



# The Newsletter of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society



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Volume 29 (3)

Fall Issue

September 2003

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## President's Message

Gary Garrett

All seems to be on track and moving forward. Even though we are all busy these days, TCAFS officers have been working hard to take care of Chapter business and prepare for the annual meeting.

One of the very positive results of a most "interesting" 78<sup>th</sup> Legislature was passage of SB 155. This bill restricts the use of motorized vehicles in state-owned streambeds. Although the ramifications of 4x4 rallies in our rivers is obvious to most biologists, conveying the message to the general public and our state legislators was at times a daunting task! Of great help in this effort was the TCAFS position paper entitled "Off-Road Vehicles and Their Impact on Stream Environments – A Policy Statement From the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society". Our Issues Committee did a great job on summarizing the problem and representing the Chapter's expertise and views. The paper is posted on our website.

We are still in need of someone to step up and replace Brian Van Zee and David DeLeon on the Publicity and Exhibits Committee. It is a very important job that has quite an impact on the success of our annual meetings. Brian and David have done a great job and can help with a smooth transition.

## TCAFS ExCom Meeting

Paula Hawkins

In attendance were Gary Garrett, Tim Bonner, Fran Gelwick, Ray Matthews, Debbie Wade, Jason Vajnar and Paula Hawkins. President Gary Garrett called the meeting to order on August 12, 2003 at 1:00 pm.

Gary Garrett – Hubbs Award Committee has been formed with the following members: Bob Edwards, Bart Durham, Kirk Winemiller, Gary Garrett, Gene Wilde, Ray Matthews, and Gary Powell. The Development Committee is beginning to explore and initiate means to create an independent financial base to support the Hubbs Award.

Propagated Fishes in Resource Management workshop is still in the works. The committee is soliciting funds for the workshop. It is planned for the summer of 2004 in San Antonio, Texas. Texas Chapter and TPWD will be co-hosting the workshop.

President-Elect / Fran Gelwick – The contract for the TXCAFS annual meeting host hotel has been signed. The annual meeting will spot light on river issues with a possibility of having a panel discussion. The Texas River & Reservoir Committee will be joining Texas Chapter AFS annual meeting in February. The early bird registration for the annual meeting will be \$35.00 and late registration will be \$45.00. Several complimentary rooms have been arranged for students volunteering at the annual meeting.

Paula Hawkins – Made a suggestion to have a prize available as an incentive to recruit non-member students to attend the annual meeting. The incentive will be available to



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programs within the universities. A computer was a suggestion as the prize. We are still looking into the possibility of having advertisers in the newsletter as well as the Texas Chapter AFS webpage. Debbie Wade will take the lead on this and report at the next ExComm meeting. The TXCAFS Merrill Lynch account is increasing as the stock market goes up; the account balance is now \$19,240.24.

Debbie Wade – Debbie will be setting up an ad hoc committee to decide on the criteria for the advertisements in the newsletter and the TXCAFS webpage. The May newsletter was sent out to 163 email addresses and 87 printed newsletters were mailed. Debbie was able to get the print job of the newsletters donated. Thank you Debbie.

Tim Bonner – Working on the proceedings; will be making 100 copies. Tim will be working with Fred Janssen to have the proceedings on-line. Second call for papers and request for dimensions of posters will be in the next newsletter.

Ray Matthews – Letters were sent to TXCAFS from Nueces River Authority and two individuals thanking Texas Chapter in supporting the protection of 4x4 traffic in Texas rivers and streams. Gordon Linneman requested the letters be submitted into the archives. Ray is still looking for more history pictures. Please submit on a CD.

Jason Vajnar – Membership is up to 198 paid members. Jason is comparing parent society list with TX chapter list for any discrepancies.

Bart Durham – The awards committee planning for the annual meeting is going well. A complete committee has been formed and we are just waiting a couple of months before sending out a call for nominations for fishery worker of the year awards. Bart is asking for assistance to solicit volunteers for presentations judges. This would help in knowing who will be at the meeting and will be judging ahead of time.

