



The Newsletter of
the Texas Chapter of
the American
Fisheries Society



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Past President's Report

by Gordon Linam

First I would like to congratulate Gene on putting a great meeting together. I know it takes a tremendous amount of work and coordination to pull this off. Hats off to a job well done.

I am very thankful to have had the opportunity to serve as President this past year. It was certainly a learning experience and at times required considerable work, but the experience was a truly rich one. I believe we did some good things. Looking back over the vision I laid out two years ago, when elected President-elect, I specifically mentioned two areas that I wanted to concentrate on during my tenure as President. First, I wanted to ensure that our Chapter was comprised of a diverse membership representing professionals from all fisheries-related fields within the state as well as being represented fairly geographically. I believe we made some strides here but still have a way to go. We identified a number of agencies, universities, and colleges from across the state this past year that have either not participated in our Chapter at all or that are definitely under-represented. Over sixty letters were sent out in an effort to recruit members from these under-represented areas. I am pleased we had a diverse group represented at our Junction meeting, but there are still elements that are missing. Most evident is the lack of agency staff

working in our coastal areas even though over one quarter of the presentations in Junction were on the coastal environs. Student attendance is also lower than one would expect. I hope we can draw more participation from these groups in the future.

The second element of my vision was to build upon our Chapter's reputation and to become a familiar, steadfast, and reputable source of information. The development of the Chapter's position statement concerning off-road vehicles and their impact on stream environments was a very timely endeavor as the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Commission is in the middle of addressing this very issue. The position statement was entered into the records at the second meeting of the Recreational Vehicles in State-Owned Streambeds Task Force, a group that was assembled and charged with the task of gathering information from all sides of the issue and to ultimately produce a report for the TPWD Commission.

Last, I once again wish to express my sincere gratitude to Debbie Wade and those who agreed to serve our Chapter as committee chairmen. I truly enjoyed working with each of you. The dedicated efforts of these individuals kept our Chapter moving forward. It was because of their efforts we were recognized by the Southern Division as "Outstanding Chapter of the Year". This is something we can all be very proud of.



Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Annual Business Meeting

Debbie Wade

Minutes of the meeting as recorded by the Secretary/Treasurer

Meeting was called to order by president Gordon Linam and a quorum was established.

Gordon recognized all of the past presidents in attendance.

Treasurer's Report, Deborah Wade: Total chapter expenses since the last annual meeting were \$8571.33. Income in 2001 was \$9,557.59. The Checking account balance in January of 2001 was \$3600.04 and is currently \$6981.27 with a net change of \$3,381.27. One reason for this is that the major meeting expenses for the 2001 meeting were paid prior to the meeting while most of this year's meeting expenses have yet to be paid. As with most people's investments the Chapter investment portfolio has suffered with the changes in the market. The investment packet in January of 2001 was valued at \$26,322.76 and is currently valued at \$18,427.73 resulting in a net drop in value of \$7895.03. On the bright side the investment plan showed positive growth in December.

Newsletter, Robert Mauk: The newsletter is posted on the chapter site on the internet with an e-mail announcement going to most of the members. 85 members are still receiving hardcopies of the newsletter with the total cost per newsletter at \$1.14 per copy. Robert also asked the membership to approve a statement regarding the controversial ending to the Iowa State University Bowl Game. The statement said that TCAFS officially recognized Iowa State as the true victor. Statement was unanimously approved.

Texas Tech Student Chapter, Felix Martinez: The TTU student chapter and the TTU Range and Wildlife Society will be holding a fish fry to raise money to support youth fishing events in the Lubbock area.

Awards, Danny Lewis: Nomination forms are now available on the website and can be completed on line. The first poster award winner was recognized. Best poster presentation is being added to the list of standing awards.

Continuing Education, Bruce Hysmith: Three classes were offered for continuing education at this meeting: Stream Discharge measurements taught by Kenny Saunders, Water Quality measurements taught by Randy Rushin, and Stream

Pollution factors taught by Terry Mills. Reporting requirements for continuing education credits for AFS biologist accreditation are still in question as to what needs to be done for the classes.

Bruce is seeking suggestions for next year; please send them to him or any member of the Excom.

Editorial, Aaron Barkoh: Reviewed one manuscript for publication and seventeen abstracts for volume 23 of the proceedings. This year the committee received twenty-one abstracts including three posters. A total of thirteen presentations were students and eight professional for this year's meeting.

