

MISSOURI CHAPTER, AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
28th Annual Meeting
January 25, 1990
Lodge of the Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, Missouri

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING

OPENING: President Steve Weithman called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. with 97 members present, surpassing our previous record high attendance of 90 in 1989. Secretary Dave Neuswanger acknowledged that a quorum of 20 had been met. President Weithman next recognized distinguished guest, Mr. Leo Drey, who had given a presentation earlier in the day on the proposed "Natural Streams Act." President Weithman also recognized the presence and contribution of several past presidents in attendance, as well as the efforts of current committee members who had worked particularly hard during this year of transition.

President Weithman announced that the Missouri Chapter was honored to have received the North Central Division's first "Most Active Chapter Award" for our 1988-89 efforts. Steve also congratulated Rivers and Streams Committee founder and chairman Bill Turner on his receipt of the North Central Division's "Meritorious Service Award" at the December 1989 meeting in Springfield, Illinois.

The Minutes of the 27th Annual Meeting held January 19, 1989 (prepared by Dave Neuswanger) and the Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 1989 (prepared by Mahalia Boyd) were approved unanimously without discussion. President Weithman then asked Society President Joe Dillard and North Central Division President Lee Redmond to address the Chapter.

JOE DILLARD: Joe began by expressing his desire to emphasize communication and better represent AFS member interests. As a start, he has asked for open-ended input from all Society members in the Jan.-Feb. issue of Fisheries; he encouraged Missouri Chapter members to respond. Joe informed us that Executive Director Carl Sullivan's commitment to communication will soon result in the distribution of bi-weekly information packets to all AFS members which will include "AFS Diary," "Fisheries News," and a 1-2 page job opportunities bulletin.

Next, Joe cited numerous AFS accomplishments during the past decade, including increases in membership and net assets from 6,000 members and \$167,000 in 1980 to 8,400 members and \$1,750,000 in 1990. Joe cautioned that this rapid rate of growth puts us on a fast track where planning is important, and he reiterated a recurrent theme that the chapters are "where the action is." In the coming year, Joe asked Chapter members to help him emphasize professionalism, increase political activism, obtain greater student involvement, achieve more meaningful certification, and increase activities in internationalism. Joe

closed by suggesting that we can move forward only by adhering to the "SPC Theory" of Study, Plan, and Change.

LEE REDMOND: Lee began by passing around a note card that we could all sign in order to express our best wishes and encouragement to our leader, Sully. Lee updated the Chapter on the December 1989 meeting of the North Central Division, and he thanked Marlyn Miller for facilitating a successful EXCOM retreat. At the meeting, the EXCOM approved expenditure of \$1.00 per member to help fund the World Fisheries Congress. The Division also passed three resolutions supporting: 1) protection of Great Lakes shoreline; 2) establishment of a federal refuge encompassing 38 Ohio River islands; and 3) establishment of a federal river basin research program similar to the former reservoir research program. The proposal called for a \$20 million annual federal commitment, to be matched by a \$50,000 annual contribution by members of a council of states, which would guide the program.

Next, Lee updated us on the status of NCD committees. Three established committees are thriving: 1) Rivers and Streams (chaired by Bill Turner); 2) Walleye; and 3) Genetics (co-chaired by Jeff Koppelman). In addition, Lee responded to Past-President Jack Wingate's 1989 challenge by establishing a new committee on Urban Fishing, co-chaired by Missouri Chapter members Mark Haas and Phil Jeffries. This committee's objective will be to search for ways to broaden the scope of existing urban fishing (stocking) programs.

ELECTION RESULTS: President Weithman announced the results of our December 1989 Newsletter ballot election. The 52 voting members were almost unanimous in their mandate to amend Section 4 of Chapter By-Laws, thus reinstating officer's terms as the time period between Missouri Chapter annual business meetings, rather than from September to September.

Gary Novinger was elected to immediately fill the vacant office of President-Elect. Gary will assume the presidency at the end of the January 1991 business meeting. Jane Bush was elected to succeed Mahalia Boyd as Treasurer at the end of the current business meeting. Haley was applauded for her dedicated two-year service. Steve Weithman and Dave Neuswanger will continue to serve as President and Secretary, respectively, until the end of the January 1991 business meeting.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Chairman Ron Dent raised three items for discussion. First was a proposal to participate in a newsletter exchange with the Wildlife Society on a one-year trial basis. The objective was for resource managers to become familiar with issues and activities beyond the scope of their specialized fields. After details were discussed, Chapter members indicated unanimous approval for this bi-society newsletter exchange. The Missouri Chapter secretary will print and bulk-mail enough copies of our Chapter newsletter to The Wildlife Society's newsletter

editor for mailing to all their members. They will reciprocate. The Society of American Foresters was also asked to participate in a tri-society newsletter exchange, but they indicated that high newsletter production costs would be prohibitive. They did, however, offer to send one complimentary copy of their newsletter to all Missouri Chapter AFS members, and we agreed to reciprocate. Chapter members will be polled again at our January 1991 meeting to evaluate the interest in continuing or expanding upon the practice of newsletter exchange.

