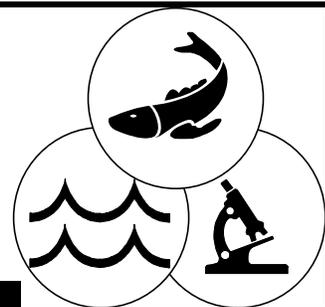


Fish Health Newsletter

Fish Health Section/American Fisheries Society



October 2000

Volume 28, Issue 4

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am honored that the Section has selected me as President, and I look forward to serving the Section in the upcoming term. A main vision/goal that I have is to expand our membership with professionals dealing with all aspects of fish and shellfish health, and to expand our student participation. Our Section is strongly represented by academics and government employees involved in fish health problems in wild stocks and public hatcheries, but I believe is under-represented by those (particularly veterinarians) working with private aquaculture. Aquaculture is growing at a rapid rate, particularly on a global basis, and many researchers and clinicians are working in this field that are not members of our Section. Therefore, a specific goal of mine is to increase our membership with these individuals.

Most members of the Section deal with infectious agents of fish, and thus I see that there is an under-representation in our Section by researchers using fish as models or bioindicators of pollution (e.g., fish toxicologists and fish cancer researchers). Again, I would like to find ways to encourage these researchers to join our ranks. With increased interest in the effects of anthropogenic compounds on the immune system of fishes (and thus susceptibility to infectious agents), much can be shared between researchers working in aquatic toxicology and aquatic pathogenic microbiology.

The annual meeting of our Section held in Pensacola, Florida sponsored in part by the E.P.A, was a good start with this endeavor. There were several fish toxicology papers presented at the meeting, and we should encourage the membership and active participation by these researchers in our Section. In fact, I believe the Pensacola meeting clearly reflected the breath of fish health interests in North America. There were several papers on subjects that have been traditional cores for the Section; infectious diseases of salmonids and catfish. In addition, there were several papers on diseases in wild fishes (i.e., mycobacteriosis of striped bass), and a section (5 papers) on fish oncology and toxicology. The fishes involved in the studies also encompassed a broad species range; warm water, cold water, wild, food fish culture, and fish models for research, and even a couple papers on invertebrate diseases. To finish off the meeting, a well-attended workshop on oyster diseases was taught by Drs. Ralph Elston and Rob Adlard. This demonstrates our Section's interests in diseases of aquatic invertebrates, and we should encourage those from this discipline to join. Expanding our membership to better represent all disciplines of fish health will not only help our financial situation, but will increase our strength as we relate to the parent Society, and

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AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL FISH HEALTH SECTION MEETING

Neither howling wind nor pouring rain deterred the presentation of our annual awards. The following members were honored at the banquet for their service and dedication to the FHS. Congratulations and Thank You for a job well done!

Certificate of Appreciation:

Dr. Ray Brunson and Shirley Stroh of the USFWS- Olympia Fish Health Center for their outstanding efforts in assisting with the FHS Newsletter.

Dr. Chris Wilson from Utah Wildlife Research for his outstanding efforts as Newsletter co-editor and FHS webmaster. Chris single-handedly designed our FHS website.

Dr. Joy Evered of the USFWS, in Olympia WA for her outstanding efforts in the organization of the CE workshop A Judicious Use of Antimicrobial Compounds in Aquaculture@.

S.F. Snieszko Student Travel Award:

Eileen N. Ryce. Eileen is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Montana State University in Bozeman. Her presentation was entitled A The Effect of Initial Exposure to *Myxobolus cerebralis* on the Development of Resistance to Reinfection in Rainbow Trout@.

