hyatt Regency Vancouver](#), located in the heart of downtown Vancouver.

Note from the Editors

Hello from the new Arkansas AFS newsletter editors. This first newsletter has come together quite well and everybody has given us a big help getting their reports in on time. The deadline for Winter newsletter submissions will be 30 November 2003. We would like the Chapter to consider converting the newsletter to an electronic publication. We will be discussing this at the 2004 Annual Meeting. We’re looking forward to serving you as the new editors. Thanks.

UAPB Sub-unit, Newsletter editors



*2004 Annual Meeting
Delta Rivers Nature Center
Pine Bluff, Arkansas
February 3-5, 2004*

REGISTRATION FORM

(1 form per person)

NAME: _____
AFFILIATION: _____
BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____
CITY, STATE _____
ZIP _____
TELEPHONE: _____
FAX: _____
E-MAIL: _____

Membership Dues: _____ Professional (\$10); _____ Student (\$5)
Registration Fee: \$ 30.00
Extra Meal Ticket: \$ _____ for _____ tickets @ \$15 each
Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make check payable to: Arkansas Chapter AFS

Mail check and registration form to: Arkansas Chapter AFS
c/o Mike Bivin
220 S. Locust
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Please indicate if you would be interested in serving on one of the Chapter's standing committees:

____ Education; ____ Environmental; ____ Nominating & Awards; ____ Activities/Raffle

**Arkansas Chapter American Fisheries Society
Membership Application**

Name: _____ **Renewal**
Address: _____ **New Member**

Phone: _____ **E-mail** _____
Fax: _____

Membership Dues

_____ **Regular (\$10.00)**
_____ **Student (\$5.00)**

Please indicate if you would be interested in serving on one of the Chapter's standing committees. () YES () NO

Please indicate if you would be interested in serving as one of the officers of the Chapter. () YES () NO

Make checks payable to Arkansas Chapter AFS. Mail to:
Mike Bivin
220 S. Locust
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Please pass this form on to others that might share our interest in our aquatic resources!

Arkansas Chapter American Fisheries Society Officers

President: Ken Shirley

President Elect: Chris Davidson

Treasurer: Mike Bivin

Secretary: Colton Dennis



UAPB Student Sub-Unit, Editor
1200 North University Drive
Mail Slot 4912
Pine Bluff, AR 71601