

IOWA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

November 1, 2009

LATERAL LINES

PRESIDENT'S CORNER—Bryan Hayes

It's that time of year again when we put away our nets and winterize the electrofishing boats or settle into classes after mid-terms. We get a chance to reflect back on the past summer and look to what lies ahead this winter.

The focus of the news all summer centered on a struggling economy and unemployment. The news from Iowa this fall is of a projected shortfall in state tax revenue and revised budget plans.

With budget shortfalls come travel restrictions and hiring delays. Tri-state meetings that were once held in exotic places like Council Bluffs or Prairie du Chien have now been replaced by shortened in-state meetings to cut expenses.

The Iowa Chapter of AFS has not been immune to all of this. Gone for now are the \$6,000 and \$7,000 dollar balances we enjoyed in the late 90's and early '00. (see treasurer's report page 14). As a result the EXCOM pulled back the reins on fisheries grants for the time being and talked fund raising during the summer meeting.

Our chapter is going to need the support from the membership to restore the check book balance to a comfortable level which allows us

to assist with fisheries projects in the state. Contributions to the REAP Alliance, ISU scholarship, and the Iowa Environmental Council are all worthy endeavors that the Iowa Chapter has been involved with for many years.

The meeting with the The Wildlife Society (TWS) in Ames last winter went over so well that we should do it again. Let's finish what we started. The only other option available is a chapter business meeting at the fisheries statewide. We are working towards a January 20 and 21st meeting in Ames so mark your calendars.

It will be important to get a good turn out at our meeting. We have a very active student chapter at ISU lead by Rebecca Burch and they are glad to have us back in Ames and always willing to assist. They have already started to collect raffle items and they are taking orders for ISU AFS apparel. Make sure you show your support to them. Let me know if you have any fund raising ideas or raffle items.

Finally, consider joining the parent society if you are not already a member. It does help strengthen our local chapter and it is important to our professionalism. I want

to welcome Andy Fowler-President elect to the EXCOM and we all owe a thank you to Past President-Alan Johnson for his guidance and leadership. Kim Hawkins will again carry most of the weight as Secretary/Treasurer; thanks Kim.

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Newsletter of the Iowa Chapter
of the American Fisheries Society
Volume 27, Number 1

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AuditBen Dodd
MembershipAlan Johnson
Resolutions.....Don Herrig
REAP.....Ben Dodd
Continuing Education.....Clay Pierce
Student AffairsMike Quist
Nominations.....Donna Muhm
REAP.....Ben Dodd
Best PaperKim Hawkins

2009-2010 Iowa Chapter AFS Election Results

President-Elect: Andy Fowler:

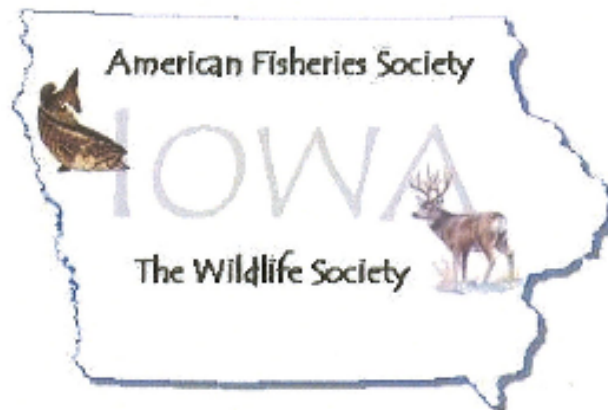
I am a native of rural Maquoketa, IA and have a B.S. and M.S. in Fisheries Biology from Iowa State University. I began my fisheries career in Dodgeville, WI working for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as a limited term fisheries technician in 1999 while I was attending college at the University of Wisconsin – Platteville. After two years at UWP, I transferred to ISU, where I worked in Joe Morris's lab assisting with the lab's ongoing research. In January of 2002, I joined the National Student Exchange Program and attended classes for a semester at the University of Alaska – Fairbanks. It is here that I first began my association with the AFS by joining the student chapter at UAF. After a summer of working with the United States Geological Survey, Yukon River Drainage Fisherman's Association, and the University of Alaska – Fairbanks, I came back to finish my last semester at ISU. While I loved working in Alaska's environment, I knew I really belonged to the rivers, 'cricks', lakes, ponds, prairies, forests, farm fields, and pastures of our beautiful Iowa. Thus, I returned to Iowa and ISU to complete a master's degree looking at the effects of increased fishing exploitation on Ada Hayden Park Lake in Ames. After graduation I worked for the University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory as a Limnologist for two years before I began my current position as a Fisheries Technician with the Iowa DNR at the Chariton Research Station. Away from work, my wife, Lisa, and I enjoy: camping, hiking, fishing, hunting, and gardening. I also enjoy returning home and helping my dad continue to farm the family farm. I have participated in many levels of the AFS. I have been an Iowa AFS Chapter and parent chapter member since 2002. I have had past membership in two student chapters and have presented research at various AFS meetings. I currently co-chair the Communications Committee and serve as the webpage editor for the North Central Division of the AFS. I also currently serve as the Iowa representative on the Esocid Technical Committee of the NCD-AFS. I have enjoyed and do enjoy these various roles with the AFS and look forward to getting even more involved as an officer.



