

Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
39th Annual Meeting
February 1, 2001
Tan-Tar-A Lodge, Osage Beach, MO

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Turner at 3:20 p.m. Secretary Kenda Flores announced that a quorum was present. Bill asked everyone to sign in. (It was later established from the sign-in sheets that there were 105 in attendance).

Recognition

Bill Turner presented Steve Fischer with his past-President plaque, and thanked Steve for all the help during his term as MOAFS Chapter President. Bill recognized past AFS parent society and NCD presidents in attendance, Joe Dillard and Lee Redmond. Past MOAFS presidents were asked to stand. Bill also named the chairs of the committees and thanked them for their service to MOAFS. Bill also commended the members of the State Chapter for their participation and attendance at the meeting. It is rare that state chapters have as many members attend an annual meeting as the Missouri Chapter. Bill announced that once again Bridgette Canaday had baked a generous amount of delicious chocolate chip cookies for everyone to enjoy along with liquid refreshment during the meeting. Bill announced that the Missouri Chapter was awarded the Most Active Chapter Award for 2000 at the North Central Division Meeting.

Secretary's Report

A copy of the minutes from the 38th annual meeting had been posted on the new MOAFS website and comments for changes and corrections had been received by Secretary Kenda Flores. Hardcopies were available to all annual meeting attendees and Secretary Kenda Flores asked for any last minute comments, corrections or additions. There were none. Brian Canaday made a motion that the minutes of the February 3, 2000 meeting be accepted and Matt Matheney seconded his motion. The motion passed. Bill Turner presented Kenda with a Certificate of Appreciation for her service as the Chapter Secretary for the past two years.

Treasurer's Report

Greg Pitchford presented the financial report. He gave a summary of the accounts. He started with the General Account- 70. This includes all the operating expenses for the Chapter as a whole—purchases, reimbursements. The beginning balance was \$9,551.48. The current balance is \$21,793.80. Greg analyzed the activity within the general account and average the amounts that were needed for general operations. He found that we need to maintain about \$10,00 in this General Account- 70. A balance of \$10,000 will be maintained and the remainder will be withdrawn and invested. Certificates of Deposit: Share #10 had a beginning balance of \$15,055.71 and a dividend of \$831.24. \$1,247.73 was transferred to the Student Support- 02 Account. The next account Greg described was the Organizational Account-00 to maintain our status as an organization with the Conservation Employees Credit Union; a minimum balance of \$25 must be maintained. No checks can be written directly from this account. The balance is \$48.74. The Midwest investment involved taking \$5,484.56 from the mutual fund, depositing it in the 71 Account and reinvesting half into a 6 month CD and half into a T. Rowe Price index 500 investment fund. The CD matures in April. The SSTF Account-02; \$11,104 was transferred

to the 02 Account. This account is used to fund activities and expenses approved by the Student Support Committee. \$14,000 is kept in a 1 year CD, dividends are then transferred to the Student Support Account. It matures in January. Greg said this concluded the 2001 Treasurer's report. Greg requested that all members please either let Greg make all deposits to the various accounts or at least notify him if any deposit is made to any account. John McPherson made a motion to accept the financial report and Bill Anderson seconded his motion. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

Committee Reports were published in a handout presented at the meeting. Verbal reports were given as follows.

Nominating Committee Report - Steve Fischer

Steve Fischer asked how all the members liked voting on issues and for officers on line. The answer was applause from the membership in attendance. Steve thanked all the nominees for offices for their willingness to run. He announced that Bob DiStefano is president-elect and Lisa Kiner is the new Secretary. Congratulations to Bob and Lisa.

Awards Committee Report - Ron Dent

There was a person that was not a chair at the National AFS Meeting in St. Louis, but, nonetheless a key supporter--Norman P. Stucky. Norm acknowledged his thanks, said he appreciated the dedication and the commitment from all the members.

