

Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society  
Fall Member Meeting  
September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018

1. Call to Order
  - a. Determination of quorum: *yes*
  - b. Meeting called to order at: *10:10 AM*
  - c. Attendance: *Zach Amidon, Chris Amon, Kristi Arend, Joe Conroy, Mike Durkalec, Jeremy Evans, Tory Gabriel, Suzanne Gray, Chris Hardy, Genevieve Ivec, Janice Kerns, Bryan Kinter, Ed Lewis, John Navarro, Chelsey Nieman, Joel Plott, Curt Wagner, and Bethany Williams*
2. Welcome by Janice Kerns, OH AFS President
  - a. *Welcomed everyone to meeting; introduced Officers; reviewed agenda*
3. Officer Reports
  - a. President (Janice Kerns)
  - b. President Elect (Suzanne Gray)
    - i. *Nothing to report*
  - c. Past President (Kristi Arend)
    - i. *Reviewed annual report to National AFS (see attached) and some relevant activities and contributions for each strategic issue – overall impressive what we have done; great job by the Rockets student subunit*
    - ii. ***Stated would like to continue to try to do professional outreach events with underrepresented groups; members interested in assisting should contact KA***
  - d. Secretary/Treasurer (Janice Kerns for Jo Ann Banda)
    - i. *Need to think about how to better fund awards, scholarships, etc. (see discussion in 9.a. below)*

2017 (August 1) - 2018 (July 31) Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society		
<b>Starting Balance</b>	\$	<b>5,450.63</b>
<u>Receipts</u>		
Dues	\$	740.56
Amazon Smile	\$	5.00
<u>Disbursements</u>		
Checks for Huntington Account	\$	74.94
Awards	\$	1,184.00
Indiana/Ohio Chapter Meeting Loss	\$	552.92
Reimbursement to Wagner for meeting supplies	\$	55.46
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,328.87</b>

- e. Student Subunit Representatives
  - i. UT Rockets (Zach Amidon)
    1. *Stream clean-ups (one is upcoming); might become involved in StreamWatch (High School program)*
    2. *Presented in student sub-unit symposium at AFS Atlantic City*
      - a. *Difficult for Rockets to include BGSU students and undergrads*
      - b. *Other chapters have resources available to student subunits; what do we have?*

3. *Shared some new ideas (sturgeon/Trout Unlimited)?*
  - ii. OSU (Chelsea Niemen)
    1. *Members are planning to participate in Passport to Fishing events*
    2. *Social event to try to recruit more undergraduate members; members welcome; Sept. 28, 3-6 pm at OSU Olentangy River Wetland Research Park.*
  - iii. BGSU
    1. *Working to raise awareness on campus to find members; Dr. Kevin Neves is faculty sponsor.*
4. *Introductions of attendees*
5. Committee Reports
  - a. Ohio Fisheries Leadership / Webmaster (Nick Radabaugh)
    - i. *Looked into website statistics, starting in late July 2018*
      1. *821 visitors, > 1000 visits (544 since summer meeting notification)*
        - a. *Maybe could be doing more, given number of visits/visitors; e.g., more links about events (including student subunit)*
    - ii. *Paypal registration capability going smoothly*
    - iii. *JK emphasized importance of keeping our website up to date as much as possible*
  - b. Education/Continuing Education (Eugene Braig)
    - i. *Milt Austin Award: State Science Fair; 17 projects submitted, 3 winners (high school); 2 honorable mentions (middle school)*
    - ii. *Fish sampling techniques workshop: in about one week at OSU Stone Lab; usually award up to 2 scholarships, requests are due Monday and will be distributed to governing board for selection*
      1. *To make undergrads more marketable for entry level/seasonal positions, provide agencies with more skilled workers*
  - c. Value of Membership (Chris Aman)
    - i. Plans to step down in the upcoming year
      1. *Has been doing this for 10 years; is a good opportunity to participate in governing board and with other committees; will stay on as a member of the committee*
      2. ***Anyone interested can talk to Chris about responsibilities and Janice about taking the lead***
    - ii. Description: This committee seeks to provide services and operational support for members and the Chapter. By working closely with the Ohio Fisheries Leadership and Education/Continuing Education committees, the Value of Membership Committee will seek avenues for professional development and make the Chapter website useful to members. Important activities of this committee include (but are not limited to):
      1. Identifying and helping to implement relevant and timely professional development workshops;

