



2018 Winter Business Meeting Minutes
Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Joint Meeting of the Ohio Aquaculture Society and the Ohio
Chapter of AFS—Columbus, OH
26 January 2018

1. Meeting was called to Order and Determination of Quorum
2. Welcome by President

Guests from AFS introduced themselves:

- Scott Bonar (SB), who will be president of AFS when the national meeting will be here in Columbus
- Martha Wilson (MW), who is the director of communications
- Eva Przygodzki (EP), who is in charge of AFS membership

3. Officer Reports

- a. President: Kristi Arend (KA), Old Woman Creek NERR / ODNR

- Thanked everyone on the Governing Board and Committee Leads
- Thanked Curt Wagner (CW) and Joe Conroy (JC) for putting the joint meeting together

- b. President-Elect: Janice Kerns (JK), ODNR Division of Wildlife (DOW)

JK handed out information sheets to fill out if interested in participating in a mentor/mentee relationship.

- c. Past President: Chris Mayer (CM), University of Toledo (UT)

- As president she hoped to increase student involvement, and a 2nd official student subunit was started at the UT.
- Also wanted to increase the professional diversity of participation within the chapter.
 - The participation of UT has not been involved historically.
 - Jo Banda (JB), a federal employee with USFWS became Secretary/Treasurer.

4. Secretary/Treasurer: JB, USFWS

JB gave annual report.

- Beginning balance was \$5,638.33.
- Total receipts were \$785.30 – all but \$5 was for dues.
- Total disbursements were \$2,135.86:
 - The majority of that was student awards (~\$1,400).
 - There was a loss at the Ohio/Indiana meeting last year of \$552.
 - Checks were ordered.
 - A fee was paid to the Ohio Secretary of State for \$99.
- Ending balance is \$4,287.

5. Committee Reports



a. Ohio Fisheries Leadership: Nick Radabaugh (NR)

Website activities

- More links to the subunits section were added.
- A summary of the summer meeting and some pictures were added.
- There are past meeting minutes on the website.
- You can join or renew on the website.

b. Education/Continuing Education: Eugene Braig (EB)

- We provided scholarships to the Fish Sampling Techniques Workshop that EB co-teaches at Stone Lab with biologists from the Division of Wildlife (DOW) and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency – Madeline Tomczak (MT), UT and Hannah Beroske, The Ohio State University were the recipients this year.
- We also do the Milt Austin Award at the State Science Fair in May. They could use more judges. Contact EB if interested in judging. They are cash awards given to both high school and middle school students with aquatic sciences projects.

c. Value of Membership:

- President Elect election results: Chris Aman (CA) Deferred President Elect election results to new business
- EP spoke about value membership at the national level
 - Help overcoming challenges is provided.
 - Access to publications is a benefit including:
 - Scientific journals through Wiley,
 - 30% of other publications, and
 - Page fees are waived for members that publish through AFS.
 - There are four divisions and chapters in nearly every state.
 - Full membership supports the chapter and division and makes it stronger – the Society provides financial support in the form of rebates.
 - Meetings are sponsored – for networking and collaborations.
 - There is continuing education – new this year is on demand online webinars.
 - There are student programs including scholarships, networking events, and mentoring.
 - You gain more if you give more and the Society becomes stronger
 - There are public policy initiatives such as the Restore America's Wildlife Act.

d. Student Subunits

- Buckeye Subunit: Robert Reed (not present) – no update
- Rockets Subunit: Jason Fischer (JF)

JF gave UT Rockets update:

- The Subunit was founded in 2016.
- JF introduced those on the Governing Board who were able to attend (JF is Secretary, Zachary Amidon – Vice President, and MT –Treasurer)
- A student of the year award was given to recognize an undergraduate student who is particularly active. This year it was MT. The award

includes paying the recipients parent society dues for a year and support for travel to the International Association of Great Lakes Research (IAGLR) Conference.

- List of events that the Subunit held include:
 - Participation in the Ottawa River clean-up in the spring and fall on the UT campus,
 - A Lake Erie Unplugged Event – an informal research forum without the aid of technology,
 - Attending the IAGLR,
 - Assisted the City of Fremont with mussel relocation from the drained impoundment area following the notching of the Ballville Dam,
 - Outreach at Old Woman Creek,
 - Fish fry fundraiser, and
 - Helped write the aquatics portion of state level Envirothon, a national environmental based quiz bowl.
- Future goals and objectives
 - The Subunit wants to make the UT Subunit a joint Subunit with Bowling Green State University to foster opportunities for networking, and
 - Start a long term fish monitoring program.

e. Meeting Planning: JC, CW

- This meeting next year will occur with Midwest.
- 2020 will be much smaller because of the Society meeting in August and other meetings.
- Traditionally in odd years we try to do a joint state Chapter meeting, so there may be another joint state Chapter meeting in 2021.

f. North Central Division Technical Committee (TC) Reports:

