

# Southern Division News

July 2005



Alabama North Carolina  
Arkansas Oklahoma  
Florida South Carolina  
Georgia Tennessee  
Kentucky Texas  
Louisiana Virginia  
Maryland Washington, D.C.  
Mississippi West Indian Islands  
West Virginia

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## President's Address

January through April are busy months for the Division officers as we try to attend most of the Southern Division Chapter meetings, the Division Spring meeting and the AFS mid-year EXCOM meeting. I and the other officers have logged many miles, but a lot of good information has come out of these meetings.

### Chapter meetings:

Many Chapters in the Southern Division are very active. Check out the Southern Division website at [www.sdafs.org](http://www.sdafs.org) to see what other chapters are up to. Trying to jump start your chapter? Consider hosting a joint meeting with another chapter or a combined meeting with your state Wildlife or Society of American Foresters chapter. We have chapters doing all the above to great success!

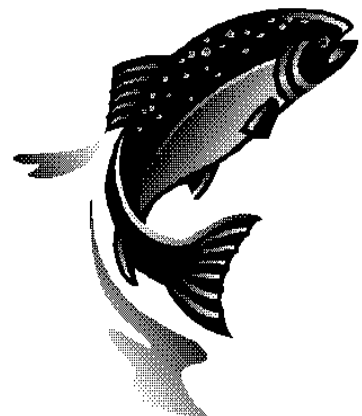
Students will especially appreciate learning the outcome of the AFS mid-year EXCOM meeting in March. The Parent Society governing board voted that beginning in January 2006, student membership dues will drop to \$19 (from the current \$38) AND students will get free access to all AFS online journals and the info database (for a maximum of 7 years). Not a bad deal!

If you were not able to attend the SDAFS Spring meeting in Virginia Beach, VA you missed a great meet-

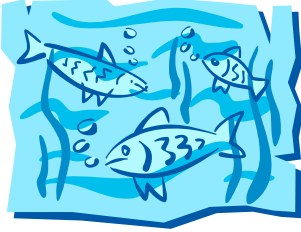
ing. The meeting attracted 365 attendees, 131 presentations, 25 posters, and 4 workshops. One third of the attendees were students and they provided 58 of the presentations and 16 of the posters. The Division continued its traditional student-mentor lunch with almost 60 participants. Thank you to all the professionals who participated and took students to lunch. Dr. John Ney, professor of Fisheries at Virginia Tech, presented the keynote address, "It's Your Turn Now: Fisheries Management in the 21st Century," during the Plenary Session. An excellent presentation in the classic Ney style!

Don't forget about our future SDAFS meetings. The SEAFWA will be in St. Louis, MO on Oct 14-19, 2005 and the Spring meeting in San Antonio, TX on February 9-12, 2006. Hope to see you all there!

Pat Mazik



# SDAFS Executive Committee

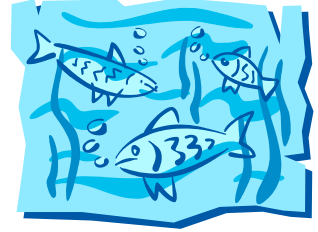


Pat Mazik, President

Robert L. Curry, President- Elect

J. Fred Heitman, Vice-President

Gregory L. Summers, Secretary - Treasurer



## Committee Reports

### Resolutions Committee

At the SDAFS Business Meeting in Virginia Beach in February 2005 the membership approved two resolutions and directed the resolutions committee to submit them to the Parent Society Resolutions Committee for consideration. One resolution urged all employers of fisheries personnel to provide comprehensive safety training programs. The other resolution urged Congress to fund the Lower Mississippi River Resource Assessment. Both resolutions are being distributed to appropriate parties. A first call for resolutions for the coming year was issued at this meeting.

The function of the SDAFS Resolutions Committee is to serve the membership by affording them the opportunity to advocate the commonly-held or agreed upon viewpoints of fisheries professionals regarding programs, actions, legislation and projects which affect any fishery. Every fishery encompasses three essential elements: habitat, aquatic species and people. Any issue that impacts those elements may be worthy of a division resolution. Utilize us. This is the second call for resolutions. Send your resolutions by September 1, 2005 to Dennis Riecke, Resolutions Committee Chairman ([dennisr@mdwfp.state.ms.us](mailto:dennisr@mdwfp.state.ms.us)). Other committee members are Liz Heitman, a graduate student at the Univ. of Arkansas - Pine Bluff ([lheitman@uaex.edu](mailto:lheitman@uaex.edu)) and Dr. Jim Franks, Professor, University of Southern Mississippi, ([jim.franks@usm.edu](mailto:jim.franks@usm.edu))

Dennis Riecke, Chair

### Reservoir Committee

The Reservoir Committee began its February 2005 meeting by honoring outgoing chair Fred Janssen (Texas) and welcoming incoming chair Mike Colvin (Missouri). Mike's first order of business was to present Fred with a certificate thanking him for his outstanding service to the committee. During Fred's tenure, the

committee completed two online aquatic habitat enhancement manuals. One manual provides up-to-date information on the construction and effectiveness of abiotic structures, and the other provides information on establishment and management of aquatic plants in impounded waters.