Special Achievement Award: Outstanding Service and Leadership to the FHS

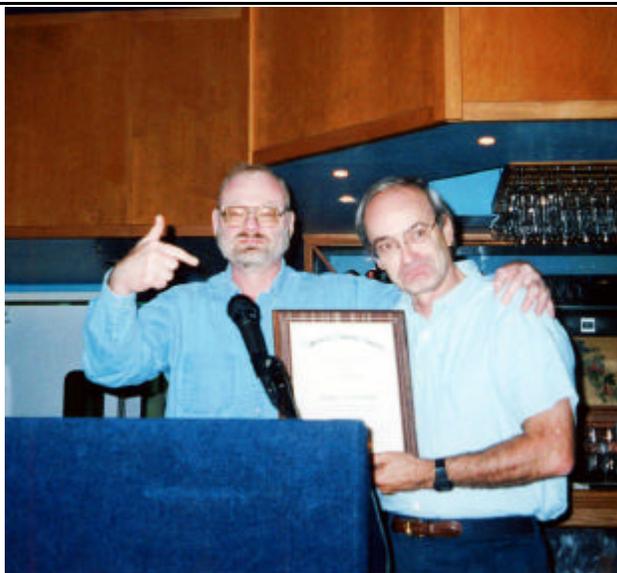
Dr. Scott La Patra was the recipient of the Special Achievement Award for the leadership he provided during his 2 year presidency of the FHS. In addition, Scott was active in educating and encouraging professionals in veterinary medicine about fish health and the FHS. Scott served as Vice-Chair of the U.S. Animal Health Association Aquaculture Committee, served as a member of the Aquaculture and Seafood Advisory Committee (ad hoc committee of the AVMA), and he continues to be our FHS representative at the AAVLD/USAHA. Dr. La Patra also received a new award presented for the first time at this year's meeting, the ABig Mouth Billy Bass@award for his outspoken zeal in the promotion of the FHS. Thanks, Scott for your dedication and commitment to our profession.



S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award: Excellence in Career Contributions and Accomplishments in the Field of Fish Health

Dr. James R. Winton was presented with the S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding career accomplishments in the field of fish health. Jim, often referred to as AMr. Rhabdovirus@, is perhaps best known for his research in IPN virus of which he has published over 30 papers. He has also made important contributions to

our knowledge and understanding of reoviruses in fish, and most recently, VHS virus in wild marine fish populations. Jim's expertise is not limited to viruses, while at the National Fisheries Research Center, Dr. Winton was involved in several areas of research including cloning and sequencing the gene coding for the major soluble antigen of causing disease in fish infected with BKD. Jim was, for 6 years, a member of the Fish Disease Commission at the Office of International Epizootics (OIE), the World Organization for Animal Health, which sets the standards for health conditions applying to international trade in aquatic animals. Dr. Winton is a past-president of the FHS and, has over the years, served on numerous FHS committees. **Congratulations** Jim! As members of the fish health community, we respect and appreciate your scientific achievements and service to the Fish Health Section.



Best Student Paper Award

This year for the first time a Best Student Paper Award was judged at the FHS Annual Meeting at Pensacola Beach, FL. Four judges, with no conflicts of interest – such as students presenting papers, judged each student presentation based on the presentation itself and the importance and quality of the research presented. It was a very difficult choice as there were many excellent presentations. There was a tie for first place and it was decided awards would be presented to both of the following students.

Scott Snyder, USDA/ARS Aquaculture Systems Research Unit, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Pine Bluff, AR, received the award for his presentation entitled "Recent Incidents of Algal Toxicosis in Channel Catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*)". Scott is a Master's candidate under Dr. Donald Freeman. His thesis title is "The Negative Effects of Cyanobacteria and Selected Cyanobacteria Toxins on Channel Catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*)".

David Geter, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Institute of Marine Sciences, The University of Southern Mississippi, Ocean Springs, MS, received the award for his presentation entitled "*P*-Nitrophenol Metabolism by Japanese Medaka (*Oryzias latipes*) Liver Microsomes and S-9 Fraction: Additional Evidence for the Existence of a CYP2E1-Like Isoform in Teleost". Dave is a Doctoral candidate under Dr. William Hawkins. His dissertation title is "Comparison of Toxic, Biochemical and Carcinogenic Properties of 3-Chloro-4-(dichloromethyl)-5-hydroxy-2[5H]-furanone (MX), a Drinking Water Carcinogen, With a Model Carcinogen, Methylazoxymethanol (MAM) in the Japanese Medaka, *Oryzias latipes*".

