



President's Message

Jeremy Tiemann

Another year has come and gone for the Chapter's Executive Committee. The Chapter was busy the past few months, with us co-hosting the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Springfield in December and hosting our annual meeting at Rend Lake in February. Serving as president was a fun and interesting endeavor and I have learned a lot. I am thankful for the support and assistance from the ExCom and other Chapter Committee members. This was especially true during the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference when several Chapter members stepped in last minute to help with the meeting after others were called to assist with the Great Fish Kill. Without the support and willingness to help, the meeting wouldn't have been as big of a success as it was.

Our Chapter and a few of its members have been recognized at various levels this past year. Thanks to the hard work of Past President Ann Marie Holtrop, the Chapter won the North Central Division's (NCD) Most Active Large Chapter award. Dan Sallee was recognized by the NCD with Meritorious Service award for his lasting contribution to the betterment the American Fisheries Society.

Quinton Phelps was a recipient of the 2009 Young Professional Mentoring Program Award from the American Fisheries Society.

"I am thankful for the support and assistance from the ExCom and other Chapter Committee members."

The ILAFS has created a membership database using Constant Contact. This site should allow us to better maintain our Chapter's directory. If you need to update your information, please let me or one of the

other ExCom members know. The Chapter is offering e-newsletters instead of the printed copies. If you are interested in receiving only e-newsletters, please contact our newsletter editor, Bill Hintz (hintzwd@siu.edu).

E-newsletters not only will save the Chapter money, but also will save a tree or two. Also, if you are a Facebook user, please check out our page and join our group on there. For me, it's another way to contact other biologists when traveling in the field.

Lastly, our Chapter has recently lost three of our members. Alec Pulley collapsed while working out at his local health club on 5 March 2010 and couldn't be revived. Al joined DNR Fisheries in 1971 and retired in 2004. He spent his entire career managing the fisheries in northwestern Illinois. Dr. David Homer Buck passed away on 30 April 2010. He was our Chapter's 16th president and published several papers in small pound management. Dr. William M. Lewis died on 15 May 2010. He was not only a past-president of our chapter, but also of the parent society. Dr. Lewis published extensively on stocked fish populations and on fish culture. Many of you had the opportunity to work with these gentlemen over the years. Although they will be missed, their legacies will continue in the research and management activities that many of us use.

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-Jeremy Tiemann

**Newsletter of the Illinois Chapter
of the American Fisheries Society**

President: Jeremy Tiemann
President-elect: Jeremiah Haas
Secretary-Treasurer: Trent Thomas
Past President: Ann Holtrop
At large EXCOM: Laura Sass and Cory Suski

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Archival.....Bob Schanzle
Awards.....Steve Pescitelli
Continuing Education.....Jeremy Tiemann
Environmental Concerns.....Scott Shasteen
Randy Sauer
IL Environmental Council.....Bruce Lippincott
IL Wildlife Action Team.....Trent Thomas
Membership.....Matt Diana
Raffle.....Jim Lamer
Resolutions.....Rob Hilsabeck
Student Concerns..... Trent Thomas
Student Subunits
 Eastern Illinois University.....Sarah Huck
 Southern IL University..... Kenson
 Kanczuzewski
 University of Illinois..... Blake Ruebush
Time and Place.....Jeremiah Haas
Website.....Jim Garvey

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Illinois Chapter of the
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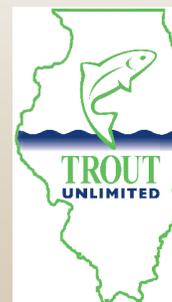


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Asian Carp update- new state record bighead, Supreme Court refuses 1922 case

On Tuesday, May 4 Mr. Jack Bailey of Salem landed a new Illinois record fish, a 69 lb 0 oz bighead carp, from the Kaskaskia River. The fish was caught around 2:00 PM on a small spoon with 30 lb test line, fished just below the Carlyle Lake dam in the tailwater. It measured 51½" in length. It was weighed later that afternoon on certified scales and witnessed by an IDNR Fisheries Biologist. The existing bighead carp record had been 64 lbs taken from Horsehoe Lake (Madison Co) in 2008. Mr. Bailey is pictured here with the fish and his son Sean, 7.