The committee awarded two \$1,000 Robert M. Jenkins Memorial Scholarships to graduate students conducting reservoir research. Lori Davias (North Carolina State University) received a second scholarship for her work on the effects of temperature, low dissolved oxygen, and food consumption on striped bass growth in land-locked systems. Mark Rogers (University of Florida) received a scholarship for his work on processes that affect age-0 largemouth bass survival.

The Reservoir Committee is now planning for the Fourth International Reservoir Symposium which will be held in the Atlanta Hilton Hotel on June 7-9, 2007. The theme for the symposium is "Balancing Fisheries Management and Water Uses for Impounded River Systems." Committee members are now working on symposium topics and potential speakers. Mike Allen (Florida), Mike Macaina (Alabama), and Steve Sammons (Alabama) are the overall program chairs. The symposium will include invited and contributed presentations (oral and poster) that will be published. In addition to the overall theme, several traditional management topics will be addressed such as: aquatic habitat management, human dimensions issues, use of regulations, stocking, and population assessment and analysis.

The summer meeting for the Reservoir Committee will be held on July 19-20 in Lynchburg, Virginia. Please contact Mike Colvin ([mike.colvin@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:mike.colvin@mdc.mo.gov)) for more information.

Mike Colvin, Chair

## Committee Reports Continued

### Warmwater Stream Committee

The Warmwater Stream Committee met during the Spring SDAFS meeting in Virginia Beach. About 10 members attended the meeting. In addition to our normal business, we met with the Instream Flow Committee to discuss flow requirements for a regulated river in Virginia.

Thanks to recent effort by Dennis Riecke and John Copeland the committee's video project, *Warmwater Streams: a resource worth protecting*, is essentially complete. All sponsors have received copies and the video is available on Virginia Tech's Fisheries

Extension website:

<http://www.cnr.vt.edu/extension/fiw/fisheries/postersvideos/index.html>.

Jeff Quinn volunteered to host the summer meeting in Yellville, Arkansas on August 23-24, 2005. A specific agenda will be sent to committee members in June. We plan to discuss stream sampling programs and any supporting software/databases. We will visit Crooked Creek where we will assist in electrofishing or snorkeling as needed to help out on some local research. For information about the summer meeting please contact me at (615) 781-6519.

Frank Fiss, Chair

## ATTENTION STUDENTS

### Student Rooms

The SDAFS Student Affairs Committee will reserve a block of rooms for free student lodging during the SEAFWA meeting in October 2005. Free student lodging will be for two nights; October 17 and 18, 2005. Each room will be shared by four students of the same gender. Application deadline is September 1, 2005.

If you are interested in obtaining free lodging, send your name, address, contact phone number, e-mail address, school, gender, status (graduate or undergraduate), AFS member number (located on your FISHERIES mailing label), and a statement about why you wish to attend the meeting to:

Stuart Welsh ([swelsh@wvu.edu](mailto:swelsh@wvu.edu)), West Virginia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, PO Box 6125, 313 Percival Hall, Morgantown, WV 26506, Ph#: 304-293-2941 ext.2419

In the event that requests exceed the number of spaces available, the following criteria will be used to determine those receiving rooms:

1. Is the applicant presenting a paper or poster?
2. Is the applicant a member of AFS?
3. Is the applicant an undergraduate or graduate?
4. When (date) did the applicant request the room?



# Chapter Reports

## East Carolina University Student Sub-unit

<http://www.ecu.edu/org/afs>

ECU-AFS began the New Year by welcoming Dr. Frederick Scharf from the Department of Biological Sciences, UNCW to speak at our first business meeting for the spring 2005 semester. The title of his talk was, "Size-Dependent Recruitment in Marine Fishes." During the business meeting, topics for discussion included information regarding the upcoming AFS Southern Division Meeting as well as the production logistics for ECU-AFS's handling of the official conference T-shirt.

