



2007 Summer Meeting Minutes
Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
The Wilds, Cumberland, OH
10:00-12:00 am, 23 May 2007

- 1) 10:15 am. Call to Order and Determination that a quorum of members was present.
- 2) Welcome by President Andy Burt
- 3) Officer Reports
 - a) President Andy Burt
 - i) OFWMA, Feb. 1, 2008: The OFWMA is undergoing some changes to reinvent itself. The meeting will begin with three invited speakers to address the conference theme from the perspective of their individual disciplines. The keynote speaker will give their remarks during lunch. This year's keynote speaker will be Hannibal Bolton, USFWS employee who works with habitat initiatives including the Eastern Brook Trout Initiative. Lunch will be available for purchase at the conference, so plan on staying for the keynote address. Further incentive to stay will include door prizes being awarded during lunch. Following lunch, the OCAFS will hold its speaker session and business meeting. The social will no longer be held at the conference; the raffle will be modified to have winners announced sometime following lunch, either during scheduled breaks or at the close of the conference. The raffle will also move away from multiple, small items to fewer, larger items to reduce time and space limitations. Also, it was recommended that we provide individual baskets for each prize so that people may select a specific prize for their raffle tickets. A board will be available for posting winners. The question was raised as to whether the governor's new rules will permit Division of Wildlife employees to win prizes in the raffle; this will be investigated by the chapter prior to the meeting.
 - ii) OFWMA raffle coordinator: The OCAFS is in charge of the raffle this year. Rather than appoint a single individual to coordinate the raffle, a small committee will be formed under Member Services to collect raffle items. As mentioned above, the committee will be seeking larger items for donation. Specifically, member donated fishing, hunting or canoeing trips will be sought, such as a day fishing for walleye on Lake Erie, a member guided steelhead trip, or a float trip on one of Ohio's smallmouth bass streams would be encouraged. Please contact Andy or John Navarro if you would be interested in providing a trip or serving on the raffle committee.
 - iii) Commercial Fishing Legislation: As many of you know, the governor signed the revised commercial fishing reform bill from the House and Senate into law this summer. This law addresses many of the problems associated with managing the commercial fishery on Lake Erie, restoring some semblance of oversight and control to managers and law enforcement. A committee made up of representatives from legislators, commercial and sport fishers, law enforcement, resource managers, and academia, is currently working to specify certain aspects of the law (such as quota allocation). The Chapter's resolution in support of commercial fishing reform played a role in this coming to pass.
 - b) President Elect Rich Carter: Exhibitors are being sought for the OFWMA meeting to offset the costs of the meeting.

- c) Past President Eugene Braig: Announced the Fish Sampling Techniques workshop that is being offered at Stone Lab on October 6-7. This collaborative effort between Sea Grant, OEPA, and ODW will provide a hands-on introduction to standard survey gear (trawling, gillnetting, fyke-netting, and boat and long-line electrofishing) to college students and prospective seasonal employees. Cost for the course will be \$140 per student; class size is limited to 10 students. For additional information, contact Eugene; the workshop announcement will be posted at the chapter website soon, and is available at the Sea Grant website (stonelab.osu.edu).
- d) Secretary/Treasurer Eric Weimer: The Chapter currently has 97 members (76 Active, 21 Associate) and \$6326.27 in the treasury.
- e) Webmaster Kevin Kayle (via Eric): Items go up on the website as they are received; request for more pictures. Still haven't unlocked a way to get the fish management video on the website.

4) Committee Reports

- a) Membership Services (John Navarro):
 - i) Need to begin thinking about the subject of our next chapter-sponsored workshop (one every two years); we can use the results of the recent survey that Matt Ward sent out to Wildlife personnel to determine needs.
 - ii) How can we prioritize professional certification among the membership; only one person has used the reimbursement program through the chapter? Can we promote it, or will it have to come through the employers.
 - iii) The NCD is looking for a representative from each chapter to help judge candidates for the annual awards presented at the Midwest (i.e., Most Active Chapter, Outstanding Student Chapter, etc.). It should only occupy 3-5 hours of time this fall. If you are interested, please contact John Navarro.
- b) Aquatic Stewardship (Eugene for Chair Patrick Kocovsky): Committee has not begun operating; still holding out for more participation from non-Lake Erie oriented members. Recruiting efforts have extended both inland and to non-ODW employees.
- c) Information Transfer and Outreach (via Andy): New chair, Kevin Page, is starting to acclimate himself to his new responsibilities.
- d) NCD Technical Committees:
 - i) Centrarchid: Nothing to report
 - ii) Esocid (via Eric): Representative Matt Ward summarized the musky management program in Ohio for the ETC; this will be available online at some point (whether on the chapter or ODW website is unknown), but Eric also has an electronic copy available upon request. Matt recently returned to South Dakota, so another representative will be needed for this committee; one name was suggested, and will be approached.
 - iii) Ictalurid: Nothing to report
 - iv) Rivers and Streams: Nothing to report
 - v) Salmonid: Nothing to report

- vi) Walleye: Deb Walters reported (via Andy) that efforts to proceed with the walleye management book are ongoing; the ODW has offered \$1000 to the WTC for startup costs. The chapter will continue to wait until the contents of the book are announced, hopefully with some emphasis on Lake Erie or saugeye management, before donating. There will be an online searchable database to accompany the book.

5) Old Business

- i) Summer Statistics Workshop: The workshop went off without a hitch and was very well received by attendees; however, only twelve people attended, leaving the chapter a couple hundred dollars in the hole. This will be the last offering of this workshop in the near future.
- ii) 2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio: Here's what we know: the conference center and hotel reservations have been made at one of the hotels in Columbus. The Division of Wildlife will be organizing committees this fall to begin planning; all members are encouraged to get involved. The Chapter is discussing sponsoring a symposium or social during the Conference. Moderators will be required; we encourage chapter members to get involved. The chapter will begin pursuing the possibility of designing and selling T-shirts for the conference as a fundraiser.
- iii) Student Travel Award Program: We haven't had any applications for travel grants to attend the Midwest Conference in several years; it was moved and unanimously decided to award the travel grant to the winner of the best student paper at the winter business meeting, similar to other chapters in the NCD.

6) New Business

- a) 2008 Student Life Sciences Forum: In an effort to increase regional attendance, Mike Wilkerson will be contacting professors from Heidelberg and Otterbein Colleges to gauge interest in hosting the forum. Hopefully, moving the location every year will give students from around the state the opportunity to attend and participate.
- b) Fish Sampling Workshop: It was moved and unanimously accepted that the OCAFS offer two \$140 scholarships to a male and female attendee of the workshop at Stone Lab. The governing board (mostly Eugene) will decide how the recipients will be selected.

7) Adjourned at 11:40 am.