In a related development, the US Supreme Court on April 26 refused to re-open a 1922 case challenging, after the fact, construction of the Chicago Area Waterways System (CAWS). The turn of the century project effectively reversed flows away from Lake Michigan and into the Illinois River Waterway, enabling shipping access but also an ecological connection between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River watershed. The CAWS has recently become a focal point in an international controversy surrounding control of invasive species, most notably Asian carp. A consortium of over 400 state, Federal, university, and private professionals have implemented control and monitoring efforts since late 2009, with a rotenone application due soon on the Little Calumet River. A similar effort on the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal (CSSC) in December yielded a single bighead carp among nearly 30 tons of dead fish.

Netting and electrofishing surveys have been underway since last Fall in an effort to verify environmental DNA (eDNA) "findings" of Asian carp both above and below the electric barriers constructed in the CSSC near Romeoville. No actual fish have been recovered but IDNR, USFWS and the many partners involved in this initiative are continuing with due diligence in detection and, if necessary, eradication of the carp species which loom as a serious potential threat to the Great Lakes sport and commercial fisheries. Ecological balance of the lakes, already greatly compromised by a plethora of exotics brought in with ocean going vessels, could further suffer from the first significant invasion in the "other" direction. Of greater concern may be access of lake-borne Asian carp to large, warmwater river systems flowing into Lake Michigan and its neighbors.

In its two sentence decision, the Supreme Court offered no explanation for the ruling but opened the door for litigation in lower Federal and state courts. In the wake of this finding, legislators from potentially affected states are hurriedly drafting legislation on Capitol Hill and many are lobbying the Obama administration for further funding and support of Asian carp control/prevention measures.



Student Concerns Committee

Brian Metzke

Since the last Student Concerns update, the Chapter conducted its 48th annual meeting at Rend Lake. Thank you to all those students and their advisors that attend the meeting. There were more than 25 presentations and posters given by students this year, and student participation helps make these meetings a success.

During the business meeting at Rend Lake, Josh Sherwood (WIU), Candice Miller (EIU), Jen Eichelberger (SIU), and Zac Blevins (U of I) were presented with IL AFS Student Travel Grants. Each of these students was awarded \$100 to help cover costs of the annual meeting. Also, Eden Effert (U of I), Neil Rude (SIU) and Kurt Smith (SIU) each received a Larimore Student Research Award and grant money for their respective research projects. Eden, Neil and Kurt presented their studies during the meeting. Congratulations to all of these students.



2010 IL AFS Student Travel Award Winners (from left to right) Zac Blevins and Josh Sherwood with Brian Metzke. Not pictured; Candice Miller and Jen Eichelberger.

The Chapter also recognizes two students for outstanding paper and poster presentations given at the annual meeting. The Lewis L. Osborne Best Student Paper Award for the 2010 meeting was given to Quinton Phelps (SIU; James Garvey, advisor) for his paper entitled "Identifying river of origin for age-0 *Scaphirhynchus* sturgeon in the middle Mississippi River using fun ray microchemistry: evidence of short and long-distance dispersal." Kurt Smith (SIU; Greg Whitledge, advisor) was announced as the winner of the 2010 poster competition with his poster "A stable isotope labeling technique for mass-marking fin rays of age-0 sturgeon." Congratulations on your hard work.

Thanks once again to all students and faculty that participated in the sub-units during this past academic year. Enjoy your summer and I'll contact you again in the fall.

- Brian



Larimore Student Research Grant recipients (from left to right) Eden Effert, Neil Rude, and Kurt Smith.