Letters of Recognition

Bill Miller was recognized for his efforts in establishing and leading Stream Team 1150. Bill selflessly devoted his time and efforts to restoring and protecting streams in the Joplin-Neosho area. He has had a tremendous impact on community awareness about stream issues in southwest Missouri. He co-founded the Elk River Watershed Alliance which resulted in a dramatic increase in Stream Team recruitment in the area. He has spent many hours working with youth groups leading stream clean-ups and water quality monitoring. His influence has extended far beyond southwest Missouri, and he receives calls from surrounding states interested in forming Stream Teams. Bob Schulz accepted for Bill Miller.

The Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society recognized Philip A. Schroeder for his donated time and artwork to create the Watershed Educational Poster. Phil's artwork has been used to create the educational poster produced by the Missouri Chapter that depicts the importance of watershed stewardship. These posters will be distributed statewide and will decorate the walls of schools throughout Missouri. They give children the opportunity to learn the importance of watersheds. The Missouri Chapter is grateful that Phil was willing to give his time and artistic talent to help educate Missouri's youth. John Fantz accepted the award for Phil Schroeder.

Michael DeRuntz was recognized for his efforts in the establishment and leading of Stream Team 211. Michael is the steward for the streams in and around the City of Arnold. He organized Arnold's floodplain management plan and enrolled the city in FEMA's CRS program. He conducted Stream Team recruitment presentations, coordinated storm drain stenciling and

wetland restoration. The award was accepted by Bob Schulz.

Charles T. Ragdale, II was recognized for his volunteer efforts in establishing the Missouri Chapter's first e-mail service to MOAFS membership. Charles maintains the e-mail service that allows the Missouri Chapter members to receive announcements, vote, and comment on important issues. This addition to the Chapter has greatly improved communications to the members. Charles also created 130th AFS meeting CD that contained the abstracts and other information about the meeting. Charles volunteered much of his time in helping the Missouri Chapter Website Committee and in improving member communication. The award was accepted by John Fantz.

John Ross Fantz, Jr. was recognized for his tireless public relations and communication efforts on behalf of the Missouri Chapter. As chairperson on the Missouri ad hoc Watershed Committee, John led the effort to develop a watershed educational poster. He devoted many hours to coordinating the design of the poster, acquiring the services of an artist and working closely with the artist through early drafts and coordinating with the MOAFS EXCOM. John has also been instrumental in bringing "high-tech" to MOAFS to improve communication for the Chapter. He developed and tested the services that allow the membership to comment on important issues, vote, received the newsletter and communicate via e-mail through our website and e-mail services. John also spent many hours developing electronic media capabilities for the AFS 130th Meeting in St. Louis.

Ad Hoc Watershed Poster Committee Report - John Fantz

John said the AFS EXCOM had 2000 posters printed, boxed and distributed to the 10 regions. The posters were given to the Fisheries Supervisors to be distributed to the schools and teachers through the Education Consultants and biologists that do educational programs. The EXCOM will make a decision about reprints later.

130th Annual Meeting Report - Ron Dent

The attendance at the AFS 130th was the largest attendance at a meeting held in the Midwest. There was a total of 476 oral papers in 32 sessions and 138 poster papers were presented. In addition, MOAFS provided arrangements for over 40 other meetings that were held during the week long AFS meeting. The proposed budget of \$377,450 (income and expenditures) for the 2000 St. Louis meeting was authorized by the 1999 Governing Board meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina. Income from the annual meeting was \$414,345. The extra funds were the result of the increased attendance of 1485 compared to the budgeted attendance of 1200, and the extraordinary efforts of the fund-raising subcommittee raised \$19,250 cash, \$84,925 worth of goods, and \$54,880 worth of services for a total of \$159,055 (our meeting goal for MOAFS was \$40,000). In addition AFS fund-raising goal of \$55,000 also exceeded their goal and raided \$56,500. Once all meeting expenses were paid AFS made \$122,911.68 from the 130th. The meeting proved to be a good fund raiser for the Chapter as MOAFS made \$18,948.60 (this does not include item sold at the MOAFS trade show booth or interest on the account during the meeting).