Second, Ron requested volunteer help to construct a tri-fold display to promote Missouri Chapter membership and programs. Such a display would better legitimize our rental fee for booth space in the FFW Conference display area (\$44.00 in 1990). In the event that no volunteers emerge, Ron proposed to hire a carpenter to build a display, for which Ron's committee would develop a text/photo layout. There were no objections to spending up to \$200.00 for this project if necessary. Phil Jeffries indicated an interest in designing the display so that it could be used to promote the Missouri Chapter at the annual FFA Convention in Kansas City. Ron indicated that this would be no problem, because all text and photos would be applied by velcro, making the display unit quite versatile.

Last, Ron introduced the idea of providing a lifetime membership option for Missouri Chapter members as suggested by Tom Nash. This was suggested as a convenience for members who had rarely been able to attend the annual meeting to pay dues, and as a possible cost-saving measure for some members. There was considerable debate, during which the following negative points emerged: 1) Mahalia Boyd pointed out that with lifetime members, we may forfeit the opportunity to claim a \$1.00 rebate for each \$3.00 membership paid annually through the Society dues statement. Joe Dillard verified that lack of a suitable tracking mechanism for this class of Chapter membership would very likely result in loss of rebate. This being the case, any investment of lifetime dues would have to exceed an annual increase in net asset value of 25% in order to be profitable for the Chapter--an impossible expectation. 2) Ron Dent pointed out that dues would probably increase at an unpredictable rate, such that any formula developed for lifetime membership could become outdated quickly from the standpoint of the Chapter's financial well-being. 3) Lee Redmond observed quite accurately that a lifetime membership would result in complicated record-keeping (would require re-writing the membership computer program). 4) Dave Neuswanger pointed out that the primary objective of such a system--convenience in dues payment for those not attending the annual meeting--was no longer legitimate since the Society made it possible to pay Chapter dues conveniently on the Society dues statement. This system had already brought 15 new AFS members to the Missouri Chapter as of 1/25/90. At the end of discussion, President Weithman suggested that Ron Dent draft a firm proposal for a member vote in the December 1990 newsletter ballot election. However, after post-meeting review of the testimony,

the Chapter EXCOM decided not to pursue the idea of a lifetime membership any further, so there will be no such proposition on the December 1990 ballot.

The membership committee session ended with a raffle drawing for members who had paid their 1990 dues before the business meeting. Greg Stoner won Al Agnew's "Bobcat and Kitten" print donated by Steve Weithman. This raffle, now in its second year, seems to be providing considerable incentive for prompt dues payment by Chapter members.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chairman Dave Foster reported that the committee had completed its task of providing officer candidates for the December 1989 election. President Weithman appointed Tim Grace to chair the committee during 1990. The committee will choose nominees for President-Elect and Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE: Chairman Norm Stucky introduced seven (7) resolutions. For the first time at a Missouri Chapter business meeting, votes were tallied from secret ballots, submitted by all but seven members present. All resolutions passed in either introduced or amended form, as indicated in the table below. The resolutions, and a list of their recipients, are attached to these Minutes.

Resolution		Votes		Form Approved	
Number	Title	Yes	No	Introduced	Amended
1	The Upper Mississippi River System Environmental Management Program	89	1	X	
2	Use Constructed Wetlands to Treat Wastewater	90	0	X	
3	Introduced Species	79	11		X
4	Protection of Water Resources from Point-Source Pollution	89	1		X
5	Proposed Water Development Projects	87	3		X
6	Stream Protection	59	31	X	
7	Greer Spring	89	1		X

Norm ended the Resolutions Committee session by recognizing the contributions of committee members Bill Pflieger, Ron Crunkilton, Steve Eder, and Kathy McGrath. President Weithman appointed Kathy McGrath to chair the committee during 1990.

STEERING COMMITTEE: Chairman Joe Hunn acknowledged committee members David Galat, Jane Bush, Pam Haverland and Ken Perry (Arrangements), Dick Duchrow (Exhibits), Kevin Richards (Social), Devona Lam (Visual Aids), Al Buchanon (Program), Mike Kruse (Publicity), and Jim Fairchild (Workshop). Joe then solicited suggestions for a theme for the 1991 FFW Conference; and Jim Fairchild distributed handouts on which members could indicate their interest in workshop topics at that meeting. Al Buchanon reported that three program themes were currently under consideration: 1) Management of Riparian Corridors; 2) Resource Economics; and 3) Resource or Habitat Assessment. Joe Bachant informed us that the Conservation Federation of Missouri was planning a "Rivers and Streams Conference" for the second week of February, 1991--something we may wish to consider in order to avoid overlap.