Each winner was awarded \$50.00 and a membership to AFS and the FHS.

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most important will increase opportunities for cross fertilization between related disciplines. I look forward to hearing suggestions on ways that we can accomplish this goal of increasing our membership by these groups.

Other initiatives, which were started before my term began, include preparation of a description of official recommended diagnostic tests in the form of an appendix for the Blue Book, which is being prepared by Drs. Warren Groberg and John Plumb, and the QA/QC program lead by Joe Marcino. Also, we are working with the Professional Standards Committee on revisions to the Fish Health Inspectors certification, in particular reference to veterinarians. Along these lines, Drs. Scott LaPatra and Myron Kebus have agreed to lead an ad-hoc committee on veterinary issues.

Continuing Education workshops held in conjunction with our annual or regional meetings have been great successes. Views from recent business meetings reiterated support for these functions, and it was felt that we should find mechanisms to provide these workshops in other venues (e.g., in conjunction with other society meetings). This would certainly increase exposure of the Section and would probably result in new membership. Please pass your ideas on to Craig Olson, Chair of Continuing Education, or me.

Thank you all for your support, and I look forward to working with you over the next 9 months.

Michael Kent
2 Oct 2000

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF AQUATIC ANIMAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

A new society, The International Society of Aquatic Animal Epidemiology (ISAAE), supporting aquatic animal health was recently established at the recent International Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics meeting held in Breckenridge, Colorado. The new organization supports the training and professional development of epidemiologists interested in aquatic animal species. The society is dedicated to the exchange of information, and the development of cooperative research, problem solving and training initiatives that aid the efforts of aquatic animal epidemiologists to preserve the health of aquatic animal populations.

There are no dues, and we welcome the participation of anyone interested. Please contact Jay Levine if you are interested in joining ISAAE.

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E-mail: Jay_Levine@ncsu.edu

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**Educational Opportunities**

The University of Florida is offering an intensive two-week course, "Diagnosis and Treatment of Warmwater Fish Diseases." This class is designed to provide instruction in the methodology of diagnosis and treatment of parasitic, fungal, bacterial, viral, nutritional and environmental diseases of warmwater food fish and aquarium species.

When	May 14-25, 2001
Where:	Tropical Aquaculture Laboratory, Ruskin, Florida (May 14-18, 2001) The Whitney Laboratory, St. Augustine, Florida (May 19-25, 2001) Transportation provided from Ruskin to St. Augustine
Sponsors	University of Florida, College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, The Whitney Laboratory, and Tropical Aquaculture Laboratory; Sea World of Florida; The Florida Aquarium, Segrest Farms; All Florida Veterinary Laboratory
Topics	Water quality, freshwater and marine systems; fish necropsy procedures, bacterial, viral, fungal, parasitic and environmental diseases of fish; treatment protocols; nutrition; preventative medicine; anesthetic and surgical protocols
Cost	\$800.00 U.S. (\$850.00 after April 1, 2001)
CEUs:	Participants may earn up to 20 hours of Continuing Education Units by attending this course.
Contact:	Dr. Ruth Francis-Floyd, Dept. of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, University of Florida, 7922 NW 71 st St., Gainesville, FL 32653. Telephone: (352) 392-9617 ext 229 FAX: (352) 846-1088 E-mail: rff@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu Website: http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/~conferweb/

EMPLOYMENT**ASSOCIATE FISH PATHOLOGIST - California Department of Fish and Game**

Salary Range \$3926 to \$4732 per month (current 9-15-00)

Application for Examination Filing Date: November 10, 2000 (early applications will be accepted).

Application Closing Date: December 8, 2000.