On February 2, 2005, Sam Uzzell from the NCSU Department of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the Pitt County Cooperative Extension was invited to give members insight into environmental issues around Pitt County such as habitat restoration and dam removal. On February 10, 2005, eleven ECU-AFS members attended the AFS Southern Division Meeting in Virginia Beach, VA. Deirdre (Dee Dee) Barry, Jacqui Jenkins, and Chad Smith authored posters. Congratulations to Jacqui Jenkins for winning first place in the Tidewater Chapter Poster Judging. Faculty adviser, Roger Rulifson, was also recognized by Tidewater President, Ann Barse, during the Tidewater business meeting for his continuing dedication to the Tidewater Chapter. Throughout the meeting, ECU-AFS members worked to sell the official conference T-Shirt in order to raise money to offset student registration costs for future meetings. A total of 100 T-shirts were produced and members were excited when we sold out on the last day of the meeting, earning a profit of \$654. ECU-AFS was also approached and asked by a couple of Southern Division EXCOM members to host the 5th Annual Colloquium in November 2005. Of course, we accepted it! Planning for this event will begin this summer and ECU-AFS is thankful for the support offered by the West Virginia University and NC State AFS student subunits. This will certainly be an exquisite accomplishment for ECU-AFS.

In March, members began preparation for the ECU spring carnival, "Barefoot on the Mall," by establishing a



ECU-AFS members and alumni at the 2005 AFS Southern Division Meeting, Virginia Beach, VA.



Roger Rulifson receives an award from Tidewater President, Ann Barse for his continuing dedication to the AFS Tidewater Chapter.

planning committee to furnish original and innovative ideas to help raise funds. ECU-AFS faculty members also advertised and discussed the initiation of a new fishery management course for undergraduates in fall 2005. The guest speaker was Dr. David Evans from the NOAA Beaufort Laboratory. His presentation topic dealt with mercury in fisheries, which is a hot topic in the fisheries world and health sciences.

In April, ECU-AFS presented its fourth and final meeting for spring 2005. Important topics for discussion were the establishment of new officers through a online voting system and the 2005-2006 SGA funding application, which is currently being reviewed by the ECU Student Government for approval. ECU-AFS was extremely grateful for receiving a total of \$2400 from SGA for the 2004-2005 academic year, which was allocated for travel. ECU-AFS was also pleased to announce its nominations for the "Outstanding Student Organization" and "Outstanding Student Leadership" awards through the ECU Student Leadership Development Program. The guest speakers for this month were Summer Burdick and Jenny Vander Pluym from the NC State AFS Student Subunit. Jenny informed ECU-AFS members of NC State AFS activities in compliance to planning future cohesive activities involving both subunits. Summer Burdick presented her newly defended master's research, titled "Anadromous Fish Restoration through Dam Removal in North Carolina."

Other activities for ECU-AFS included selling lunch combos, baked items, and raffle tickets for the ECU spring carnival, "Barefoot on the Mall." ECU-AFS was pleased to make good profit, which will benefit members for future meetings/conferences. The newly elected officers for the 2005-2006 academic year are: Deirdre "Dee Dee" Barry, President; Eric Fitzpatrick, Vice President; Jenny Woodroffe, Secretary; David

## Chapter Reports continued

Gentry, Treasurer; and Chad Smith, Historian. ECU-AFS celebrated the end of the year with a "Cinco de Mayo" social where new and past officers were honored. ECU-AFS would also like to congratulate members who recently graduated; we wish the best of luck to them in life! Currently, ECU-AFS has settled down for the summer and will begin preparing for the new academic year and the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual AFS Student Colloquium.



ECU-AFS members selling lunch combos, baked items, and raffle tickets at the ECU Spring Carnival, "Barefoot on the Mall."

Please visit the ECU-AFS website for current news, history, extensive photos, and upcoming events, which will include announcements regarding the AFS Student Colloquium. <http://www.ecu.edu/org/afs>.

M. Chad Smith, President

### Louisiana Chapter

The 2005 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society was held in the luxurious LSU Energy, Coast, and Environment Building in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on February 3-4, 2005. The meeting's theme was "Casting Out to the Public: Extension, Education, and Outreach," which boasted six invited speakers, 33 oral presentations, a six-member education/outreach/extension panel discussion, a poster session with 16 contributed posters, seven education/outreach/extension exhibits, the annual business meeting, and of course, the now famous LAAFS crawfish (450 lbs!) boil. Once again, attendance records were broken with 77 professionals and 53 students in attendance. Growth of our Chapter will allow us to increase our involvement with aquatic stewardship, member services, and information transfer and outreach.