CALL FOR PAPERS

2010 AFS/TWS JOINT MEETING

January 20-21, 2010



Natural resource professionals in Iowa will meet to share new research, management experiences, and valuable insight on fish and wildlife issues.

Whether it's managing troubled areas, growing bigger fish, or presenting new research, we are interested! Come share your results, connect with other experts, meet students, and even find extra hands for your projects!

DEADLINES:

TITLE: DECEMBER 20TH

ABSTRACT: JANUARY 8TH

PRESENTATION: JANUARY 15TH

SEND TO: bryan.hayes@dnr.iowa.gov

Fell free to send ideas in early!



2009 CONTINUING EDUCATION WORKSHOP

ISU and Iowa Coop Unit Host Continuing Education Workshop

On July 28 and 29, 2009, ISU and the Iowa Coop Unit hosted a day-and-a-half continuing education workshop for the Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society titled, "Routine Fisheries Analysis using the R Program". The workshop, taught by ISU Ph.D. student Mike Colvin and organized by ISU/Coop Unit faculty member Clay Pierce, served 16 fisheries professionals from around the state. R is a freely available software program for statistical data analysis and publication-quality graphics, and its popularity is increasing rapidly. The workshop combined lectures, computer demonstrations, and hands-on computation to introduce participants to R and a variety of R applications in fisheries and aquatic science.



AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS:

BEST PROFESSIONAL PAPER: Mike Quist. Effects of Riparian Buffers on Instream Habitat, Fish Assemblage, and Growth Rates of Fishes in Iowa Streams.

BEST STUDENT PAPER: Jesse Fishcher. Preliminary Comparisons of Methods to Sample Fish in Iowa Lakes and Impoundments.

BEST POSTER: Matt Mork and Scott Bisping. Population Characteristics of Black Bullhead in Iowa's Natural Lakes.

2008 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Jim Wahl congratulates Tom Gengerke for receiving the North Central Division Meritorious Service Award



Iowa Chapter President Alan Johnson congratulates Past President Mike Hawkins for his excellent work during his tenure as 2008 Iowa Chapter President



Iowa Chapter President Alan Johnson congratulates Mike Quist for receiving the 2008 Best Professional Paper Award





ISU Fisheries Students Hard at Work

Sub-Unit President Rebecca Burch

Fall is an exciting time for the Iowa State University Student Subunit. Bolstered by a host of new and energetic members, the Subunit is planning several events and projects for the upcoming semester. The Subunit continues to emphasize professional development for its members, involvement at other levels of AFS, and the importance of public outreach.

