



# LATERAL LINES

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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## President's Corner

Unfortunately, after making the arrangements and serving as program chair for the Y2K Joint Meeting at Council Bluffs, Iowa last January, I was unable to attend because of a conflicting date with an orthopedic surgeon for a titanium hip. However, I have been told that although the conference room could have been larger, the meeting was a good one. I know that we had a comprehensive program, with seven poster, 24 platform presentations, a banquet speaker, and a good mix of participants from Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Missouri.

Don Kline is charged with the program for the 2001 meeting. Don will issue the first and last call for papers for our next chapter meeting, which will be held with the Iowa Chapter of The Wildlife Society in the Memorial Union, ISU campus, from Tuesday through Thursday, January 16-18, 2001. The meeting will begin Tuesday evening (7 to 10 p.m.) with registration and a social in the Campanile room. Wednesday, we will have a joint meeting with the Wildlife Society from 8 to noon, separate meetings all afternoon, and a banquet in the evening, presumably with a distinguished guest speaker. If you have any suggestions for the speaker, contact Don Kline. Thursday, we will hold separate meetings and the program will end at noon. Twenty rooms are held at the Memorial Union until January 2nd. Call Memorial Union main desk 515-292-1111 to make your reservation.

Many environmental issues of relevance to AFS and our chapter have been directed to me and former chapter Presidents. Some examples of issues include REAP appropriations (REAP Conservation Alliance), Iowa's Source Water Protection Strategy for public water supplies; Visions for Iowa '2010 (Conservation Milestones Coordinating Group), Missouri River flow alternatives outlined in the August 1998 Preliminary Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement, CARA, and others.

I have responded as an individual to some calls for action, but not representing Iowa AFS. I think that the membership should express their opinions on issues affecting fisheries and aquatic resources.

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## President's Corner (continued)

Members should care enough about fish and fisheries issues to get involved, but I think that the chapter needs to clarify a procedure for presidential action on environmental issues. Should the Ex-com decide on whether the chapter president should respond and what position we should take? Should we limit our chapter responses to environmental issues that have been presented to the members as resolutions voted on by the membership?

My term ends this month, therefore, I want to take this opportunity to thank our Ex-com for their help, namely past president Dick McWilliams, our secretary-treasurer Mike Steuck, and our newsletter editor, Kevin Hanson. Dick wrote our last annual report and helped with environmental issues. Mike has done an excellent job in handling registration at our meetings, dispensing chapter funds (i.e., paying our bills), and consulting with me on chapter

business. Lateral Lines, our newsletter, is a vital lifeline for our chapter. Thanks to Kevin for preparing "Roll Call!" the list of members' e-mail addresses which will be especially valuable. We also have a huge list of persons on Chapter committees, such as Best Paper Award, and others. I also want to single out thanks to Paul Sleeper for organizing the Raffle at the last meeting. Clay Pierce has planned a continuing education workshop for February (see his announcement elsewhere) on Exploratory Data Analysis. Although the chapter may not receive any accolades for the most active state chapter, it is performing valuable service to its members. I am proud to have had the opportunity to serve.

*Dr. Robert Summerfelt*

### Iowa AFS Welcomes New EXCOM

With the changing of the seasons it is time to recognize the changing of the guard for the Executive Committee of our Iowa Chapter.

IDNR fisheries biologist at Lake Darling **Don Kline** takes over as our new chapter president. It's been 24 years since Don's first term as Iowa Chapter president. He is well rested since that experience and is ready to take on the challenges in front of him.

**Andy Thompson**, IDNR fisheries biologist for the Mississippi Monitoring Station in Bellevue is our new president-elect. A member of the parent society since 1991, Andy was a former committee member for the North Dakota chapter where he worked for four years before coming to Iowa in 1998. Andy is as excited as a squirrel on a freeway about his new role and looks forward to the future.

**Kevin Hanson** is our new secretary/treasurer. Kevin is a Mississippi River fisheries technician for the IDNR in Fairport. Currently the newsletter editor, Kevin has some big shoes to fill taking over for long time secretary/treasurer Mike Steuck. Mike had dedicated four years of his life to this role and his skillful control over the position can only be described as legendary.