The meeting was organized through the efforts of President-Elect Jill Jenkins, President Glenn Thomas, Past-President Terrence Tiersch, Secretary-Treasurer Kristi Butler, Past-Secretary/Treasurer Dave Nieland,



Meeting participants enjoy hot boiled crawfish at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Chapter.

Newsletter Editor Herb Holloway, Abstract Editor Tena Helton, and Angela Capello, Robert Romaine, Craig Gothreaux, Kate Carpenter, Melissa Baustian, Kevin Boswell, Tyler Campbell, and John Supan.

Webmaster Kristi Butler has taken the Chapter's website (<http://www.sdafs.org/laafs/>) to a new level with numerous updates and improvements, and Quenton Fontenot has assumed the role of Newsletter Editor. John Supan headed this year's Student Presentation Judging Committee, presenting top awards for three categories: **Abstract**, 1st Place: Fernando Jimanez with Terrence Tiersch, Jill Jenkins, and Jerome F. La Peyre), LSU Agricultural Center. Detection of cell proliferation of somatic tissues from the Eastern oyster by flow cytometry; **Poster**, 1st Place: Stephanie Gauthier (with Jill Jenkins), National Wetlands Research Center, USGS. Hematology of sturgeon from the lower Missis-

## Chapter Reports, continued

Mississippi River Basin: What blood can tell us about sturgeon; and **Oral Presentation: 1st Place:** Michael D. Kaller (with William Kelso), LSU Agricultural Experiment Station, School of Renewable Natural Resources. Effects of woody debris surface area and dissolved oxygen on coastal plain stream macroinvertebrate communities.

Glenn Thomas, President



Dr. Robert Romaine adds plenty of garlic to one of the pots used to boil crawfish at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Chapter.

**Oklahoma State University Student Sub-Unit**  
[http://www.sdafs.org/okstudentafs/student\\_subunit.htm](http://www.sdafs.org/okstudentafs/student_subunit.htm)

The OSU-AFS members have had a busy year. Thanks to everyone who has made this year successful so far, let's keep up the good work.

Business meetings were held on the first Wednesday of every month. Officer elections were held at the February



Participants of the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Chapter listen to one of the many great presentations given during the two day event.

2005 business meeting. New officers, myself included, took over duties immediately. Dan Dauwalter will continue as the sub-unit president for a third year, and Dr. Bill Fisher will remain on as our faculty advisor for the ninth year. The officers for 2005 are:

President – Dan Dauwalter, PhD Candidate

Vice President – Jeff Fore, Undergraduate

Secretary/Treasurer – Sabrina Rust, MS Student

Visit our website at <http://www.sdafs.org/okstudentafs/officers.html>, supported by webmaster Jason Schaffler, to meet our new officers.

In February OSU-AFS presented an OSU departmental seminar entitled "Imperiled Aquatic Critters of Oklahoma" in conjunction with a crayfish boil fundraiser. We also hosted a speaker for a Valentine's Day seminar. Mr. Jeff Howard, Natural Resources Specialist at Camp Gruber, spoke to us about "Managing Wildlife on Oklahoma Military Lands".

In April OSU-AFS hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Fisheries Techniques Demonstration, which was a huge success. We fed over 50 people, had 37 registered attendees, and signed up 32 new members.

Attendees were treated to an electrofishing safety course presented by Dr. Bill Fisher, and then participated in boat electrofishing, shore seining, zooplankton collection, and the pulling in of gillnets. Lunch consisted of flame-grilled burgers with side dishes. Our guest speaker was Dr. Conrad Kleinholz, from Langston Uni-

# Chapter Reports, continued

versity. Dr. Kleinholz spoke on the role and importance of Aquaculture. After lunch we had hands on demonstrations of radio telemetry, age and growth analysis, fish tagging, and diet analysis.



The attendees of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Fisheries Techniques Demonstration at Lake Carl Blackwell, Stillwater, OK.



A bass hybrid and its stomach contents; two crappie, and unidentifiable fish filets.

I think the students really enjoyed this event and I know that all of us involved with OSU-AFS were thrilled to be able to interact with so many potential future fisheries professionals. We would like to thank OKAFS for their continuing financial support of this event. Great start to the year guys!

Sabrina Rust, Secretary/Treasurer

## Tennessee Chapter

<http://www.tn-afs.org/>

The Tennessee Chapter held its Annual Meeting March 8-9 at Fall Creek Falls State Park in Spencer, TN. The Technical Session included 17 excellent papers addressing topics ranging from tournament mortality of smallmouth bass to faunal restoration in Pigeon River. As usual, student presentations were outstanding; nine

students competed for the Best Student Paper Award, which went to Samrat Saha (TTU) for his presentation titled: Non-lethal sex determination of freshwater muskels.

