

LATERAL LINES

VOLUME 23, No. 1 JULY 2005

PRESIDENTS CORNER—DANIEL KIRBY

Warm summer days send farmers into the hayfields, neighbors into air-conditioned homes, and anglers into the garage in search of catfishing tackle. The summer also marks a time when many contemplate outdoor activities—family vacations, summer jobs, fishing trips, baseball, and barbecues.

Summer is also a good time to consider career goals and professional involvement. This aspect of your life is where the American Fisheries Society can be an important resource. I have been a member of the Iowa Chapter of the AFS since 1997 and a member of the parent society since 2000. This a short period of time, but in that time what AFS means to me and what AFS does for me has evolved. For students the AFS provides a means for networking with fisheries professionals, an educational resource, and an employment opportunity resource. For fisheries professionals the AFS provides a means for staying current with new research and management tools, a source of continuing education, and a link between academic and “in the field” professionals and students.

Scott Gritters made “ACTIVE” the theme of his term as IA-

AFS president. I can’t honestly proclaim that I have a theme, but rather hope that each chapter member takes full advantage of membership in AFS. In the upcoming year, stay involved as much as possible and build on past initiatives. My priorities for the rest of my term are the following: 1) revision of our chapter bylaws to accommodate the ISU Student Subunit, 2) development of IA-AFS web pages, 3) fundraising through a statewide raffle, and 4) increased involvement from chapter members.

I have chosen to end with a summertime fishing story. It was late July and I was twelve years old. My dad dropped my friend Mike and I off at Bailey’s Ford Park south of Manchester for some carp fishing on the Maquoketa River. We had no bait, so we used Mike’s Dad’s fillet knife to carve chunks of dirt from the bank of the river and crushed up the dirt clods to acquire small “red worms”. Mike was armed with decent fishing equipment because his dad made annual fishing trips to northern Minnesota, but my dad worked too hard to fish and therefore I had an old Zebco™ 202 on a glass rod. This particular reel had a quirk I was familiar with in that the cast stopped dead at about 100

ft due to a combination of old kinked-up monofilament and rusty reel guts. We both crammed small worms on to big hooks and casted-out the best we could—Mike to near the far bank and I to 100 ft. Within a few minutes I detected a light bite, set the hook, and reeled in a 16-inch brown trout. This was a big prize for two young carp-fisherman. I proceeded to catch four more trout from the same exact spot (I know it was the same spot due to the kinked line and rusty reel guts). Mike tried to duplicate my precision casting, but was unsuccessful due to his fancy equipment. By the time Dad picked us up I was suffering from severe gastrointestinal discomfort, brought on by overindulgence on breaded mushrooms fried in grease prior to the fishing trip (still can’t eat them to this day). Dad gave us both a ride home and I went immediately to doing hog chores humped-over from mushrooms. Halfway through chores I got violently ill and expelled the malicious mushrooms. That was a great day.

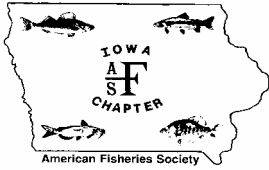
SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *New Life for Summerfelt*
- *Ill effects of too many mushrooms.*

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Don’t forget to cast your vote for President elect and Secretary/ treasurer See email attachments



NEWSLETTER OF THE IOWA CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
VOLUME 23, NUMBER 1

CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Dan Kirby
Iowa DNR/LTRM Station
206 Rose Street
Bellevue, IA 52101
563/872-5495; FAX 563/872-5456
e-mail daniel.kirby@dnr.state.ia.us

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Donna Hannen Muhm
Iowa DNR/ Spirit Lake
122 252nd Avenue
Spirit Lake, IA 51360
712/336-1840; FAX 712/336-0921
e-mail Donna.Muhm@dnr.state.ia.us

SECRETARY-TREASURER
Mike Hawkins
Iowa DNR/ Spirit Lake
122 252nd Avenue
Spirit Lake, IA 51360
712/336-1840; FAX 712/336-0921
e-mail Michael.Hawkins@dnr.state.ia.us

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Mike Steuck
Iowa DNR/LTRM Station
206 Rose Street
Bellevue, IA 52101
563/872-5495; FAX 563/872-5456
email Michael.Steuck@dnr.state.ia.us

COMMITTEE CHARIPERSONS

Audit Mark Winn
MembershipMike Steuck
Resolutions.....Mike McGee
REAP.....Dick McWilliams
Continuing Education....Clay Pierce
Student AffairsRobert Summerfelt
Nominations.....Gary Seigwarth
Best PaperLannie Miller

CHAPTER NEWS—WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN 2005.