### Newsletter of the Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Volume 16, Number 4

#### Committee Chairpersons

Audit .....	Mark Winn
Membership .....	Tom Boland
Resolutions.....	Marion Conover
REAP.....	Dick McWilliams
Continuing Education.....	Clay Pierce
Student Affairs .....	Mark Pegg
Nominations.....	Mark Flammang
Best Paper .....	Steve Waters
Education .....	Gary Siegwarth/Tom Boland
Catfish 2000 .....	Tom Boland

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English Pub Thurs. Dec. 14 - Dyersville  
One-man Blues Band

## 2001 Iowa AFS Joint Meeting With Wildlife Society

*We're heading to Ames!* New Chapter President Don Kline announces that plans are moving right along for the 2001 Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society annual meeting. This year we will have a joint meeting with the Iowa Chapter of the The Wildlife Society. The meeting will be held in Ames, Iowa on January 16 - 18, 2001 at the Memorial Union on the Iowa State University Campus. Here's the basic schedule as it now stands:

### Tuesday, January 16

7-10 p.m., registration and social in the Campanile Room, Memorial Union

### Wednesday, January 17

8:00 - noon - Joint AFS/TWS (plenary) session in the Gallery

12:00-1:30 p.m. - Lunch on your own

1:30-5:30 p.m. - Separate meetings (including business meetings): one in the Gallery and the other in the Oak Room.

6:00 - 10:00 p.m. - Banquet in Sun Room.

### Thursday, January 18

8:00 to noon - Separate meetings: one in the Gallery and one in the Pioneer room.

A block of 20 rooms will be reserved at The Memorial Union until January 2, 2001. To make reservations call (515) 292-1111. This promises to be an exciting and informative meeting and one you won't want to miss. More details will be contained in the December issue of Lateral Lines.

### First and Last Call For Papers!

We are now accepting titles and abstracts for this year's Iowa AFS chapter meeting. As the schedule now stands we will **only have time to present 10 papers**. Anyone who wishes to speak at this meeting is urged to contact Don Kline as soon as possible. Even if you just have an idea now, please get in contact with Don so we can get you a place on the agenda. Don wishes to emphasize that we need research and management papers. We would like to cover the range from applied research to case histories. The general theme is "managing in the new millennium", so anything will work.

Titles and abstracts may be submitted via e-mail, fax, or on a floppy disk. Files on floppy may be ASCII, Word or WordPerfect file format. Abstracts, including author and title lines, should be no more than 250 words. **Titles and abstracts should be sent to Don Kline.** You may telephone (319) 694-2430 to discuss the meeting or titles and abstracts.

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## Lake Ahquabi Wins Sport Fish Restoration Project of the Year Award!

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Bureau has received national attention since it was announced earlier this year that the department won the **2000 Sport Fishery Development and Management Outstanding SFR Project of the Year Award** for its restoration work on Lake Ahquabi. The award, which is given out by the American Fisheries Society's Fisheries Administrator's Section, is a part of the annual SFR awards program which is "intended to both highlight the importance and effectiveness of the Sport Fish Restoration Program and recognize excellence in fisheries management."

Lake Ahquabi is a 125 acre lake located in Ahquabi State Park 5 miles south of Indianola in Warren county, Iowa. The lake had a long history of siltation and water quality degradation problems that could not be remedied by traditional approaches which "did not address the ultimate causes of the problem - poor land practices in the watershed."

The award announcement goes on to describe the project: "Starting in the 1990's the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Bureau began a holistic, ecosystem

approach to restore recreational use to Lake Ahquabi. Extensive public involvement and cooperation from other state and federal agencies was critical in developing a plan that addressed lake basin and watershed problems and targeted improving water quality, fish habitat and lake access.