FFA STANDING COMMITTEE: Chairman Phil Jeffries announced that once again we shared a career booth with The Wildlife Society at the annual three-day meeting of Future Farmers of America in Kansas City. Phil, Kevin Sullivan, and Jake Allman manned the booth, which was seen by over 20,000 attendees. Phil suggested that he may ask permission to spend \$30-40 to purchase enough copies of "Fisheries As A Profession" to distribute at the event next year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS COMMITTEE: Chairman Bill Turner acknowledged the efforts of Chris Vitello, Joe Bachant, and Linda Erickson-Eastwood in setting up the panel forum on stream issues that convened earlier in the day. They were given a round of applause. Bill announced that the committee would meet for a short time immediately after the business meeting.

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Chairman Charlie Rabeni thanked committee members Joe Dillard, Dave Foster, and Linda Erickson-Eastwood for their efforts. He encouraged everyone to attend the evening banquet to see who would receive the Award of Excellence, the Citizen's Award, and special Letters of Recognition.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing additional was reported.

NEW BUSINESS: Past-president Steve Eder described his recent initiative to solicit funds to purchase special equipment for disabled anglers. Steve's experience had been that fund-raising was best done locally and personally, citing several examples where letters to large retailers did not produce any serious commitments. Steve was able to raise \$250 in his home town of Cameron, with which he purchased a \$150 electric reel and \$50 harness for an angler who had lost an arm over ten years ago and not fished since. The membership indicated their unanimous

approval for expansion of this type of community service for the Chapter. President Weithman promptly established a new "Disabled Angler Committee" and appointed Steve Eder chairman.

FUND RAISERS: Steve Eder offered once again to take orders for Missouri Chapter caps and T-shirts. More than 20 members were interested, so Steve took orders after the business meeting.

President Weithman proposed Dave Neuswanger's idea of sponsoring a "trip raffle" at the next North Central Division meeting; then he solicited volunteer guides. Later discussion initiated by Gordon Farabee resulted in a suggestion by Dave Neuswanger to earmark raffle earnings for a fund that would be tapped to assist students in attending our annual meeting. John Belshe showed a keen interest in this, and he suggested that we establish an endowment fund for this purpose. Ensuing discussion about selecting students and setting monetary limits on awards prompted Joe Dillard to suggest that a committee be formed to iron out the details. President Weithman planned to appoint a committee to determine how trip raffle money would be invested and how students would be reimbursed. John Belshe added that he would also be willing to serve as auctioneer next year if the membership was interested in holding an auction to raise money to help students attend our meeting.

President Weithman announced that Missouri Chapter note cards were currently available in two styles: rock bass and white crappie. Missouri artist Al Agnew donated the design, and the Chapter paid for printing. The cards sell for \$5.00/package of 12, which costs us about \$2.50 to print. Members were encouraged to contact Treasurer Jane Bush to place orders after the meeting.

President Weithman announced also that our first multiple art print raffle (flyer attached to these Minutes) had netted the Chapter \$788.00! Cedar Creek Publishers donated the ten prints. This was a huge success, bringing the Chapter much-needed money with which to operate.

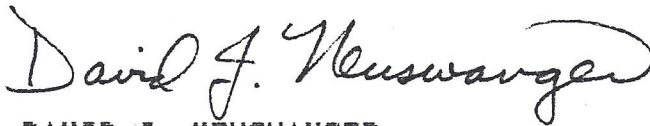
ADJOURNMENT: Just prior to adjournment, members were informed that the ballots had been counted and that all resolutions had passed. With no further business, and a raffle to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ADDENDUM TO THE BUSINESS MEETING:

A joint banquet was held the evening of January 25. The setting and entertainment were once again informal and enjoyable.

The AFS-Missouri Chapter's 1989 Award of Excellence was presented to Mr. James P. Fry, Chief of the Missouri Department of Conservation's Division of Fisheries. The 1989 Citizen's Award was presented to Mr. Greg Thurmon, Salisbury High School biology teacher, in recognition of his extraordinary accomplishments in motivating and teaching students in the field of aquatic biology. Also, Letters of Recognition were presented to Mr. Steve Nichols and Mr. Ron Glover of the Missouri Department of Conservation for successfully conducting an undercover sting operation which put several paddlefish egg poachers out of business.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 16TH DAY OF MARCH, 1990,



DAVID J. NEUSWANGER
SECRETARY

COPIES OF MINUTES TO:

AFS Executive Director, Carl Sullivan
AFS President, Joe Dillard
NCD President, Lee Redmond
NCD Newsletter Editor, Mike Vanderford
Missouri Chapter President, Steve Weithman
Missouri Chapter President-Elect, Gary Novinger
Missouri Chapter Treasurer, Jane Bush
Missouri Chapter Committee Chairs: Ron Dent (Membership),
Tim Grace (Nominating), Kathy McGrath (Resolutions),
Joe Hunn (Steering), Phil Jeffries (FFA), Bill Turner
(Rivers and Streams), Charlie Rabeni (Awards),
Steve Eder (Disabled Anglers)