2. Emphasizing intra-Chapter information transfer through the Chapter website, listserv, or social media; and,
  3. Serving as the officer nominations committee for the Chapter.
6. Special Committee
- a. Meetings and Events Special
    - i. *Joe Conroy, Curt Wagner*
    - ii. *Curt reviewed logistics for today's meeting*
7. North Central Division Technical Committee Reports
- a. Centrarchid (Steve Tyszko)
  - b. Esocid (Curt Wagner)
    - i. *ETC hoping to sponsor muskie/pike symposium at AFS 2020; will be looking for talks and, likely, help*
  - c. Ictalurid (Ethan Simmons)
  - d. Reservoir (Joe Conroy)
  - e. Rivers and Streams (Jeremy Pritt)
  - f. Salmonid (Kevin Kayle)
  - g. Walleye (Matt Faust)
8. Old Business
- a. Option to make Meetings and Events committee a standing committee
    - i. Options (Janice Kerns)
      1. Wait until AFS and NCD release new strategic plans that will prompt other changes to our chapter docs
        - a. *Changing our bylaws*
        - b. *New AFS strategic plan will be out after 2020*
      2. Making and getting the changes approved, but submit them later to AFS with the other changes
        - a. Changes to the language need to be circulated one month before voting
      3. Wrap duties into Membership position
        - a. *Current push is to formalize responsibilities because of big meetings coming up*
        - b. *Joe Conroy (JC): current preference to combine with Value of Membership position; in 2020 review and restructure committees*
        - c. *Curt Wagner (CW): agrees that it falls under Value of Membership well, so makes sense to fold it into that committee; less paperwork, too.*
        - d. ***JC: motion to incorporate duties of ad hoc Meetings and Events Committee into the responsibilities of the existing Value of Membership committee***
          - i. *Nick Radabaugh second*
          - ii. *No further discussion*
          - iii. *Vote by paying members, passed unanimously*

## 9. New Business

### a. Donation Requests (Janice Kerns)

#### i. Annual and periodic requests for scholarships and awards total ~ \$1000 annually

##### 1. Income for these is not guaranteed

a. No profits from Midwest; ? profits from AFS 2020

b. Can discuss ideas for fundraising

##### 2. Currently have \$1250 requested this week (Midwest, Fenske, Fish Sampling Workshop, Joan Duffy); have a balance of ~ \$4K

##### 3. Discussion on planning for and prioritizing requests

a. Eugene Braig (EB): maintain each aspect of what we do; possibly spend more conservatively in each category

b. JC: we have \$ in order to spend it

i. Viable strategy: President sets work plan and budget annually; voted on at winter business meeting

ii. Vote on additional requests that come up

##### c. Past budget and allotment

i. JC: typical total annual budget of a couple of thousand (WV joint meeting a few years ago brought an unusually high income)

ii. CW: historically had a \$6000 target, with \$3000 as a critical mark

1. Enough to cover any loss from meetings

2. Janice Kerns (JK): and to have seed money

##### d. Current and future budget and allotment

i. Tory Gabriel (TG): can we be comfortable dropping down to about \$3K to support requests

ii. JK: decide on a bottom limit for the annual budget, especially if we don't see funds coming back in; that will provide a concrete amount for decision-making

iii. CW: given big meetings coming up, we probably won't have any larger chapter meetings until after 2020, so we should be OK for a couple of years

e. JK: we need more volunteers to assist with chapter and work on these type of issues

i. Write down budget planning and rough annual schedule

#### 4. Discussion on additional funding for awards and scholarships

a. JK: think about directed fundraising and goals for different opportunities (e.g., raffles, etc.)

