



# LATERAL LINES

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As I set at the computer to prepare this message, I look out my window at a picture book winter scene. Large snow flakes are floating down. The birds are at the feeder to fill up as the next storm gets started. This is as good of time as any to think about our upcoming Iowa Chapter meeting.

We are having a joint meeting with The Wildlife Society and the theme is "Managing Fish and Wildlife in the new Millennium". A big part of my effort in the past few months has been planning the annual meeting. It started off with a brief outline and several emails to the rest of the Executive Committee. Past President, Dr. Robert Summerfelt made arrangements with Iowa State University so we have a place and time to meet. He used our connection with the students to get free meeting rooms at the Memorial Union. President Elect, Andrew Thompson and Secretary/Treasurer, Kevin Hanson have provided lots of help with their ideas and council.

We have six speakers for the Plenary Session. They will talk about some Iowa issues and get us thinking about our part in National issues.

There are 14 speakers on the Fisheries Sessions list for Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning. I found out that lining up these speakers would be the most difficult part of my effort. But with personnel contacts and help of others, we found interesting speakers. You will hear from university professors, graduate students, and IDNR personnel. You will get information about stream monitoring, walleye and sauger reproduction, riparian buffer strips, stream workshops, bluegill and hybrid culture, radio telemetry, Iowa nuisance species program, Big Sioux River catfish, long term data sets, fish renovation, and walleye culture. A peek into managing fish in the new millennium!

We will have poster presentations and there is still room for more of them. Let me know to get on the wall!

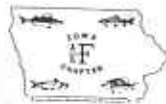
Please check out the agenda elsewhere in the newsletter. There is a block of rooms at the Memorial Union so get your reservation made. White elephant items will be needed for the social night on the 17th. Your attendance at the Iowa Chapter AFS annual meeting will make all this effort worthwhile. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

*Don Kline*

Iowa Chapter President

## INSIDE

President's Corner	Page 1
Raffle / Student Mentor	Page 2
AFS News - Meeting schedule	Page 3
Minutes of 2000 AFS Meeting	Page 4
2001 AFS Registration	Pages 5-6
Classic Brain Teasers	Page 7
Meetings of Interest	Page 8



## WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION/RAFFLE CALL FOR ACTION!



Once again, at the 2001 Joint AFS meeting with the Iowa chapter of The Wildlife Society we are going to have a white elephant auction along with a bucket raffle. As usual anything goes at this white elephant auction, but **lets try to find some better quality "junk" this year.** Items that have gone well in the past are homemade wines or salsa, prints, fishing equipment, fish puzzles, old books etc. There will be a bucket raffle where several quality items will be included per bucket. Paul Sleeper has graciously agreed to head up the drive for auction/raffle items. Through Paul's efforts and your support last year, we were able to raise almost \$800 for our chapter. This is a big money maker but in order to make it successful **we need your help!** We need you to part with some of your personal belongings and get a hold of your local contacts to get prizes. If you can't get a large item, just get anything you can and we will combine prizes for the bucket raffle. Please do your part and bring some prizes. If you have any questions give the Lake Macbride crew a call at 319-644-3615.

### **President's Student Mentor Initiative**

For many years discussion at chapter business meetings have at one time or another centered around how to **increase membership and get students more involved** in the American Fisheries Society. With this year's meeting situated on the Iowa State University campus, we have an opportunity to do just that.

Iowa chapter president Don Kline would like to start a mentoring group to get some 'one on one' contact between Iowa Chapter AFS members and interested students. This effort is designed to reach out to fisheries students and help them learn more about the fisheries profession. It will give them a personal contact to answer questions and introduce them to the profession. I have asked our Student Affairs Committee Chair **Ryan Lane** to contact students and alert them to this opportunity. We will match up students and mentors and hopefully get more students to come to the socials, business meeting, and presentations.

**You can commit as much or as little time as you like.**

The important thing is that you volunteer to make yourself available to answer questions, introduce students to colleagues, and provide leadership. If you are willing to serve as a mentor, please sign up at the registration desk or contact Don Kline.