Fish bypass channel repaired on Big Rock Creek with Funds from Illinois Smallmouth Bass Alliance

Steve Pescitelli, IL DNR

A fish bypass channel was constructed on Big Rock Creek in 2005 with funding from the USFWS. The grant also included construction of a full dam ramp for fish passage on the Plano Dam 1.5 miles downstream. IL DNR evaluation of the bypass channel structure, located 4.9 miles upstream of the Fox River, demonstrated use by a total of 17 species. Unfortunately, during a large flood event in September of 2008, the entire channel was filled in with bedload, primarily sand. In 2009, we received a grant from Illinois Smallmouth Bass Alliance to re-excavate and the channel re-line it with rip-rap. The work was completed on March 31, 2010 and took 5 hours, using about 16 tons of rock, for a total cost of \$2000. The channel is once again operating, just as the fish are beginning their spring migrations. In fact, shorthead redhorse and quillback were observed in lower Big Rock about one week later. Shortheads were observed on nests further upstream on March 14. As with many stream projects, maintenance is required to maintain function and repair flood damage. While one can always use bigger rock to stabilize structures against high flows, it is more difficult to control bedload movement. Hopefully, we won't have any more 100 year floods for a while. However, this repair was relatively cheap and easy; and well worth it to maintain a high quality resource like Big Rock Creek. Thanks to the Illinois Smallmouth Bass Alliance and USFWS for supporting these projects.



North Central Division

American Fisheries Society



From the NCD to its chapters:

The AFS North Central Division has been actively addressing a number of issues. For more information visit the website at: <http://www.ncd-afs.org/>

Website use: The NCD will ensure website information is up-to-date and includes chapter information. President Mark Porath encourages chapters to link to NCD website. The NCD serves as a conduit to convey issues to AFS. A current issue is the difficulty with electronic issues. Whenever an issue arises, please email Ted Treska the NCD representative to the AFS Electronic Services Advisory Board at (ted_treska@fws.gov) and copy President Porath (mark.porath@nebraska.gov).

Procedural manual and bylaws: The procedural manual and bylaws is currently open for your review and will be presented to the parent society in March. Take a look at the NCD website for more information or contact Past-President Mistak (mistakj@michigan.gov).

Midwest Conference Liaison: To enable continuity between years, an NCD Midwest Conference Liaison provides guidance to meeting planners. Past-President Mistak served in 2009 and President Porath will serve in 2010. If you are interested in filling that role on a more permanent basis or assisting with continuing education programs at the conference, contact Mark.

Future leaders: AFS is implementing several steps to diligently develop future leaders for the profession and the Society. Young professionals who are transitioning from school to employment have a 3-year hiatus from full dues. The Governing Board has a new mentoring program to introduce potential future officers to society-level leadership. A great way to get started is to volunteer—run for office, chair a committee, help organize events! Please let us know if you are interested in any of these opportunities and need more information.

Student travel: The NCD solicits support from Chapters to help financially with student travel awards. At the division level are the Fenske and Duffy awards. Numerous sections provide assistance for travel to the parent society annual meetings. Contact any officer for more information.

2005-2009 Strategic Plan: The NCD will be revising the plan to follow the recently completed update of the AFS parent society plan. More information will be available in the future.

Online journals: AFS is considering phasing out print copies of journals and going to online versions only. Officers will begin informing the membership of the proposed changes and background on this change.

AFS Membership: Fulfill your New Year's resolution by supporting the Division and renewing your membership in AFS Parent Society and all the wonderful sections that provide you with great contacts in your favorite fisheries disciplines! The Society needs your support to continue as one of the world's premier leaders among fisheries professional societies.

Working with Volunteers: Handling the "What's in it for me?" Question

By Linda Rosenberg

In today's society, volunteers think hard before they commit their time and efforts to a professional society such as the American Fisheries Society (AFS). Those days when people would blindly work "for the cause" or to "give something back to their society" are gone. Today, if you want people to volunteer, you must be able to answer one basic question: "What's in it for me?" Or, put another way: "What will my contribution of time and energy do to advance the Society's goals in which I'm interested?" It isn't the amount of time they would spend volunteering that bothers them -- it's the amount they're afraid they're going to waste. So if you want to put your volunteers to good use, let them know what they will get in return for their investment of time.