Duties: Responsible for disease diagnosis and health management at state and private hatcheries; designing and conducting research on diseases of fish and shellfish, including new therapies, epidemiological evaluations, etc.; investigating the causes of fish and shellfish diseases in wild populations. For a full description of position duties and minimum qualifications see <http://www.dpa.ca.gov/textdocs/specs/s0/s0840.txt>.

Examination: Examinations are tentatively scheduled for mid January, 2001.

Successful applicants will be placed on a roster of eligible candidates for the position.

Contact: For additional information please contact Dr. Bill Cox, phone 916-358-2827, e-mail wtcov@dfg.ca.gov.

Notes from FHS EXCOM Meeting/Pensacola Florida

Tuesday Sept. 5- Bev Dixon opened the meeting and the following items of business were discussed:

Travel reimbursement forms for Excom members

Membership status – 399 members – full members - 274 domestic and 74 foreign (we receive \$15 for domestic and \$20 for international); affiliate members – 21 domestic, 8 international (we receive \$15 for domestic and \$20 for international); students – 25 (we receive \$7)

AFS proposes changes in the student membership category to extend to 6 yrs instead of 3; also a promotional membership at 1/2 cost for 1 yr only.

Blue Book – AFS has agreed to print and will mail to members who send in a SASE.

Problem on contacting purchasers is up to us to solve. We can announce the availability in the newsletter and website.

Journal – the tiered phasing out of page charges has not taken place as scheduled and this is going to be discussed with Victor Van Beuren who will receive the report of the Publications Advisory Committee and copies of the minutes approving this decrease in charges.

Meeting registration – AFS has reduced meeting registration fees for retired persons. We discussed a tiered registration for future meetings to include reduced rates for non-members and for students/retired members

Promotions – the traveling poster is complete and will be shipped to Ana. As members attend various meetings we wish to recruit from, the poster will be shipped to them and they will receive a \$100 recruitment incentive.

Certification addendum to the Blue Book – John Plumb is willing to work on the inspection section for the warmwater fishes, but has expressed reservations about inclusion of PCR protocols. It was agreed that he should proceed and members of the Excom will work with him.

Technical Procedures (Whirling Disease Protocols) bulletin – a new committee needs to be formed to review this document and AFS will handle the publishing.

Wednesday Sept. 6- Bev Dixon opened the meeting and the following items of business were discussed

Archives – Yolanda will compile lists of previous officers. In addition it will need to be decided where all the documents will be stored

Funding for Rosalie Schnick – approved \$1,000

New Inspector status – An affiliate FHS member, Fred Rommel reported on the current state and associated problems for veterinarians performing fish inspections. A summary of that discussion is that currently all exported animals must go through USDA certified animal veterinary labs for certifications required by that country (of export). There is no overlying authority to accredit veterinary labs beyond the AAVLD. Ana suggested that we need to have someone lobby for us to take the lead in certification so that biologists/pathologists as well as veterinarians are qualified to perform certifications. Fred suggested that an aquaculture veterinarian status be formed. There was discussion about advertising our CE classes to USDA/Veterinary associations. However, Scott's involvement has resulted in little cooperation or interest from those sectors. It was decided that the FHI status be changed rather than creation of a new category. These changes will include addition of the veterinary degree with some experience in fish health (either as part of the education, CE courses or experience). There should also be revision of the FHP status in regards to CE credit requirements. Trish will rewrite both of these categories and forward to the Excom for

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comment, then they will be sent to the membership for vote.

New Orleans – the meeting will be held from Sun. Sept. 1, 2002 thru Thurs. Rates are guaranteed through the weekend.

Thursday Sept. 7- Bev Dixon opened the meeting and the following items of business were discussed

EPA – Scott reported on the Effluents Task Force for development of guidelines. Scott is the leader on the pathogen subgroup. Other members are Don Lightner, Bruce Stewart, Mark Strom, Paul Waterstrat, David Weiss, Ray Brunson and Bev Dixon. The report includes a literature review and recommendations to EPA to have a goal of pathogen control rather than treatment of effluent; however, it is acknowledged that the biological significance of pathogens in effluents is not known. Ron Thune suggested that this is an important issue and should be considered in the FHS's long term strategy. The question arose if it is time for the FHS to become an advocate for research needs in that these research recommendations should be identified in the report to EPA.