### Newsletter of the Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Volume 17, Number 1

#### **Committee Chairpersons**

Audit .....	Greg Simmons
Membership .....	Robert Summerfelt
Resolutions.....	Marion Conover
REAP.....	Dick McWilliams
Continuing Education.....	Clay Pierce
Student Affairs .....	Ryan Lane
Nominations.....	Mark Flammang
Best Paper .....	Lannie Miller
Education .....	To be decided
Catfish 2000 .....	Tom Boland

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## 2001 Joint Meeting of the Iowa Chapter AFS and The Wildlife Society

Iowa State University Campus - Memorial Union - Ames, Iowa, January 16-18

*As if you weren't excited enough for our upcoming annual meeting, the following is the daily schedule and list of tentative speakers to get you motivated to register. A registration form appears on pages 5-6 of this newsletter.*

### Meeting Schedule:

#### Tuesday, January 16, 2001

Reception, 7:00-10:00 p.m. - Campanile Room, Drink and munchies provided.

Please come and register and socialize.

#### Wednesday, January 17, 2001

7:30-8:00 Registration - Outside of Gallery room

8:00-12:00 noon. Plenary session in Gallery Room.

12:00-1:20 p.m. Lunch break-on-your-own.

1:30-4:30 p.m. Fisheries Presentations - Gallery room.

4:30-5:30 p.m. AFS Business Meeting. Gallery room.

6:00-7:00 p.m. - Social. Beer and Cash bar - Sun Room

7:00-10:00 p.m. - Buffet dinner, social, auctions, raffles, fun. a

#### Thursday, January 18, 2001

8:00-12:00. Fisheries Presentations. Gallery

### Tentative Plenary Session speakers:

**Kevin Szcodronski** - Missouri and Mississippi River Issues

**Bill Clark** - 30 years of Pheasant Management.

**Dr. Joseph Taylor** - The Salmon Crisis: Lessons About

**Jim Zohrer** - CARA

**Dr. Mike Burkart** - Trends in Agricultural Nitrogen.

### Tentative Fisheries Session speakers:

On Wednesday and Thursday the Iowa chapter of the American Fisheries Society will meet on our own. We will have 14 speakers in fisheries (6 on Wednesday and 8 on Thursday). Here are the current 14 presenters and their subject.

**Tom Wilton** - IBI Stream Monitoring Project

**Jeremiah Heitke** - Index Biotic Integrity in Iowa

**Jeremy Duehr** - Bear Creek riparian buffer strips.

**Thomas Isenhardt** - Iowa Stream Workshop

**Joseph Morris** - Culture & Propagation bluegill and hybrids

**Gregory Gelwicks** - Better understanding of fish habitat associations in rivers using radio telemetry

**Joe Larscheid** - no title yet

**John Pitlo** - Walleye and Sauger reproduction Pool 13

**Chris Clouse** - Walleye culture in lined ponds

**Kim Bogenschutz** - Cara to Iowa Nuisance Species

**Dan Kirby** - Assessment of channel catfish populations in the Big Sioux River

**Scott Gritters** - Zebra mussels in the Mississippi

**Don Kline** - Mining the Gold in long term fish length & weight database

**Jim Wahl** - Ventura Marsh Renovation

## New Committee Members Announced

Did you notice anything different about this newsletter? If you are one of the many readers that races through the news to get to the Brain Teasers page...(well, forget it you wouldn't be reading this anyway). Some, however may have noticed that we have a new slate of names in the Committee Chairpersons list on page 2. Since these positions are volunteered and the chairperson can serve as long as they wish, it has been a long time since we've had a changing of the guard in committees. We would like to welcome the following new committee chairpersons: **Greg Simmons - Audit, Robert Summerfelt - Membership, Ryan Lane - Student Affairs, Best Paper - Lannie Miller.**

It is also time to recognize our outgoing chairpersons. Unfortunately, good deeds often go unrewarded. As was stated earlier, these positions are filled by volunteers who are willing to donate their time to help our state chapter. It's very important for us to take to thank **Mark Winn, Tom Boland, Mark Pegg, and Steve Waters** for their many years of service to the chapter.