What do volunteers want? **Recognition, rewards, and a sense of accomplishment.** Volunteers want to do something worthwhile and do it well. They also want someone to recognize their contribution appropriately, to make them believe they are "successful" volunteers. Sometimes a volunteer leader only has to say, "Thank you -- you did a great job," but that is a minimum! If you give your volunteers a job to do, you must do everything possible to show them the job is meaningful, worthy of their time, and an important contribution to the Society's success. Make sure you give them a "volunteer-sized" piece of the action along with the resources to accomplish this task. This might mean breaking a large job into several smaller ones handled by one or more volunteers with a series of deadlines. It might also mean providing training on computers or other equipment to ensure they not only have the resources but the know-how to do the job right.

Once you've given volunteers that ability to succeed, you should provide recognition. By definition, volunteers don't get paid. That makes achieving success and gaining recognition all the more important. Creating a specific program to give volunteers the feeling that time spent for the Society is worthwhile means recruiting properly. This is the first step in setting volunteers on the road to success. Before asking someone to serve as a committee chair, ask yourself what type of person does it take? What skills are needed? As a leader, you need to figure out who closely fits the profile. For example, Richard Gregory has been appointed chair of the Task Force on Advocacy. As a past president of the Society, he is aware of the mission and goals of the organization in advancing conservation of fishery resources and promoting the fisheries profession. Second, identify the key skills and characteristics of the volunteer position, such as solid writing ability, willingness to make phone calls, ability to maintain membership files, or organizational experience. Third, recruit people who have a good chance to succeed in their volunteer roles, not just people who will say yes. Make sure you're not putting a shy, introverted person into a spotlight position that requires activities such as working a room of strangers.

Fourth, you should orient your volunteers by reinforcing how their particular jobs fit into the Society's overall long-range plan. If possible, hold an orientation session for all volunteers. The benefits of holding such an orientation include providing an opportunity early in the year to meet and get to know each other; establishing a cohesive, well-understood plan of action; introducing volunteers to other people in their professions who have made the same commitments; and gaining a better understanding of the goals and objectives they are working toward.

Training is frequently skipped and its value underestimated. Training not only can help convince members to continue volunteering but can show them you are willing to "invest" in teaching them to learn and volunteer well. By training volunteers, you build an active, dedicated, and successful leadership corps ready to take on future challenges, and the skills learned are transferrable into their professional lives. Such skills could include managing time, running committee meetings effectively, public speaking, becoming proficient on a new software program, or gaining project management experience. If you've properly recruited, oriented, and trained your volunteers, then you should have confidence in their ability to succeed. This means trusting them to do the job. Make sure they understand what they are supposed to do and let them do it, perhaps checking in once in a while to monitor progress. Give your volunteers a sense of accomplishment by giving them feedback. Periodic reviews help identify progress and alleviate problems for volunteers before the individuals "fail."

The final step is to reward good performance with recognition. It's the volunteer's paycheck. If you go to all the trouble of making your volunteers successful and don't give them the recognition they want and deserve, you've wasted a lot of time and energy because they won't come back. Recognition doesn't have to be a plaque, trophy, formal letter, or certificate -- it can be a simple, hand-written note or a firm handshake with a sincere "thank you." Each person gives his or her time and effort to the Society for different reasons but all need the sense that they've undertaken a worthwhile project and accomplished something. Think of ways to give your volunteers what they need, and you'll find that working with volunteers really is worth the effort.

