

**MINUTES OF THE
MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
45TH ANNUAL MEETING**

February 5, 2009

Tan-Tar-A Lodge

Osage Beach, Missouri

Call to Order and Quorum: Secretary Phillip Pitts

Welcome: President Mike Kruse

Recognition: Mike Kruse

Past Presidents: International AFS – Lee Redmond, Joe Dillard

North Central Division – Lee Redmond, Joe Dillard

Missouri Chapter – Brian Canaday, Gary Novinger, Lee Redmond, Joe Dillard, Ron Dent, Chris Vitello, Harold Kerns, Mike Roell, Bob DiStefano, Rich Wehnes, Steve Eder, Bill Turner, Vince Travnichek

Committee Chairs: Brian Canaday, Mary Scott, Joe Dillard, Kenda Flores, Mike Smith, Jennifer Gironde, Matt Matheney, Tony Overmann, Trish Yasger (working at booth), Ange Corson

North Central Division, Randy Schultz, 1st Vice President – Randy reported, on behalf of the North Central Division (NCD), that a member of the NCD Executive Committee is visiting the annual business meeting of all state chapters. The goal is to improve communication, member services, outreach, etc. The NCD has created a liaison with the Steering Committee of the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in an effort to improve the educational courses at the conference. The NCD encourages students to apply for the Joan Duffy Travel Award and the Fensky Memorial Award. Information on these awards and other NCD business can be obtained at the NCD website.

Awards: Mike Kruse

Letters of Recognition:

Mike presented a letter of recognition awarded to John Kielczewski for his hard work managing the White River for multiple uses. Mike Smith accepted the award on behalf of John. Brian Canaday relayed John's thanks to MoAFS.

Mike presented a letter of recognition to Denise Otto for coordinating the Go Fish Program in St. Louis.

Mike presented a letter of recognition to the 2008 Multiagency Big River Assessment Team for the team's cooperation and enthusiasm in the assessment of mining effects on the Big River. The members of the team were: MDC – Danny Brown, Bob DiStefano, Scott Faiman, Jennifer Guyot (now Gironde), Josh Hundley, Sarah Kluesner, Mike McKee, Steve McMurray, Kevin Meneau, Mike Reed, Ivan Vining; USGS – Ann Allert, John Besser, Raissa Espejo, Susan Finger, Chris Ingersoll, Lynne Johnson, Steve Olson, Chris Schmitt, Chris Witte; MoDNR – Chris Ambruster, Greg Bach, Frances Klahr, Hillary Wakefield; USFWS – Dave Mosby, Andy Roberts, John Webber.

Mike announced that Dave Murphy, Executive Director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM), had been selected for the Citizen Award for his efforts to conserve Missouri's natural resources and his dedication to the state's aquatic resources. Dave could not attend the MoAFS meeting this year. Mike will present the award to Dave at the Annual CFM Banquet on February 28, 2009.

2008 Business Meeting Minutes: Secretary Phil Pitts submitted the minutes. The minutes mistakenly noted that Mike Kruse thanked Darren Thornhill for serving as Secretary. Darren actually served as Treasurer. Brian Canaday made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and Steve Eder seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as amended.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Scott presented a written treasurer's report. After Mary's presentation, Brian Canaday made a motion to accept and Darren Thornhill seconded the motion. The report was accepted.

Words from our President: Mike Kruse thanked the committee members and chairs for their hard work. He acknowledged the progress that had been made on the Student Support Trust Fund and thanked everyone for purchasing raffle tickets. He pointed out that we now have a new student subunit at Missouri State University and another at the University of Central Missouri. He thanked Vince Travnichek for his work on the successful Student Colloquium.

Committee Reports:

Nominating: Brian Canaday thanked Wes Swee, Joe Bonneau, and John Calfee for being candidates for Secretary and Chris Williamson and Darren Thornhill for being candidates for President. Brian stated that there were 67 votes cast in the election and that number was higher than the previous year. He announced that Darren Thornhill was the new President and John Calfee was the new Secretary.

Awards: Mike Kruse thanked Brian Canaday, the immediate Past President, for serving as Chair for the Awards Committee in 2008. Other members of the Awards Committee were Kenda Flores, Mike Kruse, and Jacob Westhoff.

Anglers with Disabilities: Mary Scott reported that the committee conducted a nice event at Rolla this past year. The event is scheduled again for Rolla for the third weekend in September 2009. Mary plans to request funds in the committee's budget to give participants a commemorative T-shirt in 2009.

Chapter Historian: Joe Dillard reported that within five years our chapter will be 50 years old. He stated that he must have the chapter records in the University of Missouri Historical Library and out of his basement within the next five years.

Continuing Education: The chair is vacant. No report was given.

Finance: President-elect Kenda Flores distributed copies of a proposed budget and reviewed the line items in the budget. The following items were discussed further: 1) the Anglers with Disabilities Committee is allotted \$1000, an increase from the previous year; 2) \$1000 is allotted for web posting and software updates; 3) Vince Travnichek pointed out that the Weithman Best Paper Award is awarded at the International AFS meeting and that MoAFS contributes \$50 per year for the Fensky Memorial Award instead of \$500 every 10 years; and 4) the two new student subunits are allotted \$150 each for initial expenses. Brian Canaday made a motion to accept the proposed budget and Mike Gossett seconded the motion. The proposed budget was accepted.