b. JC: Need to work on recruiting paying members; e.g., annual renewal reminder

i. John Navarro: add benefits of what the money goes toward

1. JK: and can add request for donations for awards

2. *Kristi Arend (KA): worthwhile to try, because right now we are spending more than we bring in annually in dues*
  - ii. *EB: Ohio Lake Management Society has affiliate members that fall outside of the professional field; we could try to expand our efforts to those groups through affiliate memberships; also, brings in \$ through exhibitors at meetings; meetings are larger, so exhibitors are more willing to come.*
    1. ***JK: good ideas; need volunteers to help do this; Janice willing to help but will look for someone willing to take on this type of project.***
- 5. JK will send out email for voting on requests**
- ii. Stone Lab's Fish Sampling Workshop (Eugene Braig)
    1. Sponsorship request of 2 Scholarships - \$250/person
    2. <https://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/education/stonelab/courses/u084r/fish-sampling-techniques-workshop>
  - iii. Fenske Memorial Award Scholarship
    1. MI AFS donates \$250 annually
    2. Midwest host state matches \$250
    3. <http://michigan.fisheries.org/awards-and-grants/fenske-award/>
- b. Midwest Planning (Janice Kerns)
- i. *Delaney group is the planning organization; state agency works with them; this is an agency-hosted, not an AFS-hosted meeting*
    1. *Role of chapters varies among states; we are not an official co-host*
  - ii. *Janice has been highly involved in planning the Cleveland meeting (January); other members helping, including some students*
  - iii. Sponsorship – suggest \$500
  - iv. Student Events
    1. Evening Social – Trivia Night (Zach Amidon)
      - a. UT Rocket Student Subunit
      - b. Teams of combined students and professionals
      - c. Food maybe a limiting factor
        - i. *JK: due to funding constraints, will be more of a happy hour/light food event*
      - d. *Zach Amidon: rough outline created; mentor and some students matched based on student interests*
        - i. *5:30-6:30 pm, to make sure people don't wander off after talks; socializing afterwards*
        - ii. *JK: trivia night is an easy way to break the ice and get participants interacting with each other*
        - iii. ***Talk to Janice or Zach with suggestions***
    2. Workshops (Janice Kerns)

- a. *One submitted, so far; looking for additional*
  - b. Leads: Janice Kerns and Katie Dennison
  - c. Deadline for submission is Oct 1
  - d. Desired workshops? (*Governing Board suggestions*)
    - i. Science Communication
    - ii. Data Management (R based?)
    - iii. Statistical Model Building – mixed models
    - iv. Fish ID
    - v. Leadership skills
    - vi. Conflict resolution
  - e. *JK has reached out to or has heard from people about*
    - i. *Hierarchical modeling workshop (Dr. Song Qian, UT)*
    - ii. *NOAA data management workshop (Emily Kuzmick, OWC)*
    - iii. *Arc GIS?*
    - iv. *Mike Durkalec: Qualified Data Collectors program (OH EPA – IBIs, etc.); lots of interest; Midwest Biodiversity Inst has offered classes in the past*
      - 1. *CW: varies by state, so could be good for a state chapter meeting*
    - v. *Leadership skills will happen; has been popular in the past*
3. Wildlife Café (Janice Kerns)
- a. *JK: well-attended last year; mock interviews, resume reviews*
  - b. Lead: Ohio Wildlife Society
  - c. **Looking for volunteers**
    - i. *Co-occurs with talks, so keep in mind*
4. Raffle/Silent Auction
- a. Lead: Chelsey Niemann
  - b. ***Will be a silent auction only; will send letters soliciting donations next week; e.g., local activities, local artisans' works***
  - c. ***JK: would appreciate any members to reach out to affiliates for donations***
- v. OH AFS Business Meeting – Monday @ 4?
  - vi. Timelines
    - 1. Abstracts due Sept 17<sup>th</sup>
    - 2. **Registration – Opens November 1st**

REGISTRATION OPTIONS	By 12/15/18	12/16/2018 – 1/19/2019	After 1/19/2019 & Walk-ins
Full Conference Registration (Professional)	\$325	\$395	\$450
Student Registration Fee	\$195	\$255	\$275
One-Day Conference Registration	\$225	\$285	\$330

- c. AFS 2020 (Curt Wagner)
  - i. *Aug 30 – Sep 3, 2020*
  - ii. *Full-time staff person @ AFS handles bulk of work; state chapter can be as involved as desired*
  - iii. *JK: Jo Ann, Kristi, and Janice all attended AFS 2018 to learn about duties and commitment; NJ lead emphasized that chapter is only on the hook to do what they have the capacity to do; AFS staff, Shawn Johnson, is a great person to work with*
  - iv. Chairs/Committees
    - 1. ***See handout of chairs and subcommittees***
      - a. ***Would like to have chairs filled in by our winter meeting; all team members fleshed out by 2019 Reno meeting***
      - b. ***Please look over and share with others; we will send out email***
    - 2. Roles/responsibilities
    - 3. Timeline
      - a. Need to have positions in place by Winter 2019 Meeting
      - b. Planning meeting schedule
    - 4. Next steps
  - v. 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Event
    - 1. Ohio/Columbus specific ideas?
    - 2. *Larger than the annual meeting; think of ways to highlight historical fisheries efforts/development*
    - 3. *JK: will be a whole, year-long celebration around the country; states will get requests; OCAFS will work with committee to develop annual meeting events that tie in with the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration; we will have a local liaison*
- d. AFS Policy Updates (Janice Kerns)
  - i. *What do we do as a chapter r.e.: advocacy and position statements related to policy*
    - 1. *Different chapters have different opinions about whether or not to engage in advocacy...what are people's thoughts for OCAFS?*
      - a. *EB: Cont Ed committee used to be Stewardship and did have a history of providing non-partisan, science-based resolutions and statements; EB has some examples he can provide*
      - b. *Society can provide voice for members that are not able to because of work restrictions*
      - c. *Would like to encourage student subunits and chapter to consider supporting these*
      - d. *CW: issue of timeliness; membership needs ~30 d from introduction to vote*
        - i. *EB: would draft, circulate for comment; then vote (can be online or by mail)*
      - e. ***Janice will follow up with Eugene on old resolutions***
  - ii. Recovering America's Wildlife Act