During the month of October, we are continuing our annual electrofishing project in collaboration with the Squaw Creek Watershed Coalition. This event gives new members a chance to practice one of the most commonly-used sampling methods and to meet some senior members. This year we are hosting a local high school class during the sampling event, and they will have the opportunity to see the fish we catch. We are also sending a record number of volunteers to help night electrofish for walleye on the Mississippi River. Many of the volunteers are new members who are unfamiliar with the Guttenberg and Bellevue Fisheries Management Stations, so this is a great chance for them to meet fisheries professionals in Iowa.

We have also been developing a "Fish! Day" elementary educational program in collaboration with the National Association for Interpretation ISU Chapter. The program uses interactive techniques to teach about basic aquatic ecology, fish biology, and fish identification. We are presenting a mini-version to a Cub Scout pack in October, and the full program will be offered at local elementary schools next spring. This focus on education is also reflected in our "Fishes of Iowa" poster project, which we have been working on since last spring.

Lastly, we look forward to sending members to the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, the Iowa Chapter meeting, and the Midwest Fisheries Student Colloquium throughout the next few months. We hope to encourage members to become more involved in AFS, and we are very excited about the events planned for the upcoming year!

For more information on the activities of the ISU Student Subunit, visit our newly redesigned website at <http://www.stuorg.iastate.edu/isu-afs/>. If you have a project for which you need volunteers, if you want to tell us about your research, or if you have any questions, please contact the President at afssubunit@gmail.com.

ISU AFS Sweatshirts for Sale!

Price \$35

Sizes Available: S – 4XL

(Additional Cost for Sizes Beyond XL)

Available in Athletic Heather, Black, Brown, Navy, Red, and Royal



Order online: <http://www.stuorg.iastate.edu/isu-afs/>



2009-2010 ISU Sub-Unit Election Results

President: Rebecca Burch, afssubunit@gmail.com

President-elect: Chris Smith, cdsmith@iastate.edu

Secretary: Nick Johnson, nickyj04@iastate.edu

Treasurer: Collin Hinz, cjhinz@iastate.edu



The Subunit's first "Fish Day!" educational program was offered to a Cub Scout den in October.
(Shown: Josh Bruegge)

Jake Miller (left) and Kirk Hansen (right) shocking walleye in Pool 13 on the Mississippi River.



Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Business Meeting
January 27, 2009
Ames, Ia

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Alan Johnson. Alan Johnson presented the meeting agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Joe Larschied and seconded by Donna Muhm. Motion passed unanimously. Alan Johnson introduced Bryan Hayes; president elect, Kim Hawkins; secretary/treasurer, and the student subunit in attendance. In attendance were 80 chapter members. President Johnson also introduced the retired fisheries employees in attendance – Marion Conover, Tom Gengerke, and Don Bonneau.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasure's report was given by Kim Hawkins. The chapter started the year (12/31/37) with a balance of \$5552.51. The past years disbursements equaled \$5858.67 and receipts equaled \$5634.08. Currently the Iowa Chapter has a balance of \$5327.92 with a outstanding bills for raffle items (\$275 rifle). Activity on the account included REAP Alliance dues \$150, \$500 Fisheries Grant to Travis Neebling, IA AFS student scholarship to Matt Mork \$500, and Continuing Education award to Jesse Fishcer \$100. Receipts came mainly from dues, and raffles collected at the Tri-State Meeting with the Dakota Chapters in Sioux Falls, SD. Discussion ensued about donating to the Iowa Conservation Alliance (ICA) – Jeff Kopaska questioned why – Johnson explained ICA promotes sustainable funding as well as other common interests AFS has. Kopaska motioned to add a \$100 annual donation to ICA and remove our \$100 annual donation to Iowa Environmental council. Dan Kirby and Mike Steuck motioned to keep both. Marion Conover also supported keeping both, there is benefits to both councils. The motion to keep the Iowa Environmental council donation and add an annual \$100 donation for the Iowa Conservation Alliance was seconded and approved to be put on the 2010 proposed budget. Mike Steuck asked where the Paddlefish Publication was on the budget, it was approved for the 2009 budget, therefore was not added to the 2010, but will be paid within this year. Clay Pierce motioned to approve the 2010 proposed budget as amended, Mike Mason seconded. Budget was approved.