The business meeting included updating the members on the chapter's rather ambitious schedule: hosting the Southern Division meeting in Memphis in 2007, and packaging a bid to host the AFS parent society meeting in Nashville in 2009. The membership enthusiastically supported a request presented by Brac Saylor to form a University of Tennessee student subsection of the chapter. The membership voted in Todd St. John (TWRA) as President-elect, and reelected Amy Wales (TVA) as Secretary/Treasurer. Urban logger, wood worker, and outgoing Chapter President, Ed Scott passed the gavel to incoming president Jim Layzer (USGS/TTU). Jim had the privilege to be the first to use the elegant walnut gavel, hand-turned by Ed, to conclude the business meeting.

At the evening banquet, outgoing Chapter President Ed Scott received an award for his leadership and contributions to the Chapter during the past year, the Claussen family received the Friends of Fisheries for their conservation efforts along the French Broad River, Steve Ahlstedt was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Fisheries Scientist of the Year Award was bestowed upon Amy Wales. Following the awards ceremony, the Chapter auction was held with all proceeds going directly to help support fishing rodeos for kids throughout the state.

James Layzer, President

## Texas Chapter

### Texas Chapter Scholarship Program is Growing!

The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation and the Texas B.A.S.S Federation have recently made significant contributions to the TCAFS Student Scholarship Endowment Program. President Dave Terre openly thanked and recognized both organizations for their contributions at our annual meeting in Grapevine, Texas. Contributions made by the Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation totaled \$5,000, making it possible for us to award four student scholarships (2 graduate and 2 undergraduate), of \$1,250 each, at our meeting. Jimmie and Kirk Green were present at the meeting to accept a "Special Recognition in Fisheries Work" award on behalf of the foundation. Dave Terre presented the award saying: "This award is in recognition for a generous contribution made to the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Student Scholarship

## Chapter Reports, continued

Program. In November 2004, the Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation contributed \$5,000 in support of this very important and highly-valued program. It is clear that our two organizations share a common vision for the future of fisheries in Texas. These funds will go a long way toward helping Texas fisheries students achieve their educational and career goals. It is unselfish actions like these that will also help support continued research and help ensure the future of fisheries for tomorrow". Jimmie and Kirk were also recognized for their hard work in securing the contribution from the Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation. Terre said: "Let it be known that the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society extends its deepest appreciation for the hard work shown by these two individuals. Neither of these two individuals are currently Texas Chapter members. However, Jimmie, a Staff Services Officer for TPW Inland Fisheries, and Kirk, a longtime angler and knowledgeable aquarium enthusiast realized the true benefits of our student scholarship program; enough to motivate them to seek this generous contribution on behalf of the Texas Chapter. It's unselfish actions like these that epitomize the vision I have for this organization. The joining of members and non-members alike (i.e. public) will allow us to achieve goals not possible by our members alone. It shows that TCAFS is a strong organization that is much larger than itself and will achieve great things with buy-in from our constituents.

Also, in a surprise announcement at our annual banquet in Grapevine, Tim Cook, Conservation Director of the Texas B.A.S.S. Federation, presented checks to the chapter totaling \$1,000 toward our student scholarship program. Tim was a guest speaker at our "Bass Management in Texas Symposium" and is a life-long angler. Mr. Cook said that he appreciated the opportunity to come speak to our organization and believes that TCAFS and B.A.S.S. share a common vision for the future of fisheries in Texas. The Texas B.A.S.S. Federation wishes to help fund fisheries students, especially those involved in the field of fisheries management. President Terre and Mr. Cook will be working together over the coming years to make this happen. Also, look for the B.A.S.S. to be a big part of the SDAFS meeting in San Antonio, Texas in February 2006. This is yet another opportunity to bring both our organizations together and create opportunities for communication between fisheries scientists and anglers alike.

Dave Terre, President

### Virginia Chapter

The **Virginia Chapter** hosted the **Southern Division AFS Spring Meeting** February 10 – 13, 2005, at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center. The meeting attracted 365 attendees to the shore of the Chesapeake Bay and the same facility where the 1995 "Midyear" meeting was held. Fully one-third of those attending were students. State, federal, and private industry biologists, administrators, and students from throughout the southeastern U.S. participated in 131 scientific oral presentations, 4 workshops, a poster session with 25 posters, and social events. Students continued to play an active role in the meeting and provided 58 of the platform presentations and 16 posters. Almost 60 students were paired based on educational and employment interests with fisheries professionals in the public and private sectors for the fifth annual student-mentor lunch.