USAHA/AAVLD - Scott will draw up a resolution that is a distillation of the EPA recommendations and the Excom voted that he proceed

Blue Book – a question has arisen from Colorado regarding amendments of procedures in the Blue Book – specifically that splitting heads for examination for *M. cerebralis* resulted in reduced sensitivity and that PCR should be required for *R. salmoninarum* detection. It was decided that we need to request scientific support for proposing changes and that this needs to be addressed by the technical procedures committee. Warren may also want to consider these issues for the inspection manual. AFS relations – there was some discussion on how to obtain services we need from AFS. Some areas that were identified include use of AFS staff to help coordinate CE courses and support for student travel to the international symposium.

Business meeting – Bev Dixon opened the meeting

President's report – Bev reported on the passing of George Klontz and the dedication of the western meeting to his memory. The AFS mid-term and governing board meeting were attended and the new AFS mission was described, with the strategic plan including 1) information transfer, 2) member services and 3) aquatic stewardship. Our section was the first specialty section and remains one of the largest; however, our student involvement remains low. We do lead the way in information transfer with our newsletter, web page, CE courses, certifications, journal and symposia.

Committee reports were presented

Other business and from the floor

Suggests for improving the JAAH were that it needs to be cited in Medline. It recently became part of Current Contents.

Blue Book revisions were announced and there will be notice that previous purchasers should send in SASE for updates. There was discussion of how these should be cited so that the dates would reflect the current additions – this could be done by citing the title and date of the chapter rather than Thoeson.

Scott reported on the EPA Task Force

Archives – Emmett Shotts and Drew Mitchell are aware of historical items that should be preserved and it was suggested that these might belong in the Fish Culture Hall of Fame.

26th ANNUAL EASTERN FISH HEALTH WORKSHOP SHEPHERDSTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA, 23 - 26 APRIL 2001

The National Fish Health Research Laboratory announces the 26th Annual Eastern Fish Health Workshop from 23 - 26 of April 2001, and we are extremely proud to host this meeting in our own backyard at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in historic Shepherdstown. Registration will begin on Monday, 23 April from 4:00 - 7:00 pm, and will be followed by three full day sessions, 24, 25, and 26 April.

PLEASE NOTE: Not only will there be a complete session on the final day (Thursday, 26 April) but that evening will also feature our Banquet with a presidential visit that is bound to be both historical and hysterical.

Sessions will include oral presentations of research studies and clinical reports as well as workshops on current trends and issues in fish health.

- Edwardsiella ictalurii: a review (Drew Mitchell - chair)
- Lobster health and disease (Gretchen Messick, chair)
- New and Emergent diseases: regulatory hurdles to management (Paul Bowser - chair)
- Immunogenetics and the development of disease resistant fish (Steve Kaattari - chair)

Featured International Guest Speakers:

- Professor Ronald J. Roberts, Institute of Aquaculture, University of Sterling - Scotland
- Professor Willem B. vanMuiswinkel, Cell Biology and Immunology, Wageningen University - The Netherlands

Lodging accommodations must be made with **The Clarion Hotel and Conference Center** at (304) 876-7000. The Clarion is a new hotel with excellent meeting facilities, rooms and a great tavern! Check-in time is 4 pm and check out time is noon. The Inn has graciously provided us with the government per diem rate of \$65.00 + tax/night for either single or double occupancy, which is well below the usual conference rate. Should the government rate change between now and the conference, it would not do so by more than a few dollars. A block of 45 rooms has been reserved for the conference. Reservations must be made with the Clarion before 1 March 2001. The Clarion Hotel is also associated with the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM). All rooms that are not booked by 1 March will revert back to the use of OPM. Therefore, please do not let this deadline pass without making your room reservations. The Days Inn and Bavarian Inn in Shepherdstown and the Comfort Inn in Kearneysville could be used as overflow sites. However, room rates will not be less expensive than the Clarion. Visit the Clarion at www.clarion-shep.com or review the sites and attractions that abound throughout this historic and picturesque area at www.intrepid.net/~austin/where.htm.