AFS Writes President Obama to pass The Endocrine Disruption Prevention Act of 2009



American Fisheries Society

Organized 1870 to Promote the Conservation, Development and Wise Utilization of the Fisheries

GHASSAN N. RASSAM
Executive Director

WILLIAM G. FRANZIN
President 2008-2009

DONALD C. JACKSON
President Elect

WAYNE HUBERT
1st Vice President

WILLIAM L. FISHER
2nd Vice President

MARY FABRIZIO
Past President

27 July 2009

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The American Fisheries Society (AFS) is a professional scientific association representing 9000 scientists and professionals whose research and professional activities focus on fishery and other aquatic resources. The mission of AFS is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

As you are aware, the Corps of Engineers approved a permit application by Coeur Alaska to deposit up to 4.5 million tons of gold mine tailings from the Kensington Mine into Lower Slate Lake, Alaska, which hosts high quality fish fauna including the native Dolly Varden char and threespine stickleback. The permit was approved even though Coeur Alaska agreed in its mining permit that these two fish species would be extirpated by the waste. The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Corps' decision because of conflicting and confounding laws and regulations governing when mine waste is treated as fill or as pollutant discharge [Coeur Alaska, Inc. vs Southeast Alaska Conservation Council]. Mine waste negatively affects water quality and freshwater ecosystems in the vicinity of mine operations throughout the nation. The science indicates the effects will be particularly severe in this case. In addition to the site-specific impacts, the Supreme Court decision sets a particularly important legal precedent that may allow other mining operations to avoid adherence with Clean Water Act water quality standards by petitioning the Corps of Engineers to redefine pollutant waste as "fill".

The devastating impacts of mine waste on receiving waters is well documented in a body of peer-reviewed scientific literature and even acknowledged by the petitioner. Given your administration's stated policy of basing policy decisions on sound science, we are obliged to point out that, in our professional opinion, this policy action will have a clear and decidedly negative impact on the receiving water body, and likely for decades after the mine is abandoned. As one pertinent example, a scientist working at one of the USEPA labs documenting the effects of gold mine waste on aquatic communities in receiving waters reported:

- a 78-100% reduction in trout and sculpin biomass downstream of mined sites;
- a 71-100% decline in the density of trout and sculpin downstream of mined sites;
- and



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- a fundamental alteration in the stream invertebrate assemblage in sites with high levels of mining compared with unmined sites (Hughes 1985 *Environmental Management* 9:253-262).

AFS is extremely concerned with the negative effects of mine waste disposal on aquatic ecosystems, and we hope that recent approvals do not set a precedent for pending and future coal and metal mining permit applications. The preponderance of scientific evidence indicates that poorly planned and under-regulated mining has resulted in adverse effects on the water quality of thousands of stream miles across our nation. Alaska, with a large proportion of U.S. coal and metal deposits, as well as our healthiest fisheries, represents an excellent opportunity to use science-based regulatory policy to find economically and environmentally sustainable solutions to the operation of the proposed Kensington Mine and to the larger industry of natural resource-extraction. Unlike the U.S., Canada has rigorous and state-of-the-art mining regulations, whereby mining corporations must prevent releases of solids or water into surface and ground water—or pay for the pollution they cause. Likewise, AFS Policy 13 on Surface Mining encourages “diligent regulation of all surface mining by local, state, provincial, and federal governments to provide adequate protection (of) aquatic resources”.

We urge your Administration to overturn the policy of treating mine waste as the discharge of dredged or fill material and to recognize the negative effects of mining waste. We also urge the USEPA to exercise its veto power over Corps mine fill/waste permits. We strongly believe that such regulatory actions are supported by the best available science. The Nation’s surface waters, and the people who depend on them for food, recreation, and income deserve nothing less than the best policy science can support.

Sincerely yours,

Gus Rassam, Executive Director

William Franzin, President

News from Illinois' Subunits: Southern Illinois University

The 2009-2010 year was an active one for the Southern Illinois University Student Subunit. Among our usual activities that we have conducted for many years we have also taken on other tasks as well.

Pond Management: Members travelled to ponds of local residents throughout the year to conduct population surveys via electrofishing. This not only gave our members valuable field experience but also provided a free service to those who asked for their ponds to be sampled. Based on the findings of the electrofishing our members provided the pond owners with potential management plans that may allow them to realize the full potential of their ponds. This activity will continue this summer as well.

2nd Annual Fish Fry Fundraiser: For the second year in a row we conducted a fish fry at the campus lake marina as a fundraiser. Subunit members fried up fish and served coleslaw and baked beans for a suggested donation of \$5. The weather was great and a decent crowd showed up in support. SIUC AFS apparel was also made available to purchase. This year's fry was a big success and we plan to continue it in the future and hopefully increase the scope.