John Moczgyemba – I have talked with Fred Janssen about the possibility of doing on-line voting. The parent society does not vote on-line. John asks for suggestions for next year President-elect.

Next ExCom meeting will be in November in College Station.

## TCAFS Annual Meeting Update

Fran Gelwick

TCAFS President-elect Fran Gelwick reports that our plans are shaping up for the annual TCAFS meeting February 8-10, 2004, in College Station, the “Heart of the Brazos Valley.” See CS web site for information on hotels, etc, at <http://www.bryan-collegestation.org/home.php>. We will be joined by the Texas River and Reservoir Management

Society (TRRMS). The theme for the meeting is “From the High Plains and Trans Pecos to the Gulf of Mexico - Ecology and Management of Texas River Systems.” As always, we warmly welcome contributed papers from all areas of aquatic research and management.

The meeting will take place Sunday-Tuesday, February 8-10, at the Hilton Conference Center. Rooms are \$80 (Deluxe King or Deluxe Double). We also have a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn of College Station, reserved until January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004, at \$65 (Single or Double). As always, students can work registration, media, etc., in order to stay at the Hilton free of charge. The number of complementary (student) rooms at the Hilton increases with the number of sleeping rooms we confirm. Contact Larry Hysmith at [lhysmith@tamu.edu](mailto:lhysmith@tamu.edu) if you want to volunteer to work for a free room.

Email Jason Vajnar at [Jason.Vajnar@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:Jason.Vajnar@tpwd.state.tx.us) to arrange a Sunday morning of golf on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Texas A&M University Course. Contact Bruce Hysmith at [bruce.hysmith@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:bruce.hysmith@tpwd.state.tx.us) about suggesting, presenting, and attending continuing education workshops on Sunday afternoon February 8<sup>th</sup>. Then Sunday evening students and professionals are invited to a popular restaurant and bar, Fox and Hound (see above College Station Web site), near the hotels.

We are lining up speakers for the Panel Discussion of Texas River Issues and contributed theme papers for the Monday morning sessions. Contributed papers will continue in the afternoon. Monday night we will hold our banquet and fundraiser at the Hilton. Tuesday February 10<sup>th</sup> TCAFS will continue contributed paper session in the morning followed by our business meeting. TRRMS will host a full-day workshop on Instream Flow (concurrent session). Presenters for the Instream Flow Workshop are being contacted. If we need to charge for this it will appear on the registration form, but more on that later.

## Membership Jason Vajnar

A golf game/scramble format is being headed up at this year's meeting. Green fees will be between \$25 - \$32, depending on the amount of interest which will dictate whether the golf course will have to block a section of tee times. Green fees include 18 holes and cart rental. If there is an interest to play please give me a call or email me to help with planning. [Jason.vajnar@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:Jason.vajnar@tpwd.state.tx.us). (940) 586-1203

A reminder that dues will be going up in January of '04, I ask that people continue to support the Texas Chapter. Please recruit friends and co-workers.



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## Call for Papers

Tim Bonner

All aquatic resources professionals, educators, students, and industry personnel are invited to submit abstracts for the technical and poster sessions of the 2004 TCAFS meeting in College Station, Texas. The deadline for submission of abstracts is November 1, 2003. Please send abstracts by email attachments or on 3.5-inch diskettes in MS Word format to Tim Bonner (Email: [TBonner@txstate.edu](mailto:TBonner@txstate.edu); Mailing: Texas State University-San Marcos, Department of Biology/Aquatic Station, San Marcos, Texas 78666).

Abstracts must follow the format below:

**Title:** Brief but descriptive

**Authors:** List all authors, their mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses. Underline speaker's name. For student speakers, please provide (U) for undergraduate or (G) for graduate status following your name.

**Abstract:** Informative yet not more than 200 words and double-spaced.

**Presentation:** Indicate Oral, Preferably Oral (but will accept poster presentation), or Poster Presentation. Please include dimensions (e.g., 3' x 5') of poster to ensure sufficient space for all presenters.