A \$110.00 registration fee (U.S. currency equivalent) includes workshop proceedings, refreshments at breaks, three complete buffet breakfasts (no continental breakfasts this year), three complete luncheons, and the banquet on Thursday night.

Please make checks payable to the "Eastern Fish Health Workshop c/o Rocco Cipriano" and return payment with your completed registration form by 1 March 2001. Contracts for food services necessitate a late registration fee of \$130.00 if mailed after 1 March 2001.

For additional information, contact:

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National Fish Health Research Laboratory
1700 Leetown Road, Kearneysville, WV 25430
P: 304/724-4432
F: 304/724-4435
E: rocco_cipriano@usgs.gov

The combined **Western Fish Disease Meeting and the AFS/Fish Health Section Meeting** will be held in Victoria, British Columbia on **June 26-28, 2001** at the Laurel Point Inn.

The 7th Annual Whirling Disease Symposium
"A DECADE OF DISCOVERY"

February 8 and 9, 2001

Cavanaugh's Olympus Hotel
Salt Lake City, Utah

Please share your expertise and latest findings at the annual symposium on whirling disease. The symposium will include seven sessions:

Session I: **Distribution and Dissemination**

Session II. **Parasite Research**

Session III: **Oligochaete Research**

Session IV: **Salmonid Research**

Session V. **Ecology**

Session VI. **Diagnostic Methods**

Session VII. **Management and Control**

Most researchers will present papers during the oral presentation sessions. Those wishing to present their work as a poster may do so at the Thursday evening poster session.

NEW RELEASE FROM AFS:

Rotenone Use in Fisheries Management:
Administrative and Technical Guidelines Manual

Brian J. Finlayson, Rosalie A. Schnick, Richard L. Cailteux, Leo DeMong,
William D. Horton, William McClay, Charles W. Thompson, and Gregory J. Tichacek
212 pages

Published by American Fisheries Society

Publication date: June 2000

Stock #550.32; ISBN 1-888569-22-0

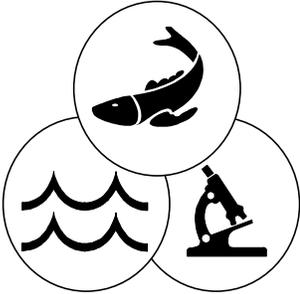
This new manual promotes the continued safe and effective use of rotenone as a piscicide and sampling tool. It makes specific recommendations for the administrative and technical procedures for rotenone applications that will ensure its continued availability as a valuable fish management tool. In a well-organized format, it outlines step by step procedures for planning and executing a treatment project and for addressing public health and safety issues and environmental concerns identified by fish biologists in a survey conducted by the authors of this manual. Sections include:

- * Introduction (overview and history of rotenone use in fisheries management)
- * Administrative Procedures
- * Technical Procedures
- * Project Assessment
- * Issues and Responses

This book is intended for: educators, managers, public relations personnel, rotenone project supervisors and all others concerned with the safe use of rotenone in fisheries management.

Fish Health Section Newsletter
American Fisheries Society
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Deadline for next issue:
December 31, 2000

Fish Health Newsletter

Fish Health Newsletter - Editorial Policy

The *Fish Health Newsletter* is a quarterly publication of the Fish Health Section of the American Fisheries Society. Submissions on any topic of interest to fish health specialists and preliminary case reports are encouraged with the understanding that material is not peer reviewed. Abstracts submitted to the *Journal of Aquatic Animal Health* are also encouraged. Articles should not exceed two newsletter pages and should not have more than five references. Submissions *must* be formatted in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect 6.x or other major Windows word processors, and can be sent by electronic mail or via 3.5" floppy disk to the editor's address below:

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