**Gus Rassam**, AFS Executive Director, and **Barbara Knuth**, AFS President, addressed the Southern Division Business Meeting on Friday. **John Ney**, professor of Fisheries at Virginia Polytechnic and State University, presented an entertaining and provocative keynote address entitled, "**It's Your Turn Now: Fisheries Management in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**," during the Plenary Session on Saturday morning. **Bill Woodfin**, Director of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries welcomed attendees to Virginia.

The technical program included 131 platform presentations in 6 concurrent sessions and 25 poster presentations. Topics ran the gamut of freshwater and marine interests with an especially strong slate of marine papers provided by the **Tidewater Chapter**. Special symposia were held on Asian carp, marine issues, striped bass and catch-and-release fishing.

Workshops were also available to attendees and were extremely popular, with topics including: Otolith Aging Techniques for Catfishes, Leadership Regardless of Position: You Don't Have to be a Chief to Have Influence, *Achtheres* Striped Bass Parasites, and (for students) Employment After Graduation: Perspectives on Jobs in Private, State and Federal Positions.

Social events occurred each night and were highlighted by the **Virginia Chapter**-sponsored Student Social and Fish Fry Friday night and a catered dinner at the Virginia Marine Science Museum Saturday night. Friday featured over 300 pounds of catfish with all the trimmings in true southern style before the Mike Proffitt Band provided musical entertainment. Saturday's dinner was taken at leisure while viewing the spectacular exhibits

## Chapter Reports, continued

prior to a fund-raising raffle by **Dr. Don Orth** (VPI&SU) and the Imax movie *Into the Deep*.

**The Virginia Chapter** held a brief chapter meeting on Saturday morning; new officers were installed and annual awards were presented. **Steve Reeser** (VDGIF) turned the presidency over to **John Odenkirk** (VDGIF). John then recognized the other outgoing officers including Secretary **Shelly Miller** (VDGIF) and Treasurer **Mike Odom** (USFWS). Other new officers included President-elect **Dan Michaelson** (VDGIF), Secretary **Robert Humston** (VMI) and Treasurer **George Devlin**, (VDEQ). The chapter then presented **Bud LaRoche** (VDGIF) with the Eugene Surber Professional Service Award, **Judy Strang** (Pedlar River Institute) with the Conservationist of the Year Award, **Marcy Anderson** (VPI&SU) with the Ross Graduate Student Award, and **Jeremy Shiflet** (VPI) with the Jenkins Undergraduate Student Award.

Chapter members John Odenkirk (VDGIF, chapter president) and Steve Owens (VDGIF) recently shared their latest findings on the invasive northern snakehead (*Channa argus*) in the Potomac River system. In 2004 VDGIF collected twenty of these notorious piscivores from this area, with the majority caught by recreational anglers using hook-and-line gear. The sample included individuals up to 6 years of age (determined from sagittal annuli) with one young-of-the-year (YOY), and seven gravid females. Based on the spatial pattern of capture locations, they suggest that the new (and possibly established) population may have originated at Dogue Creek. More details including age-and-growth and stomach content analyses are presently being prepared for publication.

— John Odenkirk /Steve Reeser /  
Vic DiCenzo /Robert Humston



### Virginia Tech Chapter

<http://filebox.vt.edu/org/vtafs/index.htm>

Most of our committee movement this spring has been along three fronts: member education, outreach, and science and conservation. We hosted a webpage creation workshop and a CPR/First aid certification class for VTAFS members. In April, we hosted our 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Mudbass Classic fishing tournament. The event is a community-wide outreach tradition in which we provide kids and adults with rods, reels, and tackle to fish on the Virginia Tech duckpond. We also set up a tank to display and talk about the fishes that are caught. In all, 120 people signed the attendance register, but even more were there.

Our Science and Conservation Committee has had a lot of irons in the fire this spring. It has developed NEPA review criteria for proposed actions in the Jefferson and George Washington National Forests related to fish and habitat conservation. We also initiated a collaborative study with fisheries biologists in the Jefferson and George Washington National Forests to test fish bio-monitoring metrics. This will set precedent for the use of fish biomonitoring for National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans. Finally, along with Dr. Louis Helfrich of VT, we're working on a fish biomonitoring poster for the mid-Atlantic highlands region. This poster will illustrate fish biomonitoring metrics for a general audience.