Fran Gelwick, Gerald Kurten, John Findiesen and Loraine Fries were thanked for acting as moderators for each of the sessions.

Endowments, Howard Elder: Presented \$3000.00 in Scholarships to four students Felix Martinez, Stuart Willis, Michael Morgan and Matthew Chumchol.

Internet, Fred Jansen: The website is in a continual state of change. Members and other individuals access the website on a regular basis as a source of information. A pictorial history of TCAFS is being added to the website.

Issues, Bob Edwards: A policy statement from TCAFS for Off-Road Vehicles has been developed and distributed to the membership.

Membership, Kevin Pope: Prior to the meeting we had 244 current members. It is time to renew your membership if you didn't do so prior to the meeting or at the meeting please do so and remind your friends.

Nominating, John Moczygamba: The ballots were mailed out again by Paul Hammerschmidt. The response was again very high with 53% of the membership voting by mail and an additional 12% at the meeting for a total response of 65% of membership. The new president elect is Gary Garrett.

Pond Management, Ken Kurzawski: The Pond Management Manual remains a very popular item on the website. Ken wants to begin working with Texas A&M wildthings website and the Texas Aquaculture Association to provide easy access of information for the general public.

Publicity and Exhibits, Cody Winfrey: This year's auction was somewhat limited in items, but thanks to the generosity of the membership it was successful. The auction generated \$832.50.

Student Outreach, Larry Hysmith: Interested in setting up a Quiz Bowl and photography contest to generate participation by student members.



Archives, Ray Matthews: TCAFS will be represented at the Southern Division meeting with the poster that was displayed depicting the history of TCAFS. Ray thanked all those who contributed information for the history and he wants to begin collecting humorous information and events as well as the historical facts to add to the archives.

Old Business: Change of the by-laws to include archives and internet as standing committees. The change passed.

Gordon passed the skeg to Gene Wilde, new president.

New Business: Gene thanked all those who worked to setup the meeting and make sure things went smoothly, especially Kevin Pope and the Texas Tech students and Lisa Herring with the TTU Junction Campus. He encouraged more student participation and activity.

McEachron Leaves Legacy in Coastal Fisheries

Submitted by Ed Hegen from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Newsstand

Texas Parks & Wildlife Coastal Fisheries Science Director and TCAFS member Larry McEachron, 54 passed away on Oct. 5, 2001 after an 18-month battle with cancer. A 30-year veteran of the state conservation agency, McEachron continued to work right up to his last weeks.

“Because of Larry McEachron’s unfailingly positive and energetic ability to turn scientific data and analysis into practical conservation results, Texans will enjoy better fishing and healthier coastal ecosystems for many years to come,” said Hal Osburn, TPW coastal fisheries director. “He left quite a legacy. One way we can show our appreciation is to support the scholarship fund that’s been set up in his name.”

McEachron led scientific research that supported important advancements, including limited entry plans to control commercial shrimp, crab and finfish overfishing, and ways to reduce commercial bycatch (accidental catch) of non-target species. His work formed the foundation for management plans for important commercial species like shrimp, oysters, popular game fish like red drum, and less appreciated but vital foundation species like sea grass.

McEachron started with the TPW Coastal Fisheries Division in 1971 and advanced to direct the science and research program in 1993. He was active in the Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council, Gulf of Mexico Program, and the Corpus

Christi and Galveston Bay National Estuary Programs. He authored or co-authored 90 scientific papers and gave more than 100 presentations at scientific gatherings.

“Larry’s knowledge and interests were eclectic, including an astounding skill at catching the species he helped manage,” Osburn said. “His proficiency with waders and a fishing rod in flats teeming with reds and specks was much envied. Using both his scientific and practical knowledge, his “fishing reports” were much sought after and gave him a guest star status at thousands of meetings of community organizations, fishing clubs, and conservation groups.”

In 1983 and 1999, the Coastal Conservation Association named McEachron biologist of the year. In 2000, he won the TPW employee leadership award for his ability to create and guide teams in applying scientific knowledge to the real world of fishery management.

In private life, McEachron was a United State Soccer Federation soccer referee. Since 1984, he devoted many years refereeing Texas high school state finals matches, regional collegiate, and international amateur contests, including the United States vs. Sweden women’s match in 1996. His soccer colleagues recognized his integrity and fairness by creating the McEachron Award with contributions to the American Cancer Society donated annually by referees, players and friends in his name.