A continuing education course was held in Ames, Iowa on January 28, 2005. The course provided an overview and hands-on experience with The Iowa Rivers Information System (IRIS) and The Iowa Aquatic Gap Analysis Project (IAGAP). These web-based products were developed jointly by Iowa State University and the Iowa Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit for fisheries and natural resources in Iowa.

A joint meeting was held with the Iowa Chapter of the TWS in Ames, Iowa on February 1-2, 2005. The meeting focused on wildlife diversity and landscape management topics in the State of Iowa. About 165 people attended and included IA AFS Chapter members, IA TWS Chapter members, Iowa State University Faculty, and Iowa State University Students. The chapter made a moderate financial profit from the meeting (approximately \$200, not including chapter dues paid at the meeting). The Iowa Chapter cur-

rently has 74 paid members in 2005.

The Iowa Chapter provided \$500 in chapter funds to be used by the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee (UMRCC) for purchase of equipment necessary to conduct a study of shovelnose sturgeon population dynamics in the Upper Mississippi River.

The Iowa Chapter has “adopted” a cove in the soon to be completed Lost Grove Lake in southeast Iowa. The chapter has submitted a habitat plan and will join nine other local organizations (e.g., QC Bass Club, Gander Mountain, Davenport Izaak Walton League), on work day(s) during the summer of 2005 for installing habitat features (e.g., artificial reefs, stake beds) in the lake basin.

The Iowa Chapter has been working with students from Iowa State University that wish to form a student sub-unit of the Iowa AFS Chapter. At the Chapters’ annual meeting, the Chapter membership

voted to support the students in this endeavor and a committee was formed to begin the process of revising Chapter by-laws to accommodate the proposed student sub-unit. The chapter provided the student sub-unit with a \$50 donation to be used for purchasing a raffle prize. The student sub-unit has developed a website (www.stuorg.iastate.edu/isu-afs), and has offered to host IA Chapter pages.

A statewide raffle is planned for the summer of 2005 as a fundraiser. A gambling permit for the raffle has been obtained from the Iowa Department of Inspection and Appeals. A raffle item will be purchased (most likely a muzzleloader) and chapter members will be asked to sell tickets. More information about the fundraiser will be coming soon. The current president is good at spending money, so get out there and sell those raffle tickets for Iowa’s fish and fish resources.

ISU-AFS Student Subunit President's Annual Report

—David Rowe

On November 16, 2004, students of Iowa State University established the Iowa State University Student Subunit of the American Fisheries Society. Currently the subunit has a membership of nineteen active members and four affiliate members. We elected four officers: David Rowe President, Andy Jansen President-elect, Nick Ahrens Treasurer, and Chris Steffen Secretary. Dr. Joe Morris has been very supportive and helpful as our faculty advisor.

At the 2005 annual meeting of the Iowa Chapter members voted to accept the ISU-AFS Student Subunit; an amendment to the Iowa Chapter bylaws to officially recognize the ISU-Subunit was initiated. After the Iowa Chapter amends their bylaws the final official hurdle will be passed when the Governing Board of AFS recognizes the ISU Student Subunit.

The objectives of the subunit are to facilitate the development of fisheries students into professionals, create an information exchange between students and fisheries professionals in Iowa, and encourage community outreach and educational activities in fisheries.



From Left to Right: Chris Steffen-Secretary, Andy Jansen-President-elect, Nick Ahrens-Treasurer, David Rowe-President.

In the past year we have had great participation from our membership; members worked hard to establish activities and connections within the University and the local community.

We have established a partnership with the Squaw Creek Watershed Coalition to conduct annual electrofishing surveys of Squaw Creek and its tributaries. In September, subunit members and volunteers from the Squaw Creek Watershed Coalition will survey 5 to 6 different stream reaches in the watershed, count and identify to species all fish captured and calculate Index of Biotic Integrity scores, to assess the biological condition of Squaw Creek. The ISU-AFS Subunit will manage a long term database and the Squaw Creek Watershed Coalition will use the data to compliment their existing IOWA-TER citizen monitoring data. This will be an excellent opportunity for subunit members to gain experience performing stream electrofishing surveys and to work with a local community organization.

In February the subunit hosted a FISH IOWA! certification workshop in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife

Biology Club. Dianne Modlin of Ballard High School and Ben Schlater of the Pocahontas County Conservation Board donated their time and were excellent facilitators for the workshop. Over 25 students participated and many good ideas for a future kids fishing clinic were discussed. We are in the process of planning and procuring the necessary equipment for a clinic to be held at a local lake in the spring of 2006.

At the 2005 Natural Resource Ecology and Management departmental awards banquet the subunit held a fund raising raffle. The subunit raised over \$500 in ticket sales, thanks to the generous donations from the Iowa Chapter of AFS,



Trout Unlimited-North Bear Chapter, Scott Fly Rod, Pure Fishing, Sportsman's Warehouse, and Scheels All Sports.

