

THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Alan C. Buchanan
Secretary, AFS-MO Chapter

Location: The Parlors, Ramada Inn, Columbia, Missouri.

Opening: President Rich Wehnes called the 25th Annual Meeting to order at 3:40pm on February 19, 1987. Approximately 75 members were in attendance. The minutes of the February 20, 1986 meeting and the treasurer's report as of February 13, 1987 were approved as written.

Parent Society: Second Vice-President Joe Dillard summarized several happenings at the national level. Joe will be president in 1990 when the national meeting is in Alaska. Steve Rideout will be Program Chairman for the 1990 meeting. Ben Jaco, Larry Nielson, and Nick Parker are the candidates for Second Vice President this year. Joe is presently vice president of the membership committee. The Parent Society loses about 800 members each year, but made a net gain during 1986, and presently has about 8,500 members, including approximately 1,500 libraries. AFS is working on a new job system, and is implementing a reorganization of fisheries in federal government. A new AFS directory of fisheries scientists has been initiated, and during 1986, the thirteenth discipline, Fish Genetics, was added as a section.

Recognitions: President Wehnes recognized John L. (Slim) Funk for being instrumental in getting the Missouri Chapter started. He also recognized past president John Belshe. President Wehnes thanked Bill Dieffenbach for providing a president's plaque, and Fisheries Management Section of the Missouri Department of Conservation for providing the president's gavel.

FFA Ad-hoc Committee: Chairman Phil Jeffries reported that approximately 20,000 FFA students attended a 3-day show in Kansas City during November 12 - 14, 1986, the 21st year that the chapter has participated in this event.

Membership Committee: Chairman Bill Dieffenbach reported that the committee had not yet met. Larry Martien, Treasurer, reported that 156 members had signed up for 1987, about the same as the 1986 total.

Environmental Review (EIS) Committee: Chairman Norm Stucky discussed the results of a questionnaire, sent to the membership in the January newsletter, regarding membership views on formation of an environmental issue hotline, sent to the membership in the January newsletter. Norm received only 9 responses from the approximately 200 people receiving the newsletter, which indicates a general lack of interest in forming such a hotline.

After a number of questions, Norm read the questionnaire to the members in attendance. It was tentatively decided that the Secretary should subscribe to the Missouri Conservation Federation newsletter and summarize their environmental issues information in each Missouri Chapter AFS Newsletter with an overview of the implications of each issue.

Missouri Chapter AFS testified at two hearings during 1986: 1. Opposing mining in the Mark Twain National Forest, and 2. Supporting the Omnibus Water Bill.

Resolutions Committee: Chairman Joe Tieger presented two resolutions. Alterations as follows are shown below: ~~xxx~~ (word lined out) means deletion; xxx (word underlined) means addition.

1. Mining. A resolution opposing issuance of a permit to USX Corporation for exploration and mining for lead in the Mark Twain National Forest. Added "Whereas: The USX Corporation has requested a lease to explore for and mine lead in the Mark Twain National Forest and will affect aquifers flowing into these rivers, and"; Altered line 7: "Whereas: The ground water of the Ozarks are is....."; Altered line 14: "...Wildlife Service and the Missouri Department of Conservation, and"; Altered lines 22 and 23: "...against eating, certain fishes from both the Big and-Black rivers...". The resolution was passed as amended.
2. Clean Water Act Amendment: A resolution proposing an amendment to the Clean Water Act which would protect wetlands by giving sole authority to the Administrator, EPA to issue permits in accordance with Section 404 of this Act where sole authority is not otherwise designated by the Act. Altered line 1: "Whereas: The Clean Water Act (CWA) PL-500 is..."; Altered line 16: "Engineers (COE) has..."; Altered line 35: "Administrator, EPA ...". The resolution was passed as amended.

Delegations: President Wehnes passed out copies of a news release from the Parent Society objecting to the attempt by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) to divert \$25 million from Wallop-Breaux monies to FWS.

President Wehnes directed Norm Stucky to write letters, for the president's signature, protesting the failure of

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the federal government to follow through on its promise to include 3 positions in the newly reorganized (combined) Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Unit at the University of Missouri. Presently only two positions exist. President Wehnes also directed Norm Stucky to write a letter to Missouri Representative James Russell supporting the funding for initial development of the KATY Trail for bicycling and hiking, and a letter to Missouri Representative Norwood Creason asking for representation by either a private citizen or agency, representing the public on environmental values, on the "Missouri Water Use Commission."

Nominations Committee: Chairman Dave Foster reported that a slate of candidates for 87/88 will be formulated and placed in the next newsletter for a vote by the membership.

Awards Committee: Chairman Tom Russell presented a "Letter of Recognition" to Susan Finger, Columbia National Contaminant Research Center, Columbia, Missouri for development of a 7-day bioassay technique for evaluating toxicity of water containing contaminants, and "Letters of Recognition" to Otto Fajen, Missouri Department of Conservation, Columbia, Missouri, Rich Wehnes, Missouri Department of Conservation, Jefferson City, Missouri, and Jim Robinson, Soil Conservation Service, Columbia, Missouri, members of SEET (Streambank Erosion Evaluation Team), for efforts to reduce stream bank erosion in Missouri, and for authoring the manual, "Stream Corridor Management. A Proposed Response to Streambank Erosion."

Arrangements Committee: Chairman Jim Czarnetzki reported that a joint meeting with the Missouri Chapters of The Wildlife Society and Society of American Foresters will be held January 19-22, 1988 at the Hilton Inn in Columbia, Missouri. He also reported that there will probably be a small registration fee for that meeting.

