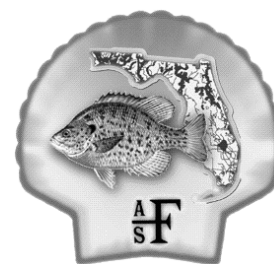


# the Shellcracker



FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

<http://www.sdafs.org/flafs>

**July, 2015**

## *President's Message:*

Dear all,

I hope summer is treating everyone well! I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who attended the 35th annual meeting of the Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (FLAFS). This was our last meeting at the 4-H Camp, so we hope you enjoyed Seller's Lake, the cranes, and the bonfire!

Our symposium this year addressed how fisheries-dependent and fisheries-independent data are used to tackle important ecological and management questions, and whether we get the same or different answers. The speakers presented on cases of successful use of both or one dataset to address an important issue, the commonalities, the differences, and the lessons learned. I thought it was a wonderful symposium with 12 presentations covering a diversity of topics ranging from marine to freshwater systems, and including presentations by four students, which was just great. A huge thank you to the symposium participants, you made it great!

As usual for our group, the quality of the presentations and posters was outstanding! We had a total of 48 total presentations, including 36 oral presentations and 12 posters. We had some first time attendees; we welcome them and hope they continue to attend and become involved in our Chapter! We also took our first group picture at the meeting, and we sponsored an artist to do our shirts, and I hope these become traditions we continue in the future. A sincere congratulations to all the award winners and to our new chapter officers (please see page 2) and thanks to all the judges and moderators that helped make the meeting run smoothly! We also netted about \$2000 from the Raffle and Silent Auction for student support next year, so thank you for your contributions!

Last but not least, a special thanks to Cheree Steward, Travis Tuten, Chris Bradshaw (thank you!), Andy Strickland, Chuck Cichra, Alan Collins, and the student officers, particularly Chelsey Crandall and Ross Boucek for their hard work helping make the meeting happen! We can't do it without you! Also many thanks to Chris Wiley and Eric Sawyer for their hard work on our beautiful new website and our amazing newsletter. Don't forget that we will need your help with the 2017 national meeting in Tampa, so please contact us to get involved!

Until we see each other next February, keep up the amazing fisheries work we all do in Florida and stay a part of this wonderful Florida fisheries community we have.

Best wishes,

Jennifer  
Dr. Jennifer Rehage  
Florida Chapter President





# Getting in Touch



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### ***Upcoming Event***

Southeastern Fishes Council: November 12-13, 2015 in Gainesville, Florida.

Interested in contributing something to the Shellcracker? Email Chris Wiley at [chris.wiley@myfwc.com](mailto:chris.wiley@myfwc.com) with any articles or information that you would like to be included in the next issue. The deadline for the next issue is September 15th, 2015 so start fishing...

# 2016 Florida Chapter AFS Annual Meeting

We hope everyone is planning on attending the 2016 Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society annual meeting. We will be utilizing a new meeting location for the first time in many years: the Florida FFA Leadership Training Center in Haines City, FL. The meeting will be held 3/2/2016-3/4/2016. The amenities at this location will be much improved over our previous location in the Ocala National Forest. The cost will increase slightly because of the improved amenities, with full meals and lodging costing \$209.00, early registration costing \$40.00, and late registration costing \$60.00. We are strongly encouraging folks to register early because the venue needs estimates for meals/rooms early.

More information will be included in the October edition of the Shellcracker. We look forward to seeing everyone next March!



## Improving Communication/Cooperation Among Aquatic Professional Societies

Mark V. Hoyer<sup>1</sup>, Terry McNabb<sup>2</sup>, Mike Allen<sup>1</sup>, and Michael D. Netherland<sup>3</sup>

Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, School of Forest resources and Conservation, IFAS,  
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32653

Aquatechnex, PO Box 30824 Bellingham, WA 98228

USACE ERDC Environmental- Laboratory, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants,  
7922 NW 71st Street, Gainesville, FL 32653

### Introduction

At this year's North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) 34<sup>th</sup> International Symposium in Tampa, Florida, a session was held to discuss how NALMS, the American Fisheries Society (AFS), and the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) could better communicate/cooperate using the strengths of each society to help better manage aquatic resources. While the societies maintain varying membership sizes (AFS ~ 6,000, NALMS ~ 1,000, and APMS ~ 500), working together should increase the impact of managing the same natural resources. Representatives of each society gave the following presentations followed by an open discussion with approximately 70 participants. The consensus was clear that more collaboration and communication among our societies would improve the value to our collective members. Presentations included:

*Introduction on the Overlap among Three International Aquatic Professional Societies NALMS, AFS, APMS (Mark Hoyer, NALMS President 2010)*

