

OCAFS Meeting Summary
May 12, 2005
Gander Mountain, Reynoldsburg, OH

Attendance

Ken Cunningham, President Eugene Braig, President Elect Mike Wilkerson, Past President
John Navarro Stacy Xenakis, Sec./Tres.

Officer Reports

President, Ken Cunningham sent in the resolution from the OFWMA meeting (see page 2). He also sent in a chapter report and a change in officer form to NCD to be included in Mainstream

President Elect, Eugene Braig is exploring the possibility of launching a student chapter.

Eugene spoke with Lance Williams about his ideas. Lance is currently busy with work commitments, but is interested in working to help organize/advise some kind of AFS student subchapter. Eugene and Lance are supposed to meet and begin refining the concept in mid June.

Past President, Mike Wilkerson is making arrangements for the 2005 Summer Meeting. His plans include a meeting room and tour of the Piatt Castles near Urbana the 8th or 15th of July. This depends on the price. As of this date he has not had anyone return his phone calls. He has also discussed having Dan Mecklenburg with Soil and Water come to the meeting to discuss past and current stream restoration projects in Ohio. After the presentation we could tour the work that has been done on the Mac-o-chee and fish for brown trout. Mike will confirm details at a later date.

Piatt Castles: One Mile East of West Liberty, Ohio (Logan County)



Mike also received a receipt from the Stone Lab Scholarship indicating that the scholarship had been awarded. The 2005 award recipients of the Ohio Aquatic Science Scholarship were Kelli Downey, an OSU junior in Biological Sciences under advisor David Wells, and John Foltz, an OSU senior in Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife (with a fisheries specialization) under advisor Lance Williams. For both students, the scholarship will serve to defray expenses incurred through Residence and Dining Halls while on the island.

Budget: Treasurer, Stacy Xenakis stated that the current balance is \$7461.39. This balance excludes the seed money that we are still holding for the 2006 Coolwater Workshop. We have received membership rebates and 4th quarter dues from AFS.

Web Site: Web Site Editor, Andy Burt could not attend. It was noted that updates on the officer's page are needed.

Committee Reports: Ken has been in contact with a gentleman from USGS who was interested in chairing the Stewardship Committee.

Information Transfer/Outreach

Andy Burt
Stacy Xenakis**
Deb Walters

Member Services

John Navarro**
Matt Wolfe
Mike Wilkerson
Ken Cunningham

Aquatic Stewardship

John Hageman
Scott Hale
Elmer Heyob
Chris Vandergoot

**chair

IT/Outreach

John Navarro will be e-mailing members to remind them about certification grants. John will also will verify that all information is available on our web-site.

Old Business

Student Life Sciences Forum- Plan to make contacts in September. We will also determine if we can reach educators via OEA web-site. These efforts hopefully will increase participation.

New Business

Workshop - Ken is trying to develop a sampling design workshop. He plans to contact Dan Hayes of Michigan State to find out if he would be interested in speaking/teaching. He also has a number of other contacts as a backup.

Action Items

➤ **June 1**

- John Deller will mail membership cards and a summer meeting flyer.
- John Navarro will update brochure to include committee overview and committee chair contacts and send to potential Student Forum attendees.
- Scott will send Andy approved by-laws to post on web.

➤ **June 15**

- Member service committee will develop a Fisheries Certification reimbursement application together to address the resolution that was passed at the annual business meeting. Important to note that applicants must be chapter members.
- John Deller will send summary of Trawl Workshop to *Fisheries*

➤ **Topics of Discussion at the Summer Business Meeting**

- Discuss stream restoration topic. Is there a different approach related to fish habitat that we could present?
- Should Student Forum participants receive a free membership?
- Can we bundle memberships or provide incentives to purchase memberships?
- Should we provide "Starter Kits" for kids fishing event?
- Should we provide a scholarship for one or two high school students to attend a Stone Lab class?

Upcoming Meetings

- **July 23, 2004:** OCAFS Summer Meeting

Adjourn

A resolution to prevent loss of federal aid funding and diversion of sportsmen's license dollars from the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

WHEREAS: The ODNR, Division of Wildlife is a state agency that is self supporting and receives little benefit from the General Revenue Fund.

WHEREAS: The Division of Wildlife enhances the quality of life for all of Ohio's People through it's wildlife diversity programs such as the comeback of the Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Paddlefish, and Snowshoe Hares, or the tremendous opportunities to harvest a Whitetail Deer, Wild Turkey or catch Walleye, Yellow Perch, and Steelhead Trout.

WHEREAS: Charges to the Wildlife Fund by ODNR for Central Support Charges are considered double taxation to sportsmen and women by diverting their fishing and hunting license dollars designated for fish and wildlife management programs to pay for administrative services provided to all other divisions through the General Revenue Fund.

WHEREAS: The free senior hunting and fishing license program was passed by the legislature in 1987 with a maximum reimbursement to the Division of Wildlife set at one million per year, while the Division was mandated to give out 6.5 million dollars in licenses in 2004.

WHEREAS: The General Assembly agreed to phase out the one million dollar per year senior license reimbursement to the Division of Wildlife over a 10 year period by a reduction of \$100,000 per year with the establishment of the half price senior license and continue to fund free licenses for persons over 65 years in age.

WHEREAS: The Ohio Division of Wildlife will lose the opportunity to receive federal aid funds if reimbursement is not provided for free licenses in the next biennium budget from General Revenue Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the Ohio Chapter of The American Fisheries Society respectfully requests the Ohio General Assembly to support the ODNR, Division of Wildlife by restoring the \$1.8 million for central support charges in the next biennium budget to pay for the Division of Wildlife's share of central support to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The responsible actions of the General Assembly will ensure that fishing and hunting license dollars will only be used for direct fish and wildlife management programs.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Ohio Chapter of The American Fisheries Society respectfully requests the Ohio General Assembly to continue the phased down reimbursement for free senior licenses to the ODNR, Division of Wildlife, which will prevent any loss of federal aid funds for fish and wildlife programs in Ohio and continue the free licenses program for senior citizens.