Our series of excellent invited speakers continued in the second semester. In February, Jason Hill of VA DEQ spoke about the TMDL development process and success stories in Virginia. In March, Mark Hudy of USFS and JMU spoke to us about fish passage through culverts on NF lands. In April, Brett Coakley of MD DNR gave us the historical context of the snakehead controversy and shared future management plans. We also had a special seminar in March in which Jack Musick of VIMS spoke about shark ecology, management, and conservation.

Because of our considerable fundraising success this year, VTAFS was able to give to several charitable funds. We donated \$100 to a scholarship fund set up in memory of Jeff Kaminski, a VT wildlife grad student who passed away last year. We gave \$100 to a charitable fund set up to help a VT student who was hit by a drunk driver on campus. Finally, we responded to the AFS International Membership Challenge with a donation of \$200. This fund was recently set up to subsidize AFS membership for fisheries scientists living in developing countries.

## Chapter Reports, continued

In April, we awarded our two highest Chapter honors. Brett Ostby received the Member of the Year Award, in recognition of his outstanding service on the Outreach Committee. Dr. John Ney received the Outstanding Faculty Award, in recognition of his concern for students, accessibility, and service to AFS. Congratulations to both.

Not surprisingly, we sent a large contingency of members to the SDAFS meeting, held practically in our backyard in VA Beach. Congratulations to the Virginia Chapter for a fine job! We recently had our own annual meeting at Nellie's Cave Park in Blacksburg, ushering in a changing of the guard. Best of luck to our new officers: Brad Ray (president), Larissa Graham (vp), Crystal Maier (secretary), and Nick King (treasurer).

And of course, our communications committee continues to produce these fine SDAFS newsletters!

Jamie Roberts, outgoing President



## Southern Division Spring Meeting Information



**1<sup>st</sup> CALL FOR PAPERS**



### Southern Division Spring Meeting-2006

The Texas Chapter and Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society invite you to join us in San Antonio at the Crowne Plaza Hotel for the 2006 Southern Division Spring Meeting, 8-12 February 2006. The meeting's theme is "Water Allocation for Fisheries." Please submit suggestions for workshops and symposia to Dick Luebke ([Dick.Luebke@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:Dick.Luebke@tpwd.state.tx.us)) by **1 August 2005**. Due date for symposia, poster, and general session abstracts will be **1 December 2005**. For more information, visit the meeting website at <http://www.sdafs.org/meetings/2006/>. Instructions for abstract submission can be found at the same website.

# Spring 2005 Meeting Minutes

## Southern Division, American Fisheries Society

### Spring Business Meeting

February 11, 2005

Virginia Beach, Virginia

President Larry Connor called the Business Meeting to order at 1720. Secretary/Treasurer Vic DiCenzo determined there was a quorum present. President Connor began the meeting by thanking the SDAFS membership for allowing him to serve as President. Previous Southern Division Presidents who were in attendance were Fred Harris, Larry Wilson, and Jeff Boxrucker. President Connor then recognized AFS Executive Director Gus Rassam and AFS President Barb Knuth and thanked them for attending. President Connor then introduced the current Southern Division officers, President-Elect Pat Mazik, Vice President Bob Curry, Secretary-Treasurer Vic DiCenzo and Past President Steve Filipek.

**AFS Executive Director's Remarks:** Gus Rassam gave a brief summary on the many activities that AFS has been involved in. First, there is a new membership category called Young Professionals where recently graduated students will get to pay the student membership rate for three years in hopes of retaining them in the Society. Gus also discussed the growing popularity of having joint meetings with other conservation societies such as The Wildlife Society and the Society of American Foresters. These joint conferences offer the best opportunity for biologists in different fields to have workshops and/or symposia on common issues. AFS journals continue to be made available online. Eventually, Transactions will be available all the way back to 1872. AFS also has created an International Membership where individuals from developing countries can join AFS for a much reduced rate. The SDAFS last year contributed \$250 to help subsidize this drive. Finally, AFS has taken an active role in aiding the Tsunami disaster area by collecting money and donating gear and expertise to restore fisheries in a conservative, sustainable manner.

**AFS President's Remarks:** Barb Knuth thanked the SDAFS for inviting her to attend the SDAFS meeting. Barb's presidency involves three major programs: aquatic services, member services and information transfer. Some of the highlights from these three programs include implementing and tracking accomplishments of the strategic plan, a Capital Hill briefing on invasive species, continued meetings of officers and Congressmen, participation in the National Fish Habitat Initiative, assistance with the Mexican Fisheries Symposium at the Western Division meeting, Developing Country Membership Initiative, and tsunami relief. Finally, Barb invited everyone to the AFS

Annual Meeting in August in Anchorage, Alaska. The theme of the meeting is "Creating a Fisheries Mosaic: Connections Across Jurisdictions, Disciplines, and Cultures".