Registration fees \$10.00/ full registrant @ 830 =	\$8330
MOAFS 5% above fund-raising goal of \$40,000 =	\$3,760.25
15% of remaining funds in account =	\$5,005.35
Stream Geomorphology Workshop	\$1,400.00
Spawning Run tee shirt sales profit	<u>\$453.00</u>
 TOTAL	 \$18,948.60

We owe Steve Gough a big thank you for his donation of the entire proceeds from the Stream Geomorphology Workshop he presented and the efforts of Continuing Education Chair Mike Smith who worked with Steve to develop this well attended workshop. Attendees of the workshop received 0.7 continuing education credits.

MOAFS initiated several firsts from the 130th meeting in St. Louis:

- 1st - to provide a CD of the abstracts of the technical session presentations distributed to all attendees as compared to hard copies
- 1st - to provide a searchable database perfected for abstract submissions
- 1st - to provide e-mail service to attendees
- 1st - to provide LCD projectors as standard for a meeting
- 1st - to provide digital photos of the meeting to attendees by taking over 500 digital photos
- 1st - to provide a student lounge, student job fair, and a student social
- 1st - to present five workshops that provided continuing education credit with over 130 AFS members that attended
- 1st - to conduct a Fish Fashion Show during the Trade Show Social
- 1st - to distribute moderator and LCD guidelines to presenters
- 1st - to extensively use and prepare an e-mail list of presenters
- 1st - to use Web page to advertise changes in program, etc.
- 1st - to provide computers for attendees to do searches for papers in the program
- 1st - to mail announcements and encouragement letters to fisheries administrators in state and federal agencies to increase attendance at budget preparation time early in the year
- 1st - to use a fishy theme throughout the meeting by using fish cutouts as direction pointers and paper in progress paddlefish pointers as markers on session program signs
- 1st - to have a twelve member contingent from the Chinese Fisheries Society that attended the meeting and was one of the fifteen foreign countries represented at the meeting.

Fund-raising and Finance Committee Report - Mike Roell

Mike thanked everyone for their help with the fund-raising at the Chapter booth. Trish Yasger was the financial officer. Kenda Flores was the chief supply officer. There were many members that helped with the booth—Andy Austin, Brian Canaday, Dale Cornelius, Harold Kerns, John McPherson, Vince Travnichek, Kara Tvedt. Mike also thanked Trish and Kenda for setting up a booth to sell t-shirts at the opening celebration of the Lost Valley Hatchery.

AFS Booth at this year's MNRC- Tickets will be sold until 6 pm. Eleven hundred dollars has

been raised so far.

Mike needs someone to volunteer to be the Resolutions Committee Chair.

Budget for 2001:

Expenses for the Disabled Angler expenditures	\$1500
Donations	\$1000
Newsletter	\$ 500
SEAFWA- Student travel rebates	\$ 500
Postage and supplies	\$ 500
Travel/registration for NCD meeting	\$ 500
Awards/plaques	\$ 600
Post office box	\$ 60
A. Stephen Weithman, Jr. Leadership Award	\$ 50
Miscellaneous	<u>\$ 500</u>
TOTAL	\$5600

Motion made by Dave Mayers. Motion was seconded by Greg Pitchford.

Legislative Concerns Committee Report - Donna Menown

In 2000, Missouri AFS members spent a lot of time and energy working within and outside the agency to gather facts and identify target audiences on important legislative and environmental issues.

A resolution summarizing the Chapter's concerns about a need for adoption and promotion of forestry best management practices in Missouri was drafted during the 2000 MOAFS Annual Meeting at Tan-Tar-A on February 3, 2000. This resolution was prompted by concerns over the continued presence of chip mills in our state.

The Secretary of the Interior, Clark, and Agriculture, Glickman were sent letters in May, 2000 suggesting that Black Carp be listed as an injurious species.

In June, 2000, two letters were sent to Major General Phillip Anderson with the Vicksburg District, Army Corps of Engineers office to convey concerns over proposed Corps projects. Letters on the St. Johns Bayou and New Madrid Floodway Project opposed the projects as designed and urged use of non-structural solutions. The letter on the St. Francis River Project, designed to remove the channel blockage near Kennett, expressed objections to channelization and encouraged the Corps to redesign the project.