1. *Parent society has templates that we can sign and send to local reps.*
  - iii. Magnuson-Stevens Act
  - iv. Waters of the US Rule (WOTUS)
- e. Tracking student membership (Janice Kerns)
- i. Students secretary/treasurer an e-mail saying that they want to be a member, but no e-mail is sent annually to renew membership.
  - ii. Additionally, if they haven't joined the parent society or e-mailed the secretary/treasurer in the current or previous year, they are dropped from the e-mail/membership list.
  - iii. *Tracking has traditionally been a challenge for many state chapters*
    1. *Have to merge national AFS members with non-national members and student members*
    2. *Requests of student subunits to reach out to student members about annual renewal of membership*
      - a. *Chelsey Nieman: do you want student subunits to provide membership list; JK: yes*
    3. *Likely start using gmail account so have consistent address for contact across years/presidents; also to help keep up with contact list*
    4. ***Jo Ann will take lead on this***
- f. EB: Oct 30 – Nov 2 NALMS meeting in Cincinnati
- i. *Consider exhibiting, sponsorship?*
    1. *Exhibit whole conference = \$500*
    2. *WAMO (Water Management Association of Ohio?) day exhibit = ~\$190 for single day registration (with table for free)*
  - ii. *National meeting with larger attendance by Ohioans.*
  - iii. *JK: have we had a booth in the past? What has it looked like? What info would we provide?*
  - iv. *CW: would membership be generated?*
    1. *EB: usually a large number of amateurs attend*
    2. *JC: maybe makes more sense to put effort into next year's WAMO meeting, because of potential to reach Ohio amateurs; also might be hard to get something together for this year.*
    3. *JK: agrees could do in future; probably too quick for this year*
- g. New logo (Joe Conroy)
- i. *Need one that reproduces well in black and white; represents the state well*
  - ii. *Need to do this quickly, to have something for advertising by 2020 (i.e., in the next 6 months)*
  - iii. *JK: OK, can put out request and guidelines; award for winner? E.g., AFS membership, travel scholarship,...*
  - iv. *JC: maybe have design to vote on by winter meeting*
  - v. ***Suzanne Grey can send email out, targeting student subunit***
    1. ***Guidelines: direct to other states' logos for starting ideas***
  - vi. ***Joe Conroy moves: Organize competition with award a 2020 AFS membership***



1. *Chris Aman second*
2. *No discussion*
3. *Motion passes*

10. Wrap up

- a. Motion to adjourn: *Suzanne Grey*
- b. Motion *passed*
- c. Meeting adjourned at: *11:58*

11. Action Items

- a. **Identify individual to take over as Membership Committee chair**
  - i. **Contact**
    1. *Chris Aman for questions about responsibilities*
    2. *Janice Kern if interested in position*
- b. **Solicit nomination for next President-Elect**
  - i. *Will need to vote at the winter business meeting*
- c. **Stated would like to continue to try to do professional outreach events with underrepresented groups; members interested in assisting should contact Kristi Arend**
- d. **Anyone interested being the Membership Chair should contact Chris Aman about responsibilities and Janice Kerns about taking the lead**
- e. **Need to incorporate duties of ad hoc Meetings and Events Committee into the responsibilities of the existing Value of Membership committee**
- f. **Need volunteer to work on finding affiliate members that fall outside of the professional field to expand our membership through affiliate memberships. This may also help to bring in money through exhibitors at meetings.**
- g. **Request members to reach out to affiliates for donations for the Silent Auction being held at the Midwest meeting**
- h. **OH AFS Planning Committee for the 150th meeting would like to fill chair positions prior to the 2019 winter meeting at Midwest**
- i. **Development of new logo being organized by Joe Conroy**