...Improvements in recreational use, water quality and the fisheries were dramatic. By 1998 visitors at the the park had increased from 62,400 to 206,000 per year, angler trips increased from 5,250 to over 17,000 per year, standing stocks of gamefish increased from 185 to 579 pounds per acre, and angler catch rates rose to 2.3 fish per hour.

...Both the use of a holistic, watershed approach to lake restoration, and the use of SFR funding to leverage other nontraditional funding sources for a project that had such dramatic benefits for anglers make this project an **excellent example for lake restoration across the country.**"

Congratulations goes out to all of those involved with the Lake Ahquabi project, both for the success of the project and for receiving this prestigious award!



## Black Carp Issue: News Story Raises Questions About USFWS Leadership

*Like scary stories at Halloween? The following is taken from a news story which appeared in the St Louis Post-Dispatch on Monday October 9, 2000. Written by Bill Lambrecht of the Post-Dispatch Washington Bureau, the article raises some questions about how the director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife handled pressure from one senator speaking for one special interest group.*

...Worried about their waters, fisheries chiefs from Missouri and 25 other states in the Mississippi River basin petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service this year to declare the black carp "injurious wildlife." That designation would prevent its importation and transfer across state lines, and therefore go a long way to prevent its spread. The chiefs want to act before the black carp spreads from ponds into the Mississippi and other rivers.

But to fish farmers, the black carp is a beautiful species. The blackcarp devours snails that carry a deadly parasite known as yellow grub that afflicts farm ponds from Missouri south to Mississippi where catfish and other species are raised. Fish farmers are protesting the potential ban all the way to Washington, and those complaints already have resulted in a casualty: the federal coordinator for state fisheries in the Midwest.

In August, the Fish and Wildlife Service abolished the job of Jerry Rasmussen, a federal employee who has worked for a decade as the coordinator of the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resources Association. The organization consists of the state fisheries heads of 28 states, including Missouri and Illinois.

State fisheries chiefs are dismayed by the sudden departure of Rasmussen, a 25-year Fish and Wildlife employee who, by all accounts, has been extraordinarily helpful to Missouri and other states. Missouri fisheries administrator Norm Stucky said last week that Rasmussen's departure "is of great concern to us. He was an outstanding coordinator."

Officials at the Fish and Wildlife agency are tight-lipped about what happened to Rasmussen. But there's little question that he was removed because of his outspoken concerns about the black carp and his assistance to states making a case to ban it.

Rasmussen may have been prophetic when he wrote last spring in "River Crossings," the state resource association's newsletter, of the battle lines forming in the black carp battle.

"Those who support the use of black carp are busy lobbying their congressman. . . . Those who are opposed will have to do the same. Unfortunately, the former is driven by investments and profits and the latter by concern for public interest. The public interest usually doesn't win those battles." It's just a matter of

time, the fish biologists say, before the black carp escape from fish farms in Missouri and elsewhere...

**Pond owners' pressure.** Mike Freeze, co-owner of Keo Fish Farms, in Keo, Ark., raises (black carp) to sell. If you live in Arkansas, Mississippi or one of the states that has no restrictions, you can order fingerling black carp for about \$1.75 in bulk and foot-long fish for \$4.25.

Freeze, who also sits on the seven-member Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, has been a leader on behalf of fish farmers in fighting the proposed black carp ban.

"Our plea to Fish and Wildlife is don't take away the only tool we have to protect our farms and our livelihoods unless you give us another tool," he said. Freeze complained about the role of Rasmussen, the Fish and Wildlife employee. Those complaints led to a meeting July 24 in Washington on the issue that apparently sealed Rasmussen's fate.

The meeting, which took place in the office of Sen. Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark., included Fish and Wildlife director Jamie Clark, Freeze, and other Arkansans. At that meeting, according to one participant, Clark declared that Rasmussen would no longer be involved in the black carp issue.

Five days later, Rasmussen was told of that decision. In August, after complaining in e-mails about being muzzled, the Fish and Wildlife Service said that Rasmussen had a conflict of interest and removed him from heading the multistate fisheries group. He was reassigned elsewhere in the agency as a staff biologist.