**Visual Aid:** Indicate Slide Projector or Computer Presentation (preferred).

**NOTE:** Oral presentations are limited to 15 minutes; the recommended format is a 12-minute presentation followed by a 3-minute question-and-answer period. Slide projector for 2x2 slides and LCD projector and PC for PowerPoint Presentations will be provided.

from. We need everyone concerned to provide information and photographs for the archives. I am pleased that Gordon Linam sent three letters to me for the archives that thank the chapter for your part providing information and support in the passage of Senate Bill 155 – Protection of public freshwater areas. I would like to quote one of the letters from the Nueces River Authority to Gordon Linam, TCAFS, which reads as follows: “Because of your leadership, the beds and banks of Texas rivers will be protected from destruction by off-road vehicles, the waters will flow cleaner, the associated fish and wildlife will be preserved, and citizens wishing to enjoy traditional river recreation will be able to do so with enhanced peace and security. Passage of S.B. 155 was a major accomplishment in environmental protection, one with benefits to be enjoyed for generations to come. We are grateful for your dedication and support.” Signed, Con Mims, Executive Director. I think we should be thankful to TCAFS members Gordon Linam and Gary Garrett for working very hard on this issue.

Pictures help tell the history of this organization, and I am having a problem getting members to submit them for the archives. Please consider reviewing your pictures for the TCAFS history project.

## Continuing Education Bruce Hysmith

The 2004 TC/AFS conference will feature two Continuing Education classes. As per usual, beginning at 2 pm on Sunday, February 8, 2004, there will be a class on “IDENTIFICATION OF SMALL FISHES FROM TEXAS RIVERS AND STREAMS” by Dr. Bobby Whiteside, past president of the TC/AFS. The course will cover the little guys and gals like minnows, topminnows, and darters and will run for two hours. Bobby may also include some information on sunfishes, such as bluegill, orangespotted, and longear sunfishes as well. It will be a power point program and very informative and useful in our line of work. As per usual, this class is available at no cost to conference registrants. There will also be a day-long workshop “INSTREAM FLOW STUDIES” sponsored by Texas River and Reservoir Management Society on Tuesday, February 10. This will run concurrently with our business meeting and a technical session. Cost for the workshop is \$40.00. This is in addition to your conference registration fee.

As in the past, our one and two-hour-long classes do not meet the AFS requirements for Continuing Education credit, but the day-long workshop may be creditable.

## TCAFS History Project Update

Ray Mathews

The TCAFS history is a story in progress that is important for us to reflect on and future generations to learn



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## Election Time is Nearing Once Again

### John Moczygemba

This year we will be electing a new President-elect. Just in case you do not know what the President-elect does, here are the major duties of that office:

1. Assumes the duties of President if the current president is unable to complete the term.
2. Works closely with the President so that Chapter activities will continue smoothly in the next year.
3. Serves as a voting member of the Chapter's Executive Committee (EXCOM).
4. After consultation with other members of the EXCOM and interested sponsors, selects time and place and develops the theme for annual meeting approximately one year in advance. Develops and distributes call for papers and promotional materials for the Annual Chapter meeting well in advance.
5. Extends an invitation to Southern Division and Society Presidents, and the Executive Director, to attend annual Chapter meeting at least three months before the meeting.
6. Coordinates the printing of the program for the meeting.
7. Runs technical sessions of annual meeting or delegates this responsibility.
8. Prepares write-ups for Fisheries concerning Chapter activities and programs. These should include a meeting announcement within three months prior to the annual Chapter meeting and a meeting report within one month following the annual Chapter meeting.

The most important duty is planning the annual meeting; since this is the one time a year the membership can interact and conduct business. If the meeting ambiance is good and the facilities promote good communication, then it is a memorable meeting. We prepare an election slate that we hope can fulfill that duty. The Nominating Committee is soliciting suggestions from the membership for that office. If you have someone you think can accomplish the duties of

President-elect, send me a name and why you think that individual can do the job. (mail: 501 Crow Road, Whitesboro, Texas 76273 or email: [john.moczygemba@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:john.moczygemba@tpwd.state.tx.us)) Remember the President-elect must be a member of the American Fisheries Society. The Nominating Committee and EXCOM will be narrowing the list of candidates down to two by the time Paul Hammerschmidt gets the ballots ready to send out in early December. All who vote early will be eligible for a great prize at a drawing during the business meeting. Last year's prize was a guided fishing trip for smallmouth bass on Lake Texoma. We will get another great prize again this year, so vote early.