The Larry McEachron Marine Scholarship Fund has been set up to support marine biology students in Texas. Donation checks for the fund may be sent to 702 Navigation Circle, Rockport, Texas 78382.



Baby News

There are two new fathers in our membership ranks that I am aware of. Fred Janssen is the father of a daughter, Summer Marina Janssen. Mark Howell is the proud father of a son, Andrew Joseph Howell. Join me in congratulating the two new fathers. If any other members have new bundles of joy (or bundles that aren’t so joyful), please keep the membership informed.

56th Annual Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources invites you to the 56th Annual Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference at the Hunt Valley Marriott in Baltimore, Maryland, October 26-30, 2002. The fisheries session will include posters and oral presentations of peer reviewed manuscripts on marine, estuarine, and freshwater fisheries topics, including but not limited to, management, research, and culture. Case histories are particularly encouraged. Poster abstract submissions are limited to one typewritten page, and poster size cannot exceed 4' x 8'. A styrofoam backboard and easel will be provided. Written manuscripts are peer-reviewed and if accepted will be orally presented at the annual meeting and published in the annual SEAFWA peer-reviewed proceedings. Our conference theme "From the Chesapeake Bay to the Gulf- Keeping it Wild: Managing Our Resources in the Face of Increasing Development" was designed to focus the spotlight on the many challenging issues we face as resource agencies and managers related to land and water development. In keeping with this theme we would like to extend a special invitation for papers, posters, and workshops that discuss fishery management issues in relation to this loss of aquatic habitat and declining water quality brought about by increasing development and urbanization. The deadline for manuscript and poster abstract submission is May 10, 2002. Manuscripts must follow SEAFWA instructions to authors guidelines, available in past issues of the annual proceedings, at the Maryland SEAFWA 2002 website (www.seafwa2002.org), or by contacting the Fisheries Associate Editor (Dr. John Galvez) or Fisheries Program Chair (Alan A. Heft). Please submit four hard copies of your manuscript or one hard copy of your poster abstract to the Fisheries Associate Editor. Submissions must include the title, author(s) names, work address and telephone number, and e-mail address of the contact author. Come join us at the 56th Annual Conference for great technical sessions, lots of Maryland hospitality, good food (crabs!), and a special social event at the newest BASS Pro Shops megastore! Fisheries Associate Editor Fisheries Program Chair John I. Galvez, Ph.D. Alan A. Heft Project Leader- Fisheries Res. Office Maryland DNR, Fisheries U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Appalachian Laboratory 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive 301 Braddock Road Annapolis, MD 21401-7307 Frostburg, MD 21532 P (410) 573-4506 P (301) 698-7107 E-mail: john_galvez@fws.gov E-mail: ahft@dnr.state.md.us

Texoma Aquatics Research Group to Meet

Greetings.

I kindly invite you to participate in an informal gathering of Oklahoma and Texas aquatic researchers (Texoma Aquatics Research Group) at the University of Oklahoma Biological Station (UOBS). There are many academicians and professionals within a 3-4 hour drive of Lake Texoma and the Red River, representing a wealth of opportunity for collaboration, research experience and exchange for the many researchers, professionals and students. The goals for this meeting include 1) allowing regional faculty, researchers, & professionals a chance to learn who each other are and what they are doing and hopefully serve to instigate some collaborations, 2) providing students with an opportunity to interact with faculty, researchers, & professionals in the Texoma area and getting them on the path to attending professional meetings.

We would like to conduct the meeting in an informal format that will allow anyone to present a 15-20 minute presentation of their work, display a poster or simply chat with old and new friends. The meeting will be open to academic faculty, students (including undergraduates) and professionals in the fields of limnology (including stream ecology), fisheries biology, water resources management, environmental protection, etc. We are planning the meeting tentatively for Friday the 25th of October 2002 with an option for extending into the weekend if required.

UOBS facilities include apartments, dorms, kitchen/dining area, classrooms, library, computer labs, maintenance shop, boat houses, lab and office space, a research park and recreational facilities (including pavilion, basketball court, horseshoe pit and volleyball nets) all situated on approx. 30 acres on the shores of Lake Texoma. An additional adjoining 282 acres of "natural" lowlands are leased from the Army Corp of Engineers. Apartments (living area, sleeping area



and bathroom) can comfortably accommodate approximately 100 persons (3-5 per apartment). Accommodations on the basis of disability are also available. Current conference rates at UOBS are less than \$50 per person daily for full room and board.