- Centrarchid: Steve Tyszko – no report
- Esocid: CW gave the following report:
 - The Esocid TC is meeting is in a couple days.
 - There was a muskie symposium a couple years ago that became an AFS book that just came out, with quite an influence from Ohio (CW, JK, & Matt Faust).
- Ictalurid: Ethan Simmons
 - Next week is the technical committee meeting in Wisconsin.
 - We submitted a state report highlighting some of the things that Ohio is doing (e.g., catchability, catfish tracking on the Ohio River, OSU project, & stocking of blue catfish).
 - Other committee members submitted interesting highlights that are relative to the fish management done by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.
 - Missouri has been stocking blue catfish in Mark Twain Lake and they see slower growth rates but similar variability in their blue catfish.
 - Indian Lake angler claimed that all the flathead had eaten all the bluegill, but two other states are stocking flathead catfish to control stunted bluegill populations. So although they eat bluegill, it has improved the size structure of the bluegill.

- There will be a catfish 2020 meeting coming up.
 - He has reports from other states if anyone wants to read them.
- Reservoir: JC
 - Meeting will be on Sunday, so nothing to report at this time.
 - But they typically report standardized sampling and habitat restoration.
- Rivers & Streams: Jeremy Pritt (JP)
 - JP was unable to attend but gave KA an update.
 - Committee is not meeting this year at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.
 - Will have an annual meeting in IL March 27–28, and there is a call for presentations.
 - New leaders for the committee are pulling together their state reports for the website that will include Ohio DOW.
- Salmonid: no longer active
- Walleye: Matt Faust (in Turks & Caicos) – no report

6. Parent Society and North Central Division News

- a. 2019 Midwest Fish and Wildlife meeting: JK reported.
 - She is the chapter representative on the committee organizing Midwest.
 - They have selected “Communicating Science to Fan the Flames of Conservation” as the theme, alluding to past rivers on fire.
 - They are working on getting some beer donations from Great Lakes Brewing Company, specifically Burning River.
 - Working on tentative dates, and expects that the date will be set shortly and that the meeting will be near the end of January–February.
 - They got their first proposal from Hilton Hotel in downtown Cleveland as a possible hotel location.
 - Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, who officially hosts the meeting, is working with the Delaney Meeting and Events Management Group and they do all of the paperwork and general organizing.
 - The Division is taking responsibility; with Frank Lopez as the lead.
 - Each state does it differently, but different chapters and agencies take on different responsibilities based on that particular state. The meeting is on a rotating basis and it comes to Ohio on a regular basis. So if the Chapter wants to be more invested in the future, JK can say something to the Committee. CW was wondering if there is anything that we would be putting our stamp on that we want represented correctly as a chapter, and where the proceeds go. KA said that previously she was told that we could be as involved how we wanted. So if there is a way that we want to be involved we should think about it and talk about it.
 - Next the Committee will work on getting sponsorship and recruitment for various committees (e.g., ongoing education, abstracts, or agenda committees).
- b. 2020 National AFS meeting: SB gave an update:
 - SB introduced himself – he is a professor at the University of Arizona, working from the Grand Canyon to small springs in the Mojave Desert by Las Vegas. Previously he was a state fish biologist in Washington for many years in the Pacific Northwest. He grew up a Hoosier.

- It will be the 150th anniversary of the AFS during 2020.
- They will be asking for our help in getting local involvement.
- Contracts have been signed with the Convention Center and the Hyatt downtown.
- They will be looking for help locally with the program, local meeting arrangements and media, the spawning run, and student activities.
- Dates are August 27–September 3, 2020.
- Generally 3,000–5,000 attend. Expect more than usual because it is the 150th anniversary.

c. National AFS social media: MW reported:

- AFS has almost 7,000 followers.
- There are social media guidelines and standards.
- She tweeted out picture of the student subunit.
- There is a lively fisheries science social media community.
- Contact mwilson@fisheries.org if there are any communication questions.
- They will help us set up a website for the annual meeting.
- If you want to be published in Fisheries Magazine contact Sarah Harrison (SH).
- Let MW or SH know if you want to be published on the blog.

7. Old Business

a. President's 2017 Initiatives were:

- Outreach to underrepresented groups, and at the summer meeting had a group of 40 8th graders from the Urban Community School in Cleveland came out to Old Woman Creek. Collected fish and got the kids out on the boat, read otoliths, identified macroinvertebrates, and had a Lake Erie food web activity.
- Reporting of chapter activities – got a template for reporting to the National Society and is working on that to make it the past president's job.

b. Chapter Awards: KA announced the following awards:

- The Walleye Technical Committee Student Travel went to JF at UT and the Chapter matched it. It is the second year in a row that an Ohio student got the award.
- OCAFS and NCD Joan Duffy Student Travel award recipient was Rebecca Dillon (RD) at OSU. RD also won the award last year.

8. New Business

- a. CM was presented with a Past-President Award.
- b. The 2018 President's Initiatives are that JK is going to focus a mentor/mentee network within the State for students and professionals. She handed out a form and will send out an e-mail about the initiative.
- c. The President-Elect was announced to be Suzanne Gray and she was installed.

9. The meeting was adjourned after a motion was made by Dave Culver.