While we are talking about voting, what is anyone's opinion towards on-line voting? We are considering going to on-line voting from the TCAFS web site next year. Each member would get a PIN which could be used for voting one time. It would save several hundred dollars in postage, envelopes, and mail-in ballots. I am sure there are some drawbacks. Use my email address to let me know what you think. So get ready to vote!

## News From AFS

### New Books Available

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

The purpose of this volume (an update to the first edition and now with a CD-ROM) is to provide a checklist of species and to recommend selected common names for North American Cnidaria and Ctenophora, thereby achieving uniformity and avoiding confusion in the nomenclature of their common names. In addition to stabilizing common name nomenclature, this list will heighten public awareness of the diversity and wide distribution of cnidarians in North America, help identify taxonomic groups in need of systematic revision, and serve as a preliminary guide to the literature required for the identification of species.

This text lists more than 1,300 taxa of jellyfishes, hydroids, corals, anemones, and comb jellies and sets the standard for vernacular names of the more widely known species. This book also includes an index, extensive references and bibliography, and annotated changes from the first edition.

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Special Publication 28  
115 pp., + 32 color photographs, paper, March 2003

Book and companion CD:  
Stock number 510.28P  
ISBN 1-888569-39-5  
List Price: \$39  
AFS Member Price: \$27

CD only:  
Stock number 703.12  
ISBN 1-888569-45-X  
List Price: \$34  
AFS Member Price: \$23

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

Fisheries and natural resource managers and policymakers need more efficient procedures for identifying sources of variability in ecosystems (natural and managed) and assessing uncertainties of managing and making decisions for enveloping and implementing river restoration strategies. This book seeks to integrate perspectives on variability of physical and biological functions and concepts of uncertainty in natural and managed systems into strategies for renewing and conserving river ecosystems. The book explores approaches to understanding and communicating the processes contributing to the variability of different types of river systems and to assessing major sources of uncertainty in natural and managed river ecosystems.

276 pp., paper  
Stock Number: 550.44  
List Price: \$69  
AFS Member Price: \$48

ISBN 1-888569-46-8

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

Assessing mussel populations accurately and efficiently requires knowledge of both statistical principles and mussel biology. The purpose of this guide is to provide practical advice to environmental professionals to help them choose sound designs and methods for assessing freshwater mussel populations. The author's critically review sampling designs and methods that might be useful for sampling freshwater mussel populations and offer exemplary designs to meet several common objectives. The guide is largely compiled from published works, although some new, unpublished

material is included, and brings together into a coherent, compact form the information needed to design mussel surveys and assessments.

AFS Monograph 8  
110 pp., paper, June 2003  
Stock Number: 520.08  
List Price: \$55  
AFS Member Price: \$38

ISBN 1-888569-50-6

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

Flowing through the heart of Alaska, the Yukon River is the scene for stories of mystery and adventure. Searching for lost gold from the Klondike, chasing thieves in a blinding snowstorm, plunging through raging waters on a hydropower project gone wrong-- three fast-paced adventures await readers in grades 5 through 9.

Mystery and adventure of another kind await as well. Have you ever dreamed of working in the great outdoors? To call it your job to work in places others can only hope to visit? Have you wanted to discover how natural systems work, to explore frontiers still to be found? Through the experiences of a fishery biologist and his family on the legendary Yukon, these adventures help feed the dream: could this be me?