Endangered Species Section: Bob Hrabik discussed his efforts to have an Endangered, Threatened, and Rare Species Section formed at the national AFS level. Bob is circulating a petition for such a move.

Skinner Fund: President Wehnes conducted a drawing for the "Morning Run" print and the "1987 Missouri Trout Stamp" print, both donated by artist Al Agnew. Joe Tieger, U.S. FWS won the "Morning Run" print, and Lee Redmond, MDC, won the "1987 Missouri Trout Stamp" print. The raffle of these two prints brought in \$176.00 which will be donated to the Skinner Fund. The fund, sponsored by the National's Education Section, provides assistance to students attending the national meetings.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

Addendum to the Business Meeting

A joint banquet was held the evening of February 19th. The speaker for the evening was Mr. Bob Priddy, Missouri Network Inc., Jefferson City, Missouri. He presented a talk entitled "Yesterday's Values in Today's World."

The AFS-Missouri Chapter's 1987 Award of Excellence was presented to Mr. Dave Foster, Ozark National Scenic Riverways, for long-term contributions in the field of aquatic science.

The 1987 Citizen's Award was presented to Mr. Ron Oesch, St. Louis, for his book "Missouri Naiades, A Guide to the Mussels of Missouri."

Approximately 250 people attended the banquet which was moderated by Ron Glover.

====RESOLUTIONS APPROVED AT THE 1987 ANNUAL MEETING====

A Resolution Concerning a Needed Amendment to the Clean Water Act

Whereas: The Clean Water Act (CWA) PL 92-500 is the principle water protection statute of the United States and,

Whereas: The objective of the CWA is "...to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters." and,

Whereas: Wetlands are a functional part of the Nation's waters and are essential to achieving the goal of the CWA, and,

Whereas: Both Congress and the Federal Courts have repeatedly stated that Section 404 of the CWA is intended to protect wetlands, and,

Whereas: The Nation has continued to lose hundreds of thousands of acres of this valuable public resource every year, and,

Whereas: Since the passage of the CWA, the Corps of Engineers (COE) has resisted, delayed and otherwise avoided providing the full level wetlands protection legally available, and

Whereas: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is charged with overall authority for the implementation of the CWA, and,

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Whereas: The EPA in recent years has shown the administrative intent to carry out its responsibilities in accordance with the CWA, and,

Whereas: The division of authority between the COE and EPA has contributed to public confusion, and delay in providing the needed protection to the Nation's Wetlands, and,

Whereas: The present process available to EPA for providing wetlands protection through the COE is legally and administratively burdensome.

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society request that the Congress amend the CWA as follows:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of Law the Administrator, EPA is hereby designated the sole authority to issue permits in accordance with Section 404 of this Act."

A Resolution to Protect the Aquatic Resources of Missouri's Ozarks

Whereas: The beauty and high resource values of the Eleven Point and Current Rivers of Missouri have been recognized by designation as National Scenic Rivers, and,

Whereas: The USX Corporation has requested a lease to explore for and mine lead in the Mark Twain National Forest and will affect aquifers flowing into these rivers, and,

Whereas: These rivers are a major recreational and economic resource to the people of the United States, and,

Whereas: The groundwater of the Ozarks is the sole-source of drinking water for thousands of residents, and,

Whereas: The surface and groundwaters of the Ozarks are the habitat of many sensitive aquatic species, and,

Whereas: The caves and other habitats found in association with these waters support species identified as Endangered and Threatened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Missouri Department of Conservation, and,

Whereas: The high probability of contamination of the

surface and subsurface waters has been acknowledged by the Forest Service, and,

Whereas: The existing lead resources are known to be adequate for the foreseeable future, and,

Whereas: The lead mining industry has already been responsible for the contamination of, and need for health advisories against eating, certain fishes from, the Big River of Missouri.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society hereby opposes the issuance of the requested lease.

J.Frances Allen Scholarship

The American Fisheries Society is pleased to announce that applications are being accepted until 15 June 1987 for the J. Frances Allen Scholarship, a one-time award of \$2,500 (US) for a female doctoral student whose research emphasis is in the area of fisheries science. This scholarship was established in 1986 in honor of Dr. Allen, a pioneer of women's involvement in AFS and in the field of fisheries, with the intent of encouraging women to become fisheries professionals. The qualified applicant must be a female, advanced Ph.D. student (i.e. at least second year) and a current AFS member. For complete application information and instructions, write: J. Frances Allen Scholarship, Attn: Dr. Brenda L. Norcross, American Fisheries Society, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814 (804/642-7082).

Career Opportunities Center Announcement

The Education Section of the American Fisheries Society will sponsor a Career Opportunities Center, including a new interactive, computer-based job searching system, during September 14-16, 1987, at the 117th Annual Meeting of the Society to be held in Winston-Salem, NC. EMPLOYERS in state, federal and private organizations with positions in fisheries and aquatic science should send information about actual or anticipated job openings to the COC Chairman. Please send any other appropriate information or brochures about the organization. By arrangement with the COC Chairman, the Career Center may be used for interviewing potential employees. JOB SEEKERS should send a resume to the COC Chairman. Vacancy and resume submissions are encouraged throughout the year but should arrive no later than September 1, 1987. All submissions will be available for review at the Annual Meeting. Send materials to Dr. James M. Haynes, AFS ES COC Chair, Department of Biological Sciences, SUNY College, at Brockport, Brockport, NY 14420.