Urban Fishing Program: Members of the subunit volunteered their time throughout the summer to participate in the state of Illinois' urban fishing program. Children of various ages would come to campus lake and learn about fish and fishing. Our members would help show them the ropes on how to use a fishing pole, bait hooks, help them land fish and return them to the lake. This is a very popular program for our subunit that will continue this summer as well.

Anna Kids Fest: Much like the urban fishing program subunit members spent this one day event showing children how to fish and teaching them about the joys of fishing. Our subunit provided the gear and bait. We baited hooks, helped land fish and put them back in the pond. This too is a popular activity.

Annual Hog Roast: Each year the subunit hosts a hog roast at the home of a professor with the help of the United States Aquaculture Society student subunit. The two units buy a whole hog and provide drinks. Members of "team hog" spend the first part of the day preparing the meat in various ways. Students and staff of the zoology department were invited to attend and to bring a side dish to share. This year's hog roast was very well attended. Not only did participants enjoy good food but they also enjoyed playing various outdoor games as well. This may be one of the most popular events among members of the subunit.

Regional and National Meetings / Conferences: Members of our subunit attended numerous meetings throughout the year. The Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Conference, Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and

American Fisheries Society National Conference were just a few. Members of our society presented papers and posters at each of these meetings.

Journal Discussion Group: Recently a journal discussion group was started by members of the subunit. Once a month members meet at a local establishment and discuss journal articles. However, in this group the emphasis is on articles written by members of our own subunit and students within the fisheries department. This allows for our members to learn about other research in our department and offers authors the opportunity for peer review in a setting in which participants feel open to share ideas and critiques.

Muskie Population Survey: In the spring, members of our subunit traveled to nearby Lake Kincaid to help with a population survey of muskellunge. This is always a popular event that many members are excited to participate in. It also provides valuable field experience and networking with professionals.

Adopt-A-Highway: This past summer, our subunit adopted a two mile stretch of Illinois state road 13 east of Carbondale. Four times each year our members will walk this stretch picking and pick up trash. Not only is this a rewarding activity as we are doing our part in keeping the environment clean but it also helps to get our name known to the community.

The SIUC student subunit continues to grow each year. Though we are mainly comprised of graduate students we continue to see increasing interest from undergraduates as well. We send a representative to the first meeting of various fisheries related courses in an effort to educate undergraduate students on the opportunities available to them through our subunit. This has provided the undergraduates the opportunity to learn more about the field of fisheries and get some hands on training by working directly with the graduate students.

- Brian Gause, outgoing president 2009-2010

News from Illinois' Subunits: Eastern Illinois University

During the 2009-2010 academic year, the joint Fish and Wildlife Ecology Club (which includes the fisheries subunit) has participated in several events. The group volunteered at the Douglas Hart Nature Center for Earth Day activities, and, along with other organizations, participated in a clean-up at Lake Charleston. Dr. Rob Colombo (who also is our subunit mentor) conducted a fish aging workshop and an electrofishing field seminar at Lake Charleston and the Embarras River for the Ecology Club. We also organized and manned a tent at the 2010 EIU Festival of the Arts Celebration. Approximately 15 students attend our events, and we usually have 25 members at our scheduled meetings.

Sarah Huck, President.



EIU students participating in workshops organized by the subunit.



Continuing Education

The Aquatic Amphibians and Reptiles of Illinois course was canceled due lack of interest (e.g., travel restrictions). We'll try this one again later. Even though it is not continuing education per se, Josh Guge of the Guge Institute of Wildlife Art (and ILAFS raffle donor), Jim Lamer, and I have begun discussions about a fish carving workshop, which might happen this fall. Goals of this workshop are to give one of our raffle donors business and potentially expand ILAFS into a different audience. If we can hammer out the details, I will send out information in the Sept newsletter and over the ILAFS email list. More information on the Guge Institute of Wildlife Art can be found at <http://www.gugeinstitute.com/home.php>. If you have any questions about this workshop or suggestions about different courses (e.g., plant identification course, electrofishing/boating safety), please drop me a line (jtiemann@illinois.edu) or give me a call (217-244-4594).