*Improving Communication Between All Lake Management Interests, the NALMS Perspective (Terry McNabb, NALMS President 2013 and APMS President 1997)*

*Benefits of Cooperation Between Aquatic Professional Societies AFS, NALMS, and APMS (Mike Allen, AFS Representative)*

*Common Interests That Link the Aquatic Plant Management Society with NALMS and AFS (Michael Netherland, Immediate Past President of APMS)*

Mark Hoyer started the session by showing how the mission statements of each society use different language but the primary action statements (AFS "Conservation and Sustainability", NALMS "Management and Protection", and APMS "Environmental Stewardship") point to a shared goal of protecting natural resources now and into the future. An analysis of publications was performed by searching eight key words from the last five years in each Society's peer-reviewed journal using THOMSON REUTERS Web of Science. While there was considerable overlap among the journal articles, there was also considerable specialization (Table 1). The amount of overlap shows considerable common interest while the areas of specialization demonstrate that each society could help the other with specific management expertise.



Table 1. Percentage of all publications for the last five years (January 2009 to December 2014) found using eight key words and THOMSON REUTERS Web of Science in each society's peer-reviewed journal. Bold print indicates the largest percentage within a journal.

Key Words	AFS	NALMS	APMS
	Percent of Total Papers		
Fish	<b>81</b>	8	6
Habitat	40	13	10
Aquatic Vegetation	3	3	14
Water Quality	5	<b>45</b>	1
Phosphorus	1	21	7
Nitrogen	2	14	7
Oxygen	5	5	2
Herbicide	0.1	0.5	<b>37</b>

Mark also pointed out that each society has a magazine (AFS *Fisheries*, NALMS *LakeLine*, and the Florida Chapter of APMS has *Aquatics* which is distributed to all APMS members). The magazines contain general information on the current activities of each society along with professional articles on aquatic resource management/research that would be of interest to all groups. Each of these magazines exists in an electronic format that, with little or no expense, could easily be shared among the three societies, vastly increasing information exchange among the three memberships.

Terry McNabb focused his presentation on the overlap of the three societies and how information from each one helps him in the management efforts he puts forth on a daily basis as a business owner. He feels all three societies do a good job promoting the management of aquatic resources; however, much more could be accomplished by better communications among them using each society's strengths toward the common goal of protecting natural resources.

Terry pointed out that toxic algae (e.g., golden algae, *Prymnesium parvum*) is becoming more important to aquatic plant managers while also impacting fish populations on a large scale (VanLandeghem et al. 2013). Both APMS and AFS have little expertise in toxic algae and could benefit from the experience of NALMS in this area. For more than a decade NALMS has worked with and hosted multiple Blue Green Algae Initiatives (<http://www.nalms.org/home/programs/blue-green-algae-initiative/blue-green-algae.cmsx>).

Mike Allen suggested that developing stronger ties with related professional organizations that focus on lake management and aquatic habitats could provide better education for all members, more shared science among our sub-disciplines, and better understanding of the full range of tools available for improving fishery resources. He suggested a few opportunities and mechanisms for improving collaboration among societies including:

- Holding special symposia and/or joint chapter meetings that can focus professionals, especially at the local level, on pertinent resource management issues of common interest. Holding joint meetings of the national societies would be impossible due to logistical issues; however, NALMS has 14 State Affiliate groups (NALMS 2014, <http://www.nalms.org/home/members/affiliate-members/nalms-affiliate-members.cmsx>, accessed 2014), APMS has 6 Regional Chapters (APMS 2014, <http://apms.org/regional-chapters/>, accessed 2014) and AFS has four Divisions and 44 Chapters (AFS, <http://fisheries.org/units/units>) that show considerable geographical overlap where it might be possible.

- Membership for all three societies is static or declining, and it is hard for individuals to be members of all three. Explore the potential to bundle memberships, such that total membership of all three societies could improve.

Mike Netherland pointed out that all issues related to the management of aquatic plants, and especially the spread of invasive aquatic plants, is of great importance to all three societies. From his experience, the most common concerns expressed by NALMS and AFS members regarding organized aquatic plant management programs revolves around the following:

- Controlling too much vegetation
- Impact to non-target native vegetation
- Loss of habitat for fish
- Potential for managed lakes to switch from macrophyte to algae dominated systems

The APMS feels that improved communication between these three societies could help facilitate meaningful dialogue that would allow aquatic managers and researchers to better understand and address the concerns expressed above. Increasing linkages among APMS, NALMS and AFS members would insure broader perspectives when addressing aquatic invasive plant issues.