Last but not least, we have started a web page! Please visit us at www.stuorg.iastate.edu/isu-afs. In the upcoming weeks the page will have significant work done to expand and upgrade the content.

Jansen Awarded Iowa Chapter AFS Award

The 2005 recipient of the American Fisheries Society's Iowa Chapter Award is Andrew Jansen. Andy is a junior from Dubuque, Iowa. He attended Northeast Iowa Community College at Peosta for two years before enrolling in the Fisheries and Aquatic Science option as an Animal Ecology major at Iowa State in the fall of 2003.



Pictured: Robert Summerfelt (left) and Andrew Jansen (right)

Since arriving at ISU, Andy has been involved in the NREM Learning Community, the Fisheries and Wildlife Biology club and is president-elect of the newly formed ISU Student Subunit of the Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. This spring, he helped to coordinate a Fish Iowa! instruction program for fellow students.

He has worked for the Iowa Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit as a summer aide with Dr. Clay Pierce and his graduate students.

His experience included everything from microscopic identification of benthic macroinvertebrates in stream sediments to electrofishing for minnows, and learning how to use GIS and radio telemetry for fisheries research.

Not surprisingly, Andy's future plans include completing his undergraduate degree at ISU and then pursuing a MS in fisheries with the goal of becoming a fisheries biologist in the Midwest. *Submitted by Robert Summerfelt*

New life party for ISU Professor



The Iowa State University Natural Resource Ecology and Management Department honored the many years of service of Dr. Robert Summerfelt at a "New life party" at the Riemann Gardens in Ames, Iowa. "New life" refers to Bob's renewed focus on leisurely pursuits in the coming years while keeping a toe in the waters of academia.

In attendance were Bobs entire of family "school" along with NREM faculty/staff and some IADNR staff. Bob regaled the audience with tales of carp fishing as a young lad in Chicago and career synopsis. NREM colleagues and some DNR staff presented Bob with a sunfish print to commemorate the occasion (pictured above, with Joe Morris). A stainless steel wall-eye sculpture was also presented to Bob.

Bob plans to continue working on projects at ISU for about a year before transferring to a home office. He and his wife Deanne plan to stay in Ames and travel in their free time.

REAP Update

At the recent REAP Alliance meeting the attached social-economic 'fact' sheet was distributed - and should be distributed to the membership. A little background - there wasn't a good measure of the economic impact of some of the types of recreation/natural resource conservation in Iowa. Last year the Alliance was involved in some meeting with various groups to try to bring existing information together to see what was available and what might be needed to in order to derive some measure of the economic impact. This report is the result, and I think it really shows that in fact very positive social/economic benefit to the investments in REAP and the various programs around the state. This is also available on the REAP web-page (or will be shortly). Good points to bring up when visiting with folks about the program.

I've also included an older but good Q&A sheet. Gives a quick overview of REAP.

No news at this time on possible budget requests and probably won't know much until sometime in February. *Submitted by Dick McWilliams*

See also Attachment REAP Economic Impacts III

REAP -- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is REAP – and what do the initials stand for?

REAP stands for Resource Enhancement and Protection for Iowa. The REAP program was established by the Iowa Legislature in 1989. It is designed to provide funds for the preservation and protection of Iowa's natural, cultural, and environmental treasures. The legislature originally approved funding REAP at the level of \$30 million yearly for ten years. The authorization was later amended to \$20 million yearly until 2021. To-date, REAP has never been fully funded at the authorized level.

How is REAP funded?

REAP is funded in part by gambling revenue and a portion of the receipts from the sale of the natural resources auto license plate (the Gold Finch and Wild Rose). In addition, any interest earned on REAP funds before grants are made remains in the program.

How are REAP funds distributed?

Funds are distributed to four state agencies—these agencies then pass the funds on to their respective programs. Depending on the program, funds are distributed by allocation and/or a competitive grant process. Agencies, which receive funds, include the Departments of Agriculture and Land Stewardship; Cultural Affairs; Natural Resources; and Transportation.

Does all of Iowa benefit from REAP?

REAP funds are distributed to all of Iowa's 99 counties and 100 soil and water conservation districts through direct allocations. Many counties, cities and historical organizations win competitive grants. These projects are key to accomplishing REAP's mission to preserve and protect Iowa's natural, cultural, and environmental treasures.

How are property taxes paid on land purchased by the DNR with REAP funds?

When the Department of Natural Resources purchases land with REAP funds, that land stays on the county's property tax rolls. Property taxes on these lands are paid with money from the REAP Open Spaces account.

Is full funding justified?

Every year many grant applications are submitted, but a large portion of these grants are not awarded due to lack of funds. Applications are judged and scored on their own merit based on established criteria—not in comparison with other applications.