Aquaria enthusiast? Join the Southern Illinois Aquarists Association

Southern Illinois University Carbondale has a new outreach group, the Southern Illinois Aquarists Association. This organization is a collaborative effort between fisheries experts at SIUC, all of which share a passion for the aquarium hobby. Since ornamental fish-keeping is one of the fastest growing hobbies in the world today, the association's focus is to educate and assist fellow hobbyists in responsible fish-keeping practices while promoting conservation of natural reef habitats where the majority of marine fish and invertebrates are procured for the hobby. The association hopes to promote public awareness of the good, bad and the just plain ugly facts of the ornamental fish industry. "Making informed choices is the first step hobbyists can make in protecting the degradation of ecosystems and the decline of its key species." states James Garvey, SIUC Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center director and group collaborator. He also points out the importance of educating aquarists on the consequences of re-releasing non-native species into local waterways and the damage they can inflict on fragile ecosystems. The SIAA also encourages involvement by ornamental fish suppliers and will work with these businesses to promote responsible procurement and breeding methods that will lessen the impact on rapidly declining wild populations.

The SIAA held its first meeting April 23, 2010, which featured special guest speaker Kevin Kohen, director of marine aquaculture at liveaquaria.com. Meetings will resume in the fall and will be held monthly in the John C. Guyon Auditorium at SIUC Morris Library. Attendance is open to the public and admission is free.



Resolution to eliminate biological exchange among the St. Lawrence, the Great Lakes, and the Mississippi River drainages

The following resolution was voted upon and approved by our membership:

WHEREAS there are no natural migration pathways among the St. Lawrence, the Great Lakes, and the Mississippi River drainages and,

WHEREAS over 182 non-native species are now found in the Great Lakes and,

WHEREAS ballast water discharged from ocean-going vessels and shipping canals are the principal pathways for the spread of non-native species and,

WHEREAS a large number of aquatic nuisance species have been exchanged among these basins,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society supports the elimination of biological exchange among the St. Lawrence, the Great Lakes, and the Mississippi River drainages.



Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Benefits you receive when joining the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society:

- You will be a member of the oldest, largest, and most influential association of fisheries professionals in the state. All disciplines of aquatic ecology (e.g., fisheries management, fish culture, systematics, etc.) are welcome. There is a bond of interest that members share, and this network can help them find information, compare research designs, tools, or results, and collaborate in research and reporting results
- The Chapter is known for being the premier science-based organization dealing with fisheries in the state, and we collectively speak for this resource at every level of government.
- The Chapter provides a strong voice in policy deliberations affecting the interests of its members and the resources members seek to conserve.
- The Chapter sponsors the largest and most prestigious annual meeting of fisheries professionals in the state. These meetings are great places to network with others. The Chapter is like a big family, and each gathering is like a family reunion; you often find new folks who share your interests and backgrounds, and these people then become part of your extended family.
- Your membership gives you reduced registration fees for meeting and symposia.
- Annual membership dues aid in student travel awards, student research scholarships, and student sub-unit activities. As a student member, your membership allows you to apply for student travel awards and research scholarships.
- Annual membership dues aid in professional travel awards, and as a professional member, your membership allows you to apply for these travel awards.
- The Chapter sponsors Continuing Education workshops addressing critical issues confronting fisheries and aquatic science and management.
- You will receive a newsletter on Chapter activities three times a year.
- You can deduct your dues and contributions from your income tax.



If you are interested in joining the Illinois Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, please contact Mr. Jeremy Tiemann, Illinois Natural History Survey, 1816 South Oak Street, Champaign, IL 61820 (telephone: (217) 244-4594 --- email: jtiemann@inhs.uiuc.edu).