217 pp., paper, June 2003  
Stock Number: 550.46  
List Price: \$21  
AFS Member Price: \$15

ISBN 1-888569-52-2

## New Services

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/afs\\_infobase.shtml](http://www.fisheries.org/publications/Infobase/afs_infobase.shtml). Or go online to the AFS Homepage at [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org) and click on "Fisheries InfoBase"

## MUSSELS

NEW MONETARY VALUES OF FISH AND MUSSELS



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More than half the states rely on values published by AFS to assess damages and restitution in cases of fish kills. AFS is printing updated values for fish and, for the first time ever, publishing replacement values for freshwater mussels.

**ADMINISTRATORS NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT  
THEIR STATE LEGAL CODE IS UPDATED**

To allow the use of these values (some state laws actually still specify the values presented in the 1982 publication, while most specify the 1992 values).

The new publication is available from the AFS bookstore:  
*Investigation and Monetary Values of Fish and Freshwater Mussel Kills*

AFS Special Publication #30

"This book is an update and expansion of the widely accepted monetary values of fish that have been published by AFS since 1975 (last updated in 1992 as Special Publication 24). This publication has been adopted as the legal basis for restitution or fines in more than half the states and has been upheld in numerous legal challenges. In this current version, freshwater mussels are included for the first time. The publication contains comprehensive methods for assessing fish kills and freshwater mussel kill events and for assessing restitution based on replacement cost for organisms lost in the kill. Tables containing updated replacement cost values for most major fish species that are cultured and for all freshwater mussel species in the USA are included. This book is a must for anyone involved with fish or freshwater mussel kills, propagation, and water pollution policy."





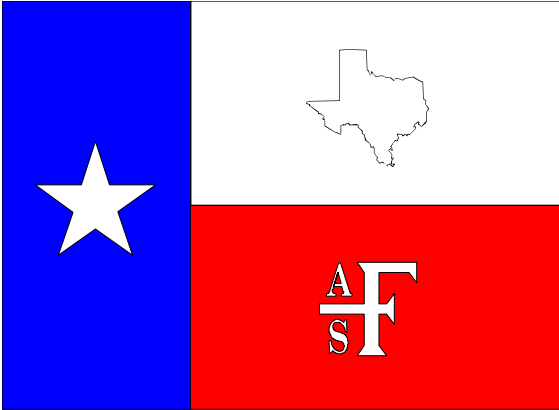
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# JOIN THE TEXAS CHAPTER

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 **Jason Vajnar or Dennis Smith, Rt 1 Box 123A, Electra, TX 76360-9502, (940) 586-1203, [Jason.Vajnar@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:Jason.Vajnar@tpwd.state.tx.us)** or the newsletter editor to obtain application information.

**Next Newsletter submission deadline:  
November 24, 2003 .....Winter Issue**

Submissions are encouraged. Submit a hard copy or a .TXT file by mail or email to the editor at **[deborah.wade@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:deborah.wade@tpwd.state.tx.us)**



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT ..... Gary Garrett  
PRESIDENT-ELECT ..... Fran Gelwick  
PAST-PRESIDENT ..... Gene Wilde  
SECRETARY-TREASURER..... Paula Hawkins  
TX TECH STUDENT CHAPTER  
PRESIDENT .....

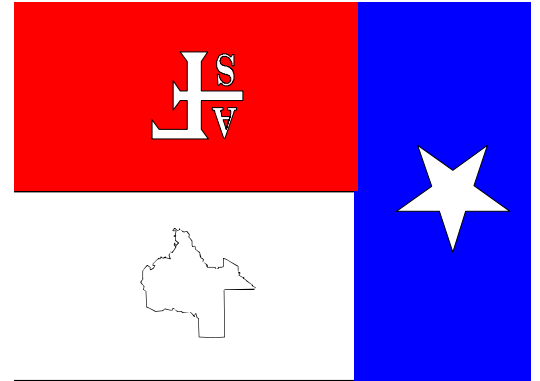
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TCAFS WEB/HOME PAGE..... Fred Janssen

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Deborah Wade  
5550 F.M. 2495  
Athens, TX 75752  
903 670-2234 FAX 903 676-3474  
E-mail [Deborah.wade@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:Deborah.wade@tpwd.state.tx.us)

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY  
OF THE  
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
5550 F.M. 2495  
Athens, TX 75752