Fish and Wildlife Service officials declined to discuss Rasmussen. One of the officials, Rick Schuldt, would say only that "this is a situation where we can easily put our employee in a very difficult ethical position."

Aides to Lincoln declined to comment, as did Rasmussen. Rasmussen of Bettendorf, Iowa, has been a key player and a popular figure along the Mississippi River. He was assigned to the White House to coordinate the federal response to the 1993 flood and he helped to devise his agency's environmental management program.

Jeff Ruch, executive director of the Washington-based, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, said that Fish and Wildlife Service "turned tail at the first sign of political pressure. . . . Their treatment of Jerry Rasmussen has cast a gauzy restraint over what employees can say."

**"Those who support the use of black carp are busy lobbying their congressman. . . . Those who are opposed will have to do the same. Unfortunately, the former is driven by investments and profits and the latter by concern for public interest. The public interest usually doesn't win those battles."**

**- Jerry Rasmussen**

1995 AFS President's Fishery Conservation Award Winner



# ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

Aside from the social entertainment, one of the most important events at our Iowa state chapter AFS meeting is our annual business meeting. Although this time is often penned in between a day of informative talks and an impending evening of good fun, our business meeting is when we put our money where our mouths are to discuss and vote on important issues. In order to maintain order, organizational meetings are structured around rules for parliamentary procedure. The most famous and most often referred to manual for meetings comes from Robert's Rules of Order originally published in 1876. These guidelines govern the means by which meetings are brought to order, motions are made, and issues are voted upon. The American Fisheries Society recommends that all state chapter meetings follow these guidelines. But what are they and why are they important? In a recent web search I came across some brief descriptions of Robert's Rules of order that may answer some of these questions.

## A SHORT HISTORY OF ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

Henry Martyn Robert was an engineering officer in the regular Army. Without warning he was asked to preside over a church meeting and realized that he did not know how. He tried anyway and his embarrassment was supreme. This event, which may seem familiar to many readers, left him determined never to attend another meeting until he knew something of parliamentary law.

Ultimately, he discovered and studied the few books then available on the subject. From time to time, due to his military duties, he was transferred to various parts of the United States where he found virtual parliamentary anarchy since each member from a different part of the country had differing ideas of correct procedure. To bring order out of chaos he decided to write Robert's Rules of Order as it came to be called.

The ninth, current, edition has been brought about through a process of keeping the book up to date with the growth of parliamentary procedure. All editions of the work issued after the death of the original author have been the work of persons who either knew and worked with the original author or knew and worked with persons who did.

To find out more about Robert's Rules of Order you can go to the web page [www.robertsrules.com](http://www.robertsrules.com)

## INTRODUCTION TO ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

*The information below was found on the Georgia Institute of Technology student webpage Cyberbuzz [www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu](http://www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu)*

### What Is Parliamentary Procedure?

It is a set of rules for conduct at meetings, that allows everyone to be heard and to make decisions without confusion.

### Why is Parliamentary Procedure Important?

Because it's a time tested method of conducting business at meetings and public gatherings. It can be adapted to fit the needs of any organization. Today, Robert's Rules of Order newly revised is the basic handbook of operation for most clubs, organizations and other groups. So it's important that everyone know these basic rules!

**Organizations using parliamentary procedure** usually follow a fixed order of business. Below is a typical example:

Call to order.  
Roll call of members present.  
Reading of minutes of last meeting.  
Officers reports.

Committee reports.

Special orders --- Important business previously designated for consideration at this meeting.

Unfinished business.

New business.

Announcements.

Adjournment.

**The method used by members to express themselves** is in the form of moving motions. A motion is a proposal that the entire membership take action or a stand on an issue. Individual members can:

Call to order.

Second motions.

Debate motions.

Vote on motions.

*Robert's Rules of Order continued on next page.*



## There are four Basic Types of Motions:

**Main Motions:** The purpose of a main motion is to introduce items to the membership for their consideration. They cannot be made when any other motion is on the floor, and yield to privileged, subsidiary, and incidental motions.