## Continuing Education Coming Soon

Although final plans have not been made for the next continuing education course, I have a tentative commitment from Di Cook of the ISU Statistics Department to teach a course in early 2001 on "**Data Exploration**". It will be a hands-on experience using the XGobi computerized interactive data visualization program she helped develop. XGobi is freeware, and my grad students have found it very useful in helping them see patterns in their data. Analysis of data in applied fields such as fisheries is undergoing a revolution in approaches, fueled by the rapidly expanding capabilities of personal computers. This course will introduce participants to one of the many new approaches available today. For more information contact:

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Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Joint Meeting with Nebraska  
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting January 19, 2000 Ameristar Hotel, Council Bluffs

The annual business meeting was called to order by **President-Elect Don Kline** in the absence of President Bob Summerfelt. The meeting was attended by 58 members. Approval of the 1998 business meeting minutes was requested by president Kline. Tom Gengerke made a motion to accept the minutes, John Pitlo seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Financial Report** - Secretary/Treasurer Mike Steuck summarized the treasurers report and concluded a balance of \$6755.80 as of 30 December 1999. Income was a combination of chapter dues, meeting registration from last years annual meeting, interest from the checking account and the GIS continuing education class. The financial report was approved by the auditing committee of Mark Winn, Tom Boland, John Pitlo and Gene Jones. Tom Boland motioned to approve the treasurers report, seconded by John Pitlo and the motion carried unanimously.

#### Committee Reports

**Audit** - Tom Boland reported that he, John Pitlo, and Gene Jones were the auditing committee and found the 1997 - 1998 books to be in order.

**Continuing Education** - Clay Pierce reported that our chapter held a GIS course December 29th and 30th, 1999. The course was well received by the 22 members who attended and made some money for the chapter. Clay presented some possible future plans for continuing education: Stream hydrology; statistics class; potentially an advanced GIS course; and an introductory stream modeling course. Some members voiced positive interest. Clay reported that he will check on the possibilities and get back to the group.

**REAP** - Dick McWilliams encouraged all to attend assemblies to be held again this year. Vilsack has been very supportive and has asked for full funding of \$20 million but the congress is looking to change the allocations. Reap week is from Feb 28 to March 4, 2000. Kevin Szcondronski put together a REAP overview and Dick will send one to anyone interested.

**Membership** - Dick McWilliams spoke for Joe Morris who could not attend and reported that Joe produced a brochure with information about the Iowa Chapter AFS that the Chapter would distribute to prospective members. Mike Steuck noted that we had 54 members to date and said historically we have been around 60+ members. Discussion followed about how to increase membership and were there any other sources of membership

that we could tap. Steuck noted that they should be sent to university environmental programs. Steuck also noted that we will be able to email messages and that we have collected email addresses with the meeting registration. Don Kline noted that the national office contacted him about National AFS and how to stay in the Mainstream and that we should join the parent society because of the benefits it provides. Joe Morris showed up and brought the finished copies of the pamphlet and discussed printing cost (< 500 = 50 cents, > 500 = 25 cents/copy) Tom Boland made a motion to print a minimum of 500 (cost \$150) with edits, Dave Moeller seconded. Motion passed.

**Nominations** - Mark Flammang congratulated the newly elected officers President-Elect Don Kline and Secretary Treasurer Mike Steuck. Mark is seeking nominations at this time instead of frantically looking for nominations just before voting. Discussion followed about potential candidates. Please contact Mark with the names of qualified individuals before he contacts you.

**Education** - Tom Boland reported that the education committee has not been active. Don Kline recommended that there may not be a need for an education committee. Discussion followed and no motion was made.

**Student Affairs** - Committee Chair Mark Pegg did not attend. Mike Steuck noted that NCD student travel grant of \$100 recipient was Mark Pellam and one of the duties of receiving the award was to keep the chapter apprised of student affairs. Mike stated that the Secretary/Treasurer would mention this in the letter when he sends the check to the recipient.

**Resolutions** - Marion Conover reported he has a no resolutions.

**Best Paper** - Steve Waters presented the best paper award to Bill Kalishek for his talk on Evaluation of smallmouth bass on the No Kill stretch of the Maquoketa River.