GRANTS

The grant applications are due July 1st. One has been received by Dray Walter. To keep in budget, fewer grants might be approved this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit: Ben Dodd. Ben was not present, Kim Hawkins reported. The books have been reviewed and Ben signed the financial report.

Resolutions committee: Don Herrig. Don reported the Missouri River Resolution was written by Bryan Hayes and Chris Larson.

REAP Committee: Ben Dodd. Ben was not present.

Continuing Education Committee: Clay Pierce. Clay presented information of past and future education efforts. Clay handed out a survey for people to fill out to come up with more ideas. Options for classed in 2009



include a refresher course on Iowa Fish I.D., Identification of Iowa Aquatic Invertebrates, Identification of Iowa Aquatic Plants, Simulation Modeling for Fisheries Management, and Use of “R” for Fisheries Managers and Researchers.

Nominations: Donna Muhm. Donna introduced the new Secretary/Treasurer: Kim Hawkins, President: Alan Johnson, and President-elect: Bryan Hayes. She will soon be asking people to step up for presidency. Kim Hawkins has agreed to stay on as Sec/Treasurer for as long as needed.

Best Paper: Kim Hawkins. Kim announced the 2008 winners: Mike Quist – Best Professional Presentation; Jeff Koch – Best Student Presentation; and Jeff Koch – best Student Poster. The 2009 Best Student Presentation & Poster will be announced at the end of the meeting on Wednesday.

Student Affairs: Mike Quist. 2008 Awards:

Iowa Chapter AFS Student Scholarship Award: Matt Mork
 Joan Duffy Travel Award: Travis Neebling
 Kenneth Carlander Memorial Scholarship: Jeff Koch
 Carlander-Vasey Scholarship: Rebecca Burch
 Janice Fenske Memorial Award: Finalist and winner Travis Neebling
 J.N. "Ding" Darling Scholarship: Travis Neebling and Valerie Hentges
 Best Student Presentation--69th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference: Travis Neebling

Mike Quist motioned to increase the Joan Duffy Travel award to \$200. NCD is now willing to match up to \$200. Tom Gengerke second the motion. Mike Steuck was concerned it was too much money for one student – could it be split between two? Leave the amount up to the discretion of the Student Affairs (Mike Quist) to administer. Motion passed unanimously.

Student Subunit: Travis Neebling. Also in attendance was President-elect Rebecca Burch, and Secretary Matt Mork

The subunit has been having a lot of clinics this year including SquaCreek fish sampling, walleye shocking, social-community outreach, CPR certification, Ice fishing clinics and a fly fishing workshop.

Program Committee Bryan Hayes. Possible 2010 meeting sites: Honey Creek, Statewide, or at the same place as this year in Ames. Many people liked this venue and a lot of students can then attend.

Technical Committee Reports

Centrarchid Technical Committee Lewis Bruce. There is \$886 in account. They are actively seeking a chair. The summer meeting was joint with walleye and escocid technical committees. There will be a genetics workshop in mid-July

Ictalurid Technical Committee Dan Kirby. Iowa is well represented on this committee. Catfish 2010 – pos-



sibly a new symposium book. Conover had promised \$1000 of DNR funds before retirement. Catfish 2010 Conference will be June 19-22 in St. Louis. Kirby motioned for the AFS to fund \$500 for conference Steuck seconded. Motion passed.

Esocid Technical Committee Andy Fowler. Andy did not attend meeting in spring with the walleye committee but will be attending the winter meeting. Pike Symposium is for sale at NCD website or send \$ to Randy Schultz (\$60) Next meeting might be joined with walleye/escocids/centrarchids. Discussion about a new website where anglers can enter muskie info.

Rivers and Streams Technical Committee Greg Gelwicks. Spring meeting was in Rock Island. Attendance was 50 people from 7 states. Luther Atlan spoke on spring restoration in Minnesota. They have a fish habitat action plan and are focusing on stream restoration and fish responses as well as non-fish response to stream restoration. Some other projects focus on flooding and how it effects restoration projects. They are looking for presentations.