**Subsidiary Motions:** Their purpose is to change or affect how a main motion is handled, and is voted on before a main motion.

**Privileged Motions:** Their purpose is to bring up items that are urgent about special or important matters unrelated to pending business.

**Incidental Motions:** Their purpose is to provide a means of questioning procedure concerning other motions and must be considered before the other motion.

## Obtaining the floor

Wait until the last speaker has finished.

Rise and address the Chairman by saying, "Mr. Chairman, or Mr. President."

Wait until the Chairman recognizes you.

Make Your Motion

Speak in a clear and concise manner.

Always state a motion affirmatively. Say, "I move that we ..." rather than, "I move that we do not ...".

Avoid personalities and stay on your subject.

Wait for Someone to Second Your Motion

Another member will second your motion or the Chairman will call for a second.

If there is no second to your motion it is lost.

The Chairman States Your Motion

The Chairman will say, "it has been moved and seconded that we ..." Thus placing your motion before the membership for consideration and action.

The membership then either debates your motion, or may move directly to a vote.

Once your motion is presented to the membership by the chairman it becomes "assembly property", and cannot be changed by you without the consent of the members.

## Expanding on Your Motion

The time for you to speak in favor of your motion is at this point in time, rather than at the time you present it.

The mover is always allowed to speak first.

All comments and debate must be directed to the chairman.

Keep to the time limit for speaking that has been established.

The mover may speak again only after other speakers are finished, unless called upon by the Chairman.

## Putting the Question to the Membership

The Chairman asks, "Are you ready to vote on the question?"

If there is no more discussion, a vote is taken.

On a motion to move the previous question may be adapted.

## Voting on a Motion:

The method of vote on any motion depends on the situation and the by-laws of policy of your organization. There are five methods used to vote by most organizations, they are:

**By Voice --** The Chairman asks those in favor to say, "aye", those opposed to say "no". Any member may move for a exact count.

**By Roll Call --** Each member answers "yes" or "no" as his name is called. This method is used when a record of each person's vote is required.

**By General Consent --** When a motion is not likely to be opposed, the Chairman says, "if there is no objection ..." The membership shows agreement by their silence, however if one member says, "I object," the item must be put to a vote.

**By Division --** This is a slight verification of a voice vote. It does not require a count unless the chairman so desires. Members raise their hands or stand.

**By Ballot --** Members write their vote on a slip of paper, this method is used when secrecy is desired.

There are two other motions that are commonly used that relate to voting.

**Motion to Table --** This motion is often used in the attempt to "kill" a motion. The option is always present, however, to "take from the table", for reconsideration by the membership.

**Motion to Postpone Indefinitely --** This is often used as a means of parliamentary strategy and allows opponents of motion to test their strength without an actual vote being taken. Also, debate is once again open on the main motion.

**Parliamentary Procedure** is the best way to get things done at your meetings. But, it will only work if you use it properly.

Allow motions that are in order.

Have members obtain the floor properly.

Speak clearly and concisely.

Obey the rules of debate.

Most importantly, **BE COURTEOUS.**

## Identify the Endangered

Match the Iowa endangered fish species with its scientific name

Endangered Fish	Scientific Name
1 Lake Sturgeon	A. <i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>
2 Pallid Sturgeon	B. <i>Scaphirhynchus albus</i>
3 Pugnose Shiner	C. <i>Notropis anogenus</i>
4 Weed Shiner	D. <i>Notropis texanus</i>
5 Pearl Dace	E. <i>Semotilus margarita</i>
6 Freckled Madtom	F. <i>Noturus nocturnus</i>
7 Bluntnose Darter	G. <i>Etheostoma microperca</i>
8 Least Darter	H. <i>Etheostoma chlorosomum</i>
9 Topeka Shiner	I. <i>Notropis topeka</i>
10 Burbot (threatened)	J. <i>Lota lota</i>