**Old Business** - Don Kline introduced old business. The first item was to read the disbursement of donations to **IOWATER** projects. \$500 had been set aside, \$300 was donated to three projects: \$100 to Dubuque Wahlert S.A.V.E. program to monitor Catfish Creek, \$100 to S.A.I.L.O.R.S. (Save All Iowa Lakes, Oxbows, Rivers and Streams) for testing of volunteer water quality monitoring samples, and \$100 to the Flint Creek advisory committee/Des Moines County as an award for a logo design contest. Mike Steuck asked if the members thought this was a worthwhile effort to support

in the future. Don Bonneau added that **IOWATER** was no longer directly under Barb Gigar's control. It is now run by the Hygienics Lab in Iowa City under Rich Leopold. The new program has a new funding source of 100 - 150 K and may not need our assistance. Lannie Miller made a motion to keep a \$500 contingency fund in case we get any requests and that the EXCOM can decide how to distribute the money. Jim Christianson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Don Kline mentioned the **Dam Removal Symposium** at the Midwest Conference which the Iowa chapter had donated \$300 towards. Greg Gelwicks said that it was a very good symposium and Mike Steuck mentioned that the Iowa Chapter had been recognized for their contribution. Don Kline brought up **student involvement in AFS meetings** and the subject of free rooms at meetings. Mike Steuck said that we have had a continuing agreement that the chapter would provide a free room (two room maximum) for undergraduate students and possible reduced rate of registration. No motion was made and it was decided to continue this practice.

Next item was **Student participation awards**. Awards were to be given to Mark Pegg, Steve Clark, Mark Pelham and Hongsheng Liao. None were in attendance.

**Martin Konrad** thanked the chapter for donating prizes of a fishing rod and reel for the Sport Fish Restoration 50th Anniversary contest which appeared in the 2000 Iowa Fishing Regulations. Dick McWilliams made a motion to donate **\$150 to REAP**. Joe Morris seconded the motion and the motion passed. Dick then motioned to make a long standing commitment for future donations (up to \$150 providing the funds are available). To avoid continually voting for this, let the EXCOM decide to donate on a yearly basis. Motion passed unanimously. John Pitlo motioned to amend the first motion so that we would vote again in 5 years. Greg Gelwicks seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**New Business** - Don Kline asked if anyone was familiar with our commitment to the **Iowa Environmental Council**. Martin Konrad updated the group on the council. Saying that they have been very effective and continue to keep Martin informed. The ongoing sustainer membership for 1999 to the Iowa Environmental Council was \$100. No motion was made so it was decided to continue to donate \$100.

Don Kline mentioned a letter received asking to donate money to the **World Fisheries Congress Third Annual meeting** in China. No motion was made, donation was declined.

Don then brought up a request from the parent Society to donate \$250 to the publication **Transactions of the AFS** to get a backlog of 500 pages published. John Pitlo motioned to donate \$100, Greg Gelwicks seconded the motion. Discussion followed and count of hand vote was needed. The motion was denied by a count of 20 - 18.

Next Don brought up a request from James Dinsmore of Iowa State University to donate money to an **Invasive Species Symposium** to be held in Iowa. Tom Gengerke motioned to make the donation \$250. Marion Conover seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Marion Conover mentioned that Aquatic Nuisance Federal Task Force has approved Iowa's management plan to get federal money to assist with aquatic nuisance species. This can bring more than 185 K into Iowa for coordination and hiring Governor Vilsack supported the effort.

**Chapter meetings** for 2001 will be held in Ames. We already have a commitment for 2002 to have a joint meeting with Illinois. The North Central Division of AFS wants to have the 2004 NCD meeting along the Missouri River since it will mark the 200th anniversary of the Lewis & Clark expedition.

**Chapter dues** were discussed by Don Kline as to whether we should change the 5\$ membership. Mike Steuck said we are sitting at an all time high balance in the treasury. It was decided not to change the fee.

Steve Waters asked if the Iowa chapter should award a **best poster presentation** award along with the best paper award. Discussion followed and it was decided to leave the decision up to the Best Paper Committee to be decided on a year by year basis.