Announcements

Retirement of Dr. Samuel G. Dennison

Dr. Samuel G. Dennison has retired as of April 30, 2010. Sam, as everyone calls him, was the Supervising Aquatic Biologist for the Aquatic Ecology and Water Quality Section within the Environmental Monitoring and Research Division at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC).

Sam received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from St. Mary's University in Winona, Minnesota, a Master of Science degree in Fisheries Biology from Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biology from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, Illinois. He started his career with the MWRDGC in 1971 and his primary responsibilities from 1974 through 2003 involved monitoring the fish populations in the Chicago Area Waterways (CAWS). In 2003 he became head of the Aquatic Ecology and Water Quality Section, where he supervised a staff that conducts biomonitoring of the CAWS including fish and benthic invertebrate monitoring. Sam is a Certified Fisheries Professional with the American Fisheries Society and is a past president of the Illinois Chapter.

It is difficult to talk about fish and the Chicago area waterways without mentioning the name Sam Dennison. When he started monitoring the CAWS there were fewer than 10 species of fish to be found. After the passage of the Clean Water Act and the improvements in wastewater treatment, the initiation of pretreatment, the monitoring of industrial dischargers, and the creation of the tunnel and reservoir system, the CAWS has seen great improvements in the fish community to the point where the total species count within the CAWS has passed 70. Through all of this, Sam was there monitoring fish.

Sam's dedication to his work will be missed. Forty years is a long time, and to be part of something you really have a passion for is an achievement we should all be lucky to attain. We wish you well, Sam. Have a wonderful retirement, and thank you for your dedication to the fisheries community.



Internship, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources in Region I is searching for unpaid student interns that may want to gain experience in the field by assisting with fishery surveys this coming June - August. The surveys will take place on the Upper Mississippi River Basin (Galena area), Spoon River Basin (Peoria and Galesburg areas), and Mackinaw River Basin (Bloomington to East Peoria area). If you are interested give Karen Rivera, Region I Streams Program Manager, a call at (815) 625-2968. If you are a student from one of these areas, or if you are from the Sterling, IL area, we may be able to provide your transportation to and from the streams.

71st MIDWEST FISH & WILDLIFE CON- FERENCE

Minneapolis, MN

DECEMBER 12-15, 2010

Call for Contributed Papers and Posters

Deadline: August 1, 2010



The 71st Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota during December 12-15, 2010. The meeting will include exceptional plenary speakers, workshops, symposia, contributed papers as platform (oral) and poster presentations, and technical committee meetings. We invite submission of contributed papers on topics of fish and wildlife science, management, conservation, education, or policy.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING ABSTRACTS

You may submit your abstract (maximum 250 words) at <http://www.midwest2010.org/index.php> by typing directly into the space provided or copying and pasting text from a word processing file in the appropriate field.

QUESTIONS

Wildlife program questions may be directed to:

✉ Mark Hanson
Phone: (218) 308-2283
Email: mark.alan.hanson@state.mn.us

Fisheries program questions may be directed to:

✉ Melissa Drake
Phone: (651) 259-5245
Email: melissa.drake@state.mn.us

✉ Jeff Reed
Phone: (320) 634-4573
Email: jeffrey.reed@state.mn.us

The Illinois Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society

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There's no place like Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for the 140th meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Join us downtown September 12-16, 2010, at the spectacular Westin Hotel and the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. Pittsburgh is renowned for its arts, entertainment and recreational opportunities. With fabulous dining, world-class museums and innovative art galleries, Pittsburgh is one of the top travel destinations in the world. Sporting opportunities are diverse. Pittsburgh is home to Super Bowl Champion Pittsburgh Steelers, Stanley Cup Champion Pittsburgh Penguins and the Pittsburgh Pirates. On the water, enjoy fishing along Pittsburgh's river banks for bass and other game fish.

Explore beyond the city. You will find solace in the mountains of western Pennsylvania for hiking or native brook trout fishing. Try white water rafting in the rapids of the Youghiogheny River. With so much to see and do, you'll find Pittsburgh is a city with a warm and welcoming atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you in September 2010.