Answers: 1 - a, 2 - b, 3 - c, 4 - d, 5 - e, 6 - f, 7 - h, 8 - g, 9 - i, 10 - j

1 correct - Let me guess, you got the Topeka Shiner right;  
2 - 3; Dangerous identifier 4 - 5 Knew your genus, guessed the species 6 - 7 Species specialist 8 - 9 Endangered expert;  
10 Stop reading this and go save those fish



## Brain Teasers

### Did You Know?

The swim bladder in bony fishes is a marvelous adaptation because it allows a fish to stay suspended in the water with no effort. It does have a major disadvantage, however, in that it greatly limits the ability of fish to move up and down in the water column because changes in pressure cause changes in swimbladder volume. Most bony fishes can only adjust the volume of their swimbladder slowly and can tolerate only about a 25 percent increase in swimbladder volume in a short period of time. For each 10 meters a fish swims upward, the gas in the swimbladder doubles in volume!

Taken from *Fish, An Enthusiast's Guide* by Peter B. Moyle



## Fishing Lines

A line must always be fastened securely to the inside of the spool. If you forget once and a fish strips the reel naked, you deserve several kicks. If you forget a second time, you are not worth kicking.

-Eric Taverner and John Moore  
"Thoughts" from *The Anglers Weekend Book* (1949)

I fish all the time when I'm at home; so when I get a chance to go on vacation, I make sure I get in plenty of fishing.

-Thomas McGuane  
"Fishing the Big Hole" *An Outside Chance* (1990)

More voters than anyone thinks would support a Worms-for-Angling ticket. There are worse political slogans.

-F.F. Van de Wate  
In Defense of Worms (1949)

Taken from *The Quotable Fisherman* compiled by Nick Lyons.

## SMART BASS!

Ever wonder which was the smartest species of game fish. Keith Jones of Outdoor Technologies Group did. He designed a study where fish scored "correct" answers by swimming away from a light which was followed by a mild electric shock. Keith describes measuring animal intelligence as "a lot like taunting your big sister - you never know when your measuring intelligence or disdain." Here's his results:

SPECIES	% CORRECT
Striped Bass	78
Channel Catfish	75
Bigmouth Buffalo	71
Common Carp	67
Spotted Bass	53
Largemouth Bass	45
Smallmouth Bass	44
Black Bullhead	42
Northern Pike	31
Bluegill	27
Yellow Perch	13

Taken from *The Daily Reporter*, Spencer Iowa, July 21, 2000. the original article by Keith Jones Research Biologist for OTG (Outdoor Technologies Group, a.k.a. Berkley, a.k.a. Pure Fishing) Special thanks goes to Jon Christiansen, Fisheries Technician at the Lake MacBride Station, for submitting this article to Lateral Lines.



## Meetings of Interest



Dec 3-6, 2000 - **62nd Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.** This meeting is scheduled to meet at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Minneapolis Minnesota. For registration and more information contact the conference website <http://midwest2000.fws.gov> for more information.

Dec 3-6, 2000 - **Walleye Management Symposium: Recruitment, Stocking and Regulations.** Sponsored by the Walleye Technical Committee of the North Central Division of the American Fisheries Society. Contact: Joe Larscheid, 712-336-1840 or Dave Lucchesi, 605-362-2716.

Jan 16-18, 2001 - **Iowa AFS Annual Meeting - Joint Meeting with Iowa TWS.** This year we meet with The Wildlife Society of Iowa at the Memorial Union in Ames, Iowa. See page 3 of this newsletter for additional information. For more information contact Don Kline 319-694-2430 or e-mail [Don.Kline@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:Don.Kline@dnr.state.ia.us)

Aug. 19-23, 2001 - **The 131th Annual Meeting of the AFS.** Crowne Plaza Hotel and Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, Arizona. Contact Betsy Fritz; AFS; 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 110; Bethesda, MD 20814-2199; 301/897-8616, ext. 212; FAX 301/897-8096; [bfritz@fisheries.org](mailto:bfritz@fisheries.org).

*The American Fisheries Society supports the conservation of North America's fisheries and aquatic ecosystems by promoting professional excellence in fisheries science, management, and education.*



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