Comments were drafted on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's August 21, 2000 revised draft Biological Opinion on the Operation of the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System, Operation and Maintenance of the Missouri River Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project, and Operation of the Kansas River Reservoir System. The comments were conveyed in an October letter to Colonel Michael Meuleners with the NW Corps of Engineers Division in Omaha, Nebraska.

In September, 2000, MOAFS sent a letter of support to Senator Christopher Bond for the House of Representative Bill, HR2328 (SB 835 in the Senate), to restore funding for the Clean Lakes Program, Section 314 of the Clean Water Act. Title VII of this bill included re-authorization of Section 314, the Clean Lakes Program at a level of \$50 million per year for the years 2001-2005. The House Bill (HR2328) passed last spring and from there went to the Senate as SB835 where it was passed on October 25. It was signed by the President and became Public Law No. 106-457 on November 7. Unfortunately, this just means that they are "eligible" for funding IF funds are offered. According to Sue Behlville in EPA's Region 7 Office (KC, KS), they've been told that no funding will be assigned to this program during the federal fiscal year 2001. They have not yet heard about the following years, 2002-2005.

In October, a letter was sent to Mike Smith with the Office of the Chief of Engineers in Washington D.C., supporting the proposed rule that was to help protect streams and wetlands by closing the so-called "Tulloch" loophole. The loophole allows certain types of excavation from streams and wetlands without the necessity of a 404 permit as long as no fill is added in the process.

AFS member field biologists were made aware of open public comment periods on nine of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) plans. On November 22, 2000, a letter was sent to the Water Pollution Control Program commenting on two TMDL plans, one on the Eleven Point River in Howell County and one on Saline Creek in Jefferson County. In the remaining cases, the Missouri Department of Conservation planned to make comments that incorporated those made by knowledgeable American Fisheries Society members. As a result, we deemed it unnecessary to repeat the comments in an AFS letter. The following Missouri TMDLs were approved by EPA in 2000 and so far in 2001: Eleven Point, 12/20/00; Little Muddy Creek, 1/02/01, Tributary to Little Muddy Creek, 1/02/01, and Saline Creek (Ron Rog and Hwy 141), 1/3/01. The Water pollution Control Program's goal is to have all draft and final TMDLs available for review on their web site at www.dnr.state.mo.us/deq/wpcp/wpc-tmdl.htm (they aren't all there yet). To date, Missouri has ten TMDLs approved by EPA, and seven pending approval. (TMDL Process Unit staff can be reached at (573) 751-7428).

The 2001 Missouri legislative session has begun. Pre-filed bills for 2001 that may be of interest to the membership are:

- HB 239- Enacts additional notice and hearing requirements for surface mining permits (including sand and gravel)
- HB 361- Authorizes conveyance of certain state water rights to Clarence Cannon Wholesale Water Commission (not sure if this is of interest to AFS)
- HB 473- Designates cut-leaved teasel, common teasel and kudzu vine as noxious weeds
- HRC 6- Urges the Governor, DNR, DOC, and MoDOT to protest against the federal government's practice of controlling the flow of the Missouri River
- SB 0009- Creates Farmland Protection Act and Missouri Agricultural Advocate's Office
- SB 0015- Revises membership of Clean Water Commission (bill summary written by Otto Fajen)

- SB 0019- Revises the standard of proof and other aspects of the Sunshine Law
- SB 0020- Creates the Non-native Species Council
- SB 0217- Prohibits glass food and beverage containers near navigable streams
- SB 0300- Certain DNR rules no stricter than federal regulations with exceptions (bill summary written by Otto Fajen)

Talk to Duane Chapman if you are aware of any new legislative bills.