If you would be interested in attending this meeting and wish to receive the 2nd Circular please reply to this email. The 2nd Circular will be distributed in spring of 2002 and will include further details of the meeting and registration information and a form for submitting titles and/or abstracts for presentations and posters.

Please pass this notice on to any of your colleagues who you think may be interested. Looking forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the Texoma Aquatics Research Group meeting at UOBS! For more information e-mail

uobs@ouwww.ou.edu

Dave Hambright

Assist Professor, Zoology, UOBS

addresses that have been entered wrong or are missing. Please contact me with correct information so that I can change my lists. I hope that everyone will get me their e-mail addresses so I don't have to mail any more newsletters than need be. For those still receiving the newsletter through the mail, this costs the TCAFS money. The newsletter is now posted on the internet where it can be downloaded and printed. I send an e-mail to members letting them know when a new newsletter is posted on the TCAFS site. So there is no longer an excuse not to receive it electronically.

Renew Your TCAFS Membership Now!

Robert Mauk

For those of you who haven't renewed your 2002 Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society dues, now is the time. Otherwise this will be the last newsletter you will receive. And believe me when I say that you will be missing a lot. Some of items we are working on for the coming year includes the annual TCAFS college football poll. I will tell you only that the Iowa State Cyclones are the preseason #1 pick for 2002. Where your team is ranked will be kept secret until later! A new column written by Bush on aquatic issues is in the works! Yes, Jerome Bush, noted European angler might contribute! Other surprises will be in the works, but I don't want to spoil anything. You don't want to miss it is all I can say. So make sure you renew your membership **NOW!** If you aren't a member, sign up now.

Newsletter Addresses Needed

The newsletter is being sent from an updated membership list. That means that there might be a few e-mail or postage





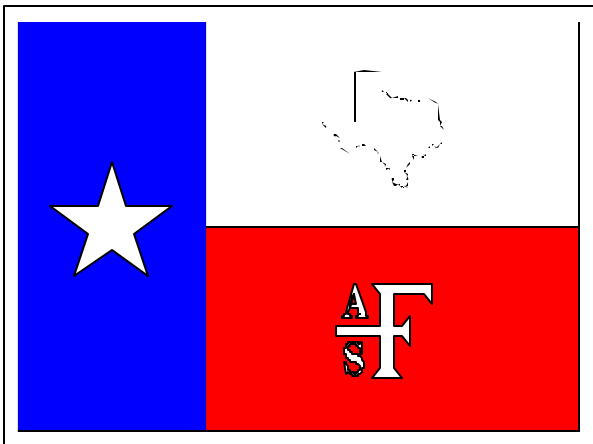
Congratulations to 2002 TCAFS Scholarship Students!

Michael Brice, TCAFS Endowments Chairman

Join me in congratulating the following students who were named TCAFS student scholarship award winners for 2002. The undergraduate recipients are Felix Martinez Jr., Texas Tech University and Stuart Willis, Texas A&M University. Graduate student recipients are Mathew Chumchal, Texas Christian University and Michael Morgan, Texas A&M University.

Check Out TCAFS Annual Meeting Photographs Online

To save paper and postage costs, I decided not to include photos from the annual meeting held at Junction. The photos are posted on the TCAFS website that everyone should have bookmarked.



JOIN THE TEXAS CHAPTER

If you are interested in joining or renewing your membership to the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, you can get membership materials at our web site <http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/default.htm> or contact **Dr. Kevin Pope, Box 42125, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX 79409-2125, (806) 742-2843, kevin.pope@ttu.edu** or the newsletter editor to obtain application information.

Submissions are encouraged. Submit a hard copy or a .TXT file by mail or email to the editor at **maukrobert@hotmail.com**

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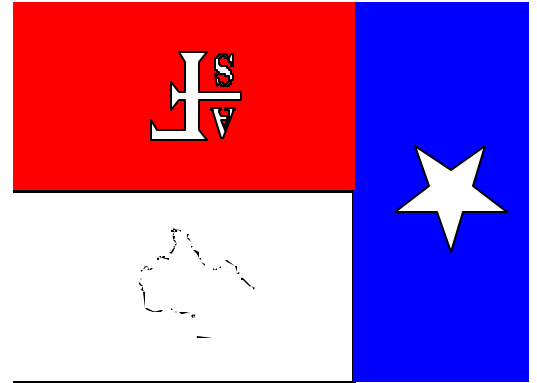
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