**Secretary-Treasurer's Remarks:** Secretary-Treasurer Vic DiCenzo stated that at the fall business meeting in Hilton Head, a quorum was not present so no official business could be conducted. Therefore, a motion was needed to approve the minutes from the 2003 spring business meeting in Wilmington. Fred Heitman moved to approve the minutes and Dave Rizzuto seconded the motion. The motion carried without discussion. The Division's account balance as of December 31, 2004 was \$23,124.37 and details of the income and expenses were discussed at the EXCOM meeting.

**President Elect's Remarks:** As President-elect, Pat Mazik served as Program Chair for the SEAFWA and SDAFS Spring meetings. Pat mentioned that nearly all details for these two meetings were handled at the local level and she commended individuals in South Carolina and Virginia for the outstanding meetings that were organized. Pat listed accomplishments of several Chapters: the Auburn Chapter has developed a Hutton Scholarship Ready Kit; Florida celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their Chapter; the Kentucky Chapter hosted a mussel ID workshop; the Virginia Chapter developed a color brochure and served as hosts of the 2005 SDAFS Spring Meeting; Tidewater organized a symposium at the Virginia Beach SDAFS meeting; and the West Virginia Chapter held their annual meeting with the Society of American Foresters and the Wildlife Society. At the SEAFWA meeting, there was an interdisciplinary symposium. At the Spring meeting in Virginia Beach, there were 131 presentations (58 student) and 26 poster presentations (16 student) and four continuing education workshops.

**Award Presentations:** Representing the Reservoir Committee, Mike Colvin presented two Robert M. Jenkins Memorial Reservoir Research Scholarships, each for \$1,000, to Mark Rogers of the University of Florida and Lori Davias of North Carolina State University.

Stuart Welsh, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee presented the Outstanding Student Subunit to the North Carolina State University Student Subunit. The Best Student Paper Award from the 2004 spring meeting went to Ben Lubinski and second place awards to Liz Heitman and Nicholas Utrup. The Best Student Poster from the 2004 meeting was awarded to Caleb Hunter. Best student presentation at the 2004 SEAFWA went to Hayden Mattingly and honorable mention went to John Jacobs and Jeffrey Hill

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John Copeland, Chair of the Warmwater Streams Committee, presented the Jimmie Pigg Memorial Outstanding Student Achievement Award to Dan Dauwalter of Oklahoma State University.

**Resolutions:** Dennis Riecke, Chair of the Resolutions Committee brought two resolutions for discussion. The first was a Resolution Protecting the Nationally Significant Aquatic Natural Resources of the Lower Mississippi River Ecosystem. Discussion involved clarifying and simplifying some of the text. A motion to approve the amended resolution was made by Fred Heitman and seconded by Hal Schramm. The resolution passed unanimously. The second resolution was for "The Establishment and Development of Comprehensive Safety Training Programs for Fisheries Personnel" and was initiated by the warmwater Streams Technical Committee.

**Old Business, Election Results:** Dave Rizzuto announced that Fred Heitman (TN) was elected as Vice President and Greg Summers (OK) was elected the new Secretary-Treasurer.

**Installation of New Officers:** Pat Mazik was introduced as the new President of the SDAFS. Bob Curry was introduced as the new President-Elect. Fred Heitman was introduced as the new Vice President. And Greg Summers was introduced as the new Secretary-Treasurer.

**Incoming President's Remarks:** Newly installed President Pat Mazik thanked the Virginia Chapter for their hard work in hosting the meeting and presented Larry Conner with a plaque showing the SDAFS's appreciation for his service as President. President Mazik closed by asking membership for their participation in SDAFS activities because it can be a truly rewarding experience.

A motion was made by Jeff Boxrucker and seconded by Fred Heitman to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and President Connor adjourned the meeting at 1842.

*Submitted by Vic DiCenzo  
Outgoing Secretary-Treasurer, SDAFS*

## Newsletter Staff and Information

Brad Ray, editor

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Please send submissions by email using MSWord, WordPerfect, or ASCII text format.  
Report/article pictures should be of good quality (crisp, clear images) and pertain to the written text.

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Editors' note:

This is a fairly short newsletter, perhaps because we do not have the most up to date chapter and committee contacts; therefore, if you should have been included and were not please send us an email. Remember to send all questions, comments and submissions to [baray@vt.edu](mailto:baray@vt.edu) or [niking1@vt.edu](mailto:niking1@vt.edu).

Enjoy the summer edition of SDNEWS.

Brad Editor