Membership Committee Report - Jerry Dean

There are 191 members names on the roles. Ninety-five members have paid their dues for the society chapter. If your name is not marked as paid, please check with Jerry to make sure the AFS Parent Society has refunded the fees to MOAFS. Jerry has a list of e-mail addresses for everyone

Student Support Committee Report - Travis Moore

Travis recognized Steve Weithman, Bill Anderson, and Lee Redmond for their help and support of the Student Support Trust Fund. He announced that there were not awards for either posters or presentations this year. The FASS organization at the University of Missouri does not have participation from the students or sponsorship in the form of a professor. There may be a meeting in the future. Travis plans to contact some professors at other campuses to see if he can get something going. The Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies will hold its 55th annual conference on October 13-17, 2001 in Louisville, Kentucky. There are plenty of reasons for students to attend. It is a great opportunity to network with other students and resource professionals, and a great opportunity to learn about cutting edge research and management issues. The SEAFWA Committee is planning an awesome job fair and student social. The student registration fee has been reduced to \$75, and the MOAFS Chapter will refund up to \$50 of the registration fee. To qualify to go, you must be a senior or graduate student studying in the aquatic resources field at a Missouri college or university. Have any interested students contact Travis for a rebate, a chance at free lodging, or conference registration information. Travis would like the information before the students attend the conference.

New Business

Bill Anderson announced that the Student Support Fishing Tournament is going to be held on Table Rock Lake on April 14th. There were 71 teams last year. Johnny Morris from Bass Pro again, has donated a boat for the winner. Bill wants to clear \$7800 from the tournament this year. There are other donors besides Bass Pro. He has received \$1000 from other Springfield businessmen. Bill requested help with donations for the tournament. The tournament fliers haven't been printed, yet, but there will be 6000 posters available for distribution when they are ready. Contact Bill for fliers to post at all fishing and sporting locations. Bill also announced it would be his last year to run the Bass Tournament and Greg Stoner accepted the job.

Ron Dent is the liaison with the socioeconomic committee for AFS. He announced that MOAFS will contribute \$50 to be matched with a \$50 contribution from AFS to be awarded for the best student paper on socioeconomics.

Bill Turner reported on our new private electronic service. The new website is a workhorse for the society. There is no charge for the e-mail service, but we have better communication, speed, and quality such as color pictures in the newsletter and on the web page. Last year the average amount spent on the newsletter was \$900. This year the cost was \$30. There is a much greater savings in the amount of time spent also. The electronic version is more environmentally friendly, and has saved the expense and time of 5,000 distributed paper copies. The MOAFS EXCOM has made considerable effort to separate as many of its functions as possible from MDC. It is hoped that the Chapter members can become stronger legislative advocates without alienating the MDC. The Chapter President has to have his own computer and printer. The EXCOM voted to spend \$2300 to purchase this equipment for the current president to be passed on to the future office holders. Resolutions and advocacy letters, now, can be posted on the web site or sent at any time of the year. They don't have to wait for the one occurrence of the annual meeting. Bill asks for the opinions of the attending membership.

Donna Menown said that this is a transition year. The web site will become more effective when members learn to go to the web site more often for information.

Bob DiStefano said he liked the messaging service.

John Fantz asked if the dues from the membership are less now with the web site. Greg Pitchford said that the December membership checks have not been processed. Bill Turner said that AFS takes months to return the fees from the members that are paid with their national dues.

John Fantz said that there was not a big drop in the number of names on the electronic version of the membership list that he updates.

Kevin Sullivan suggested using the list of unpaid members to solicit payment of their dues from them.

John Fantz said that it would be possible to lock members who do not pay out of the website with a password if that is what we want to do.

MOAFS Future Challenges

Advocacy is a big problem. Who is going to attend the public hearings? If a MOAFS member is employed by MDC or DNR it is going to be difficult. It is hard to wear two hats at the same meeting. The Chapter really needs representation at the public meetings. We can always write letters, but we would be more effective with a representative. We can't afford to hire a lobbyist for the Chapter. We have a great resource in retired members such as Lee Redmond, Gordon Farabee, and Joe Dillard just to name a few examples. Maybe we can pay the travel expenses to meetings and have them represent us.

Bill Turner said his last job was to pass the gavel to the new president, Mike Roell. Mike thanked Bill for a job well done, and Bill wished Mike good luck.

Mike Roell presented Bill Turner with his past-President plaque.

A motion was made by Chris Vitello to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Mike Smith.
Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Kenda Flores
MOAFS Past-Secretary

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