Salmonid Technical Committee Bill Kalishek. There is no longer a salmonid technical committee.

NCD Randy Schultz. Randy presented info about the NCD and how it can help our chapter.

Awards:

Tom Gengerke was presented the Meritorious Service Award – given by Jim Wahl.

Best Paper/Poster announced earlier in meeting – recipients were recognized.

Old Business. No old business.

New Business.

ICA wants a letter of support. Alan needs to work with resolutions chair to write one up.

Mike McGhee announced the North American Lake Management Society is looking for more fisheries based professionals to get involved. They are a systems approach organization and all fisheries professionals should consider becoming a member.

Adjourn.

Mike Mason motioned to adjourn, Randy Schultz seconded. Passed unanimously.



Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society EXCOM Meeting**January 27, 2009****Buford's Ames, IA**

Members attending were President Alan Johnson, President Elect Bryan Hayes, Past President Mike Hawkins, Secretary/Treasurer Kim Hawkins, Student Subunit President Travis Neebling, and Student Liaison Mike Quist.

Budget:

Balance on 10/31/08: \$ 5552.51

Past year's disbursements: \$5858.67

Past year's receipts: \$5634.08

Current balance: **\$5327.92**

Outstanding bills:

\$275 – Rifle for raffle

Catfish Meeting - \$500

Fisheries Employment Books - \$200 – Mike Quist took off budget

Heritage foundation is asking for a membership renewal \$100 minimum. Discussion tabled to be voted on at chapter meeting.

Paddle Fish Book – they are almost done but haven't asked for it.

Grant Requests:

Discussions:

Paid Travis Neebling's \$500 grant in December 2008. – He has purchased the gear.

We need to look into defining the criteria for grants so that they can be ranked.

We might need to cut grant awards due to budget crunches – will be left to excom's discretion.

We have not yet awarded \$1000 worth of grants:

2008 grant applications:

Dan Kirby – Turkey River (\$500)

2009 Grant applications awarded:

Paddlefish publication (\$500)

2009 grant request by Dray Walter – tabled until we receive more requests



1/27/2009 EXCOM Minutes Continued

Old Business:

no old business

New Business:

Discussions:

2010 meeting – Probably instate b/c of budget problems

Possible sites/participants

Minnesota/Dakotas?

Small meeting instate – just AFS or with TWS again

AFS/Statewide combination – 1 day AFS/1 day statewide

Would have to discuss this with supervisors

Continuing Ed for 2009 – need to start thinking about it. It brings in income for AFS to support all other expenses (scholarship, grants, etc.)

Preparation for business meeting – none

Mike Mason has asked for a support letter for sustainable funding from AFS – Alan will work with resolutions chair to start the process.



Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society EXCOM Meeting
September 25, 2009
Science II, ISU Campus Ames, IA

Members attending were President Bryan Hayes, President Elect Andy Fowler, Past President Alan Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer Kim Hawkins, and Student Subunit President Rebecca Burch.

Finance Report:

Balance on 9/25/2009: \$ 4537.08

Past year's disbursements: \$7205.58

Past year's receipts: \$11,742.66

Current balance: **\$4537.08**

Outstanding bills:

\$100 Iowa Environment council

\$ 470 ISU subunit (1/2 of 2009 raffle income)

\$ 500 Paddle Fish Book – they are almost done but still haven't asked for the money.

\$ 200 – 2009 Joan Duffy award

Balance after grants/awards are paid: \$3267.08

Discussion:

The AFS account is low. Last's year's meeting cost ~\$4000.00. We need to follow the proposed budget for 2010 accepted at the business meeting to stay ahead. A profit of \$1400 (including raffle) needs to be made to pay for awards/scholarships/donations. If there is a continuing education class in 2009, we need to make a profit of \$500.

Alan Johnson motioned to approve budget, Andy seconded motion. Passed unanimous.

