



MISSOURI CHAPTER
AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

May 1988

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The Chapter's Executive Committee gathered in Sedalia on April 4 to conduct a business meeting. We discussed arrangements for the 1989 Forest, Fish & Wildlife Conference, Chapter membership, dues, parent AFS happenings, fund-raising ideas, and means of becoming more visible.

At the 1989 FFW Conference we plan to provide two motel rooms for two nights for college students who want to attend. Chapter officers will be attending a joint meeting with the Missouri Chapters of the Wildlife Society and the Society of American Foresters on May 5 and 6 to establish ground rules, guidelines and arrangements for future conferences.

We had a short discussion on continuing the practice of allowing chapter membership for people who are not members of the parent society. I don't think that a strict rule interpretation would benefit our chapter or the parent society because it would only alienate interested people who might eventually join AFS.

There hasn't been a dues increase since 1973 when we bumped the annual fee from \$1.00 to the current \$2.50. Unless I get a lot of negative feedback, annual dues will increase from \$2.50 to \$3.00 in 1989.

Tom Coon and Lee Redmond reported on activities at the parent AFS Executive Committee Meeting which they attended in Seattle in March. Two important documents were circulated at the meeting. A Long Range Plan for AFS was approved and will serve as the Society's principal program guidance outline for the next five years. Our mission statement for future direction reads as follows: "The mission of the Society is to : a. advance the conservation, development and wise use of fishery resources for optimum use and enjoyment by all humankind, b. gather and disseminate information on fisheries science and management, and c. promote and evaluate the educational, scientific, and technical aspects of the fisheries profession."

A draft of a document entitled "Focus on Fisheries" was also submitted for review at Seattle. It is an action plan that concentrates on making our profession more visible and increasing our influence in our nation's aquatic resource management. The goals of this plan are: 1. Increase the visibility and understanding of fisheries resources, including importance to the welfare of people and significance to national and local economies of North America, 2. Increase the influence of fisheries science in biological, social-cultural, political, and economic transactions related to fisheries resource management and use, and 3. Further establish the American Fisheries Society as the principal professional organization influencing advancements in fisheries resource awareness, management, and use. In the future our chapter will be called upon to respond to these plans since little can be accomplished without grass roots support.

I'm convinced that one of the keys to long-term activism on our part is to create a larger treasury. It's difficult to be visible when you live in the low rent district. I read in some recent AFS notes that the New York-