**Past President Award** - The Past President Award was given to Dick McWilliams.

Paul also mentioned that an appreciation award was given to Jack Neuzil for making the wooden fish puzzle that have made a lot of money for the chapter. Paul urged the chapter to bring more and better raffle/auction items in the future.

**Meeting Adjournment** - A motion was made by Marion Conover to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Mark Flammang. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

## Evolutionary Exam

Match the geological period with it's approximate date in time

Geological Period	Millions of years ago
1 Silurian	A. 15
2 Jurassic	B. 60
3 Carboniferous	C. 100
4 Permian	D. 175
5 Tertiary	E. 230
6 Triassic	F. 270
7 Cretaceous	G. 325
8 Quarternary	H. 390
9 Devonian	I. 430
10 Ordovician	J. 475

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

1 correct - extinct; 2 - 3 doesn't believe in evolution; 4 - 5 stuck in the dark ages; 6 - 7 OLD timer; 8 - 9 saw Jurassic Park 100 times ; 10 Evolutionary expert



## Brain Teasers

### Did You Know?

What's the most numerous fish in the world? It may well be the Bristlemouths (Gonostomatidae), fish that few people have ever seen. Bristlemouths are distantly related to salmonids, having an adipose fin. They have large mouths with spiky teeth and fine gill rakers; this allows them to capture a wide size range of prey, although they feed mainly on zooplankton. Bristlemouths are tiny (less than 5 centimeters), deep sea fishes and are so abundant in areas that the sonar beams of submarines may reflect off of their swimbladders, creating the impression that the bottom is much closer than it really is. This phenomenon, which baffled early oceanographers for many years, is known as the deep scattering layer.

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



## Fishing Lines

The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of something that is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope.

-John Buchan (1875 - 1940)

Calling fishing a hobby is like calling brain surgery a job.

-Paul Schullery  
*Mountain Time* (1984)

Fishing consists of a series of misadventures interspersed by occasional moments of glory.

-Howard Marshall  
*Reflections on a River* (1967)

I still don't now why I fish or why other men fish, except that we like it and it makes us think and feel.

-Roderick L Haig-Brown  
*A River Never Sleeps* (1946)

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

## Ice Fishing Tips

Here's a few tips taken from *Freshwater Fishing Tips & Techniques* by Gene Kugach that might make your ice fishing more successful and enjoyable this winter.

**Bait** - Make sure your bait is fresh and lively. Change it as often as necessary; most baits lose their scent and wiggle after 20 minutes.

**Mobility** - One secret to catching fish through the ice is mobility. As a rule, don't spend a lot of time in one given location. If the fish aren't biting, keep moving until you find active fish. Moving is important in making consistent catches.

**Line Icing** - To reduce line icing, run your line through a cloth saturated with mineral oil.

**Warm, dry hands** - Thin latex gloves like those used in hospitals can be used as waterproof glove liners to keep hands warmer. The gloves allow flexibility when baiting, tying on or removing hooks, and handling fish and wet lines.

**Safety** - If you fall through the ice, don't panic. Instead of trying to pull yourself out, try swimming out. By swimming your body will rise up allowing you to get onto firm ice. Keep a pair of small ice picks or screwdrivers in your pockets to help you get a grip on the ice.



## Meetings of Interest



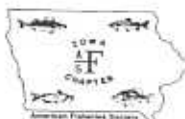
Jan 16-18, 2001 - **Iowa AFS Annual Meeting - Joint Meeting with Iowa TWS.** This year we meet with The Wildlife Society of Iowa at the Memorial Union in Ames, Iowa. See page 3 of this newsletter for additional information. For more information contact Don Kline 319-694-2430 or e-mail [Don.Kline@dnr.state.ia.us](mailto:Don.Kline@dnr.state.ia.us)

Mar 16-20, 2001 - **North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference.** Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC. Contact Richard McCabe, 202/371-1808.

Jul 8-13, 2001 - **4th International Symposium on Sturgeon.** Park Plaza International Hotel and Convention Center, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Contact [bruchr@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:bruchr@dnr.state.wi.us). Visit website at <http://www.sturgeonsymposium.org>.

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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