Grant Requests:

Two grant applications have been submitted:

Dray Walter: \$500 – materials to build fish habitat

Kirk Hanson: \$457.95 – 5000 tags (4 year supply) for sturgeon spawning project

Discussion:

The AFS account is low. We need to conserve if we can.

Suggest to Dray that the county try for a fish habitat grant to get the supplies.

Sturgeon: find out if it is possible to purchase half the tags for now.

Vote: table both grant applications until 2010 EXCOM meeting when we know if our budget can take on grants.

Bryan will contact both Dray and Kirk to let them know the EXCOM's decision.

Bryan motioned to table the grants, Alan seconded motion. Passed unanimous.



9/25/2009 EXCOM Minutes Continued

New Business:

Discussions:

Dues: Due to the responsibility of over \$1400 a year of awards and scholarships the Iowa AFS hands out and up to \$1000 in grants, we might need to increase the dues. We will look at what other states request and go from there.

If there is no meeting, no money is made to support these obligations. Dues alone (~\$800/year) are not enough to cover it.

Should we be contacting other schools to increase our membership?

Talk to Theresa Shay and Dan Kirby – they have met with smaller schools to recruit students for summer jobs, they might know if there is any interest.

* Must be brought up at business meeting – Excom proposes it increase from \$10 to \$15

Students dues: we have 2 students as members – possibly offer a student deal - \$10 to be a member of the student chapter, another \$5 to be included in the state chapter.—Must be voted on at business meeting.

2010 meeting –instate b/c of budget problems

Possible sites/participants

- ♦ Small meeting instate – partner up with TWS again
- ♦ Probably at Ames
- ♦ 1 ½ days (1 overnight) meeting like 2009
- ♦ Possible topics for joint session:

*Contentious Issues in Fisheries and Wildlife

*Getting our Message Out

Student Sub-unit report: Rebecca Burch

The student sub-unit has been very busy this fall. Events include:

Sample Squaw Creek in October with the high school and cub scouts

Helped shock walleyes on the Mississippi River

Designing four posters about door-width in size. They are "Ponds and Lakes," "Warmwater Streams," "Coolwater Streams," and a combination "Non-natives and Species of Greatest Conservation Need".

They have also designed a new website : <http://www.stuorg.iastate.edu/isu-afs/>

Iowa AFS website: has not been updated for a while; Rebecca offered to update and run it.

Newsletter:

Things to add to the newsletter:

“R” workshop article

Announce Andy as president-elect

Start new regional article in next newsletter.

Alan motioned to adjourn. Rebecca seconded. Passed unanimous.



Application form

Fisheries Project Grant

Iowa Chapter – American Fisheries Society

Project Name: _____

Project Description: _____

Attach map or supplementary information

Project Location:

Water Body: _____

Address: _____

_____ County: _____

Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Project Personnel: _____

Fisheries Benefits: _____

Iowa Chapter Representative: _____

Amount needed: \$ _____ Total project cost: \$ _____

Money will be used for: _____

Up to \$1,000.00 per project.

Approved by Excom Committee Date: _____



The Iowa Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is offering to help finance worthwhile fisheries related projects. The completed application form needs to be transferred to the Iowa Chapter President by an Iowa Chapter Member.

Project Name – Give the project name.

Project Description – Give a brief review of the intended project. Include the work to be done, the methods and material that will be used in the project.

Attach a map and any supplementary information that you think will help the Excom Committee evaluate the project.

Project Location – Where will the work be done.

Start and End dates for the project. Month and calendar year will do.

Project Personnel – Include organizations and or individuals who will be directly involved in the work.

Fisheries Benefits – A very important part of the project should be direct benefits to Iowa's fishery. How does the project help and who is the beneficiary?

Iowa Chapter Representative – All projects need to have an Iowa Chapter member as a sponsor.

Amount needed – Tell us how much you need and the total project cost.

Money will be used for – Be as specific as you can. Will the money be used to hire people, buy, equipment, be seed money for a grant, etc.

There is a \$1,000.00 limit for each project.

The Excom Committee of the Iowa Chapter will review the application and approve or reject the request.