Information Technology: Matt Matheney reported for John Fantz. Matt stated that John had to rebuild the website and change the company that supplied the server because of problems with the website. Please let John or Matt know if any members have problems with the MoAFS website. Matt announced that the committee will have to budget for new software for the website and server in 2009. Any member that has an announcement for the website should send it to John or Matt.

Legislative and Environmental Concerns: The chair is vacant. No report was given.

Membership: Mike Kruse reported for Suzanne Femmer. Mike reported that we have 89 MoAFS members on the International AFS membership rolls. Our total membership is about 200. Joe Dillard became our first Lifetime Member this past year. Mike read the list of lifetime members to date: Adam Boman, Brian Canaday, Lesley Conaway, Ange Corson, Joe Dillard, Steve Eder, Debbie Fantz, John Fantz, Kenda Flores, Tom Foster, Jennifer Gironde, Nick Gironde, Tim Grace, Leroy Heman, Mike Kruse, Mary Litvan, Gary Novinger, Phil Pitts, Mary Scott, Norm Stucky, and Trish Yasger.

MNRC Steering Committee: Mike Smith reported that he had all of the MNRC committee chairs filled. (Treasurer – Jason Persinger; Registration – Megan Halford; Arrangements – Peggy Barry, Leanna Zweig; Program – Vince Travnichek; Workshop – Joanne Grady, Doug Novinger, Andrew Branson; Publicity – Julie Calfee; Web Liaison – Paul Spurgeon; Exhibits and Sponsors – Wes Swee; Social – Scott Voney; Equipment and Visual Aids - Denise Otto; Student Job Fair – Paul Horner, Chris Williamson; 5K Run – Jane Cotton. MoAFS hosts the MNRC in 2010. The theme of the conference will

be based on a book entitled "Intelligent Courage – Natural Resource Careers That Make a Difference" by Michael Fraidenburg.

Student Support: Jennifer Girondo announced that MoAFS has a new student subunit at Missouri State University and another new student subunit at the University of Central Missouri. She thanked Ted Alfermann for his help with the Missouri State subunit. Mary Litvan will serve as the liaison for the Missouri State subunit. Bob DiStefano is the liaison for the MU subunit (Fisheries and Aquatic Science Society; FASS).

Newsletter: Matt Matheney announced that he posts the MoAFS Newsroom on the chapter's website. Please send any news for the newsletter or the newsroom to Matt or John Fantz. The newsletter is generally published three times each year – April, August, and December.

FASS: Tony Overmann reported that FASS is working on another student colloquium for 2009. Travis Moore and Jake Allman are helping. FASS remains active as a stream team. The group conducts two cleanups per year. FASS will have a fish fry on April 10th (Good Friday). The suggested donation for the meal will be \$5. FASS will also conduct a fishing clinic at Bass Pro Shops in Columbia on April 18th.

Publicity: Trish Yasger was working at the MoAFS booth. No report was given.

Rivers and Streams: Ange Corson reported that the committee had a good summer meeting. Chris Riggert will be the new Rivers and Streams Committee President/Chair. The committee will hold a brief meeting immediately after the 2009 MoAFS Business Meeting in the same room (Room 62-64).

Old Business:

Vince Travnichek recognized the efforts of FASS for holding the student colloquium. Vince and his wife cooked for the students attending the colloquium.

Mike Kruse relayed a request from Suzanne Femmer's that our members please pay their annual dues in a timely fashion.

Bob DiStefano and Joe Dillard reminded the members about the Stegner Scholarship (\$1000). The money for the scholarship comes from the Missouri Conservation Federation. Bob and Joe review the applications on behalf of MoAFS and recommend the winner to the Conservation Federation. The applications are due around November or December. Bob and Joe asked that we encourage students to apply. Mike Kruse suggested that our subunit liaisons encourage the students in the subunits to apply.

New Business:

Mike Kruse announced that the 2009 Operating Budget has already been approved earlier in this meeting.

Mike Kruse announced that MoAFS needs to work on documentation and procedures for the Student Support Trust Fund. Jennifer Girondo will chair a new committee for this task. Mike encouraged those that were interested to volunteer. Joe Dillard suggested

that the committee contact other state chapters and consider the documentation and procedures of those chapters. Chris Vitello suggested that only one committee, the new one, consider all scholarships awarded by MoAFS.

Vince Travnichek suggested that the Membership Committee work on the Silver, Golden, and Honorary memberships. Mike Kruse reviewed the MoAFS By-Laws on this subject and suggested that the Governing Board consider this topic at its next meeting. Joe Dillard gave Kenda Flores a copy of the draft membership form.

Paul Calvert reported that some MoAFS members attended the CFM meeting and discussed the restoration of the Clean Water Act to its 1970's intent. Paul urged MoAFS members to contact their legislators and ask them to restore the Clean Water Act. There is a website with information on this subject.

MoAFS received a letter from Regina Van Patten, last year's recipient of the Citizen Award. She thanked MoAFS for its help with enriching student's lives.

Passing the Presidency: Mike Kruse turned over the gavel to Kenda Flores. Kenda thanked everyone that donated items to the MoAFS booth (including, among others, Mike Kruse, Bob DiStefano, Mary Scott, Scott Voney, Scott Faiman, John Fantz, Chris Morrow, Donna Menown, and Danny Brown). Kenda hopes to hold some of the Governing Board meetings in locations other than Columbia in 2009.

Kenda presented letters of appreciation to Mike Kruse for serving as MoAFS President and to Phil Pitts for serving as MoAFS Secretary.

The meeting was adjourned.