Approximately 70 individuals enthusiastically participated in the discussion that followed the presentations. The one resounding consensus was that all three societies would benefit from increased communication. Many suggestions on how to make this happen were discussed – some easier to accomplish than others. Here we list some of these ideas, both the easy and the more difficult, that could be accomplished if the Executive Boards of each society agree and work together. We recommend one Executive Board member from each society establish some form of regular communication together (e.g. conference calls) and, report back to their respective boards.

Some of the easier ideas to accomplish that need to be discussed and hopefully approved by each Executive Board are as follows:

- Each society should provide space in their respective magazines (*Fisheries*, *LakeLine*, and *Aquatics*) for editorial articles from the leadership of the other societies. This would be easily accomplished as Presidents from AFS and NALMS already write an article for their respective magazines that could be adjusted for the other societies' magazines and it would be a good idea for the APMS President to start. This simple task would give members information on the current status and, to some extent, direction of the other societies that may be of interest.
- The web sites of each society should have direct links to each other.
- Many individuals cannot travel to more than one meeting per year due to money and time limitations. Therefore, each society should organize and sponsor a core information session at the annual meetings of the other societies (e.g. APMS could hold an aquatic invasive plant control session at the NALMS and AFS annual conference). This would allow multiple concentrations of information at each annual meeting adding areas in information that are generally not available.

Some of the more innovative suggestions to increase communication among societies are as follows:

- Membership for all three societies is static or declining and it is hard for individuals to be members of all three. Members are looking for more value in a membership. Explore the potential to bundle memberships so all three societies can benefit by their collective members while increasing communication.

- Currently AFS and NALMS use Taylor and Francis for publishing their professional journals. AFS also uses them for publishing the *Fisheries* magazine. If NALMS and APMS would work toward using Taylor and Francis to publish their journal and magazine, it could be easier to share professional information. All three magazines are provided in an electronic format so sharing would be with little or no cost.
- It would be difficult to hold shared national society conferences due to timing of meetings and size. However, joint meetings with state chapters could be feasible and beneficial. Encourage regional and state chapters of each society to collaborate.

Many other suggestions were made during the discussion for increasing communications among societies. However, the ideas listed above are a good start for increased dialogue. Now, each society's membership needs to communicate their desire to move forward with this initiative to their respective Executive Boards.

## Literature

VanLandeghem, M.M., M. Farooqi, B. Farquhar, R. Patino. 2013. Impacts of golden alga *Prymnesium parvum* on fish populations in reservoirs of the Colorado River and Brazos River basins, Texas. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 142:581-595.



Dr. Michael Netherland has twenty five-plus years of experience in research on the biology and management of aquatic invasive plants. He earned a M.S. in Botany from Purdue University and a Ph.D from the University of Florida. He served as the Editor for the *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management* from 2004 to 2011 and he is the current the Past-President of the Aquatic Plant Management Society. Dr. Netherland is currently a research biologist with the US Army Engineer Research and Development Center and he has spent the past 11 years stationed at the University of Florida Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants in Gainesville, FL. Dr. Netherland has conducted studies throughout the United States and this work has led to the development of several new herbicide use patterns that benefit aquatic resource managers.



Mike Allen received his BS in Fisheries Ecology, Texas A&M, MS in Fisheries, Auburn and PhD in Fisheries and Statistics, Mississippi State. He is a fisheries scientist whose research program evaluates fish population and fish community responses to changes in fishing mortality, habitat, and species interactions. He and his students evaluate the efficacy of various management strategies for improving and sustaining fisheries. Allen approaches research using a combination of empirical field studies, computer simulation modeling, and pond experiments.



Mark Hoyer is the Director of Florida LAKEWATCH in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, University of Florida. He received a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from Iowa State University and his Master of Science in Limnology from the University of Missouri, Columbia. Mark has worked on the relationships among water chemistry, aquatic macrophyte communities, fish and aquatic bird communities in Florida streams, lakes and estuaries for the last 30 years. Mark has also been a NALMS member for over 25 years and served as President in 2010.



Terry McNabb managed Aquatechnex, LLC, a lake and aquatic plant management firm that operates in the Western United States. He served as the president of the Aquatic Plant Management Society 1996-97 and completed his term as president of NALMS yesterday. He is a NALMS Certified Lake Manager.



**Minutes of the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting of the Florida Chapter  
American Fisheries Society  
February 18, 2015  
4-H Camp Ocala, Altoona, Florida**

President Chris Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 1920 hours and established a quorum.

Past-presidents of the Florida Chapter in attendance were acknowledged: Wes Porak, Larry Connor, Kathy Guindon, Mike Allen, Chuck Cichra, Eric Nagid and Travis Tuten.

Southern Division Past-presidents in attendance were acknowledged: Mike Allen and Larry Connor.

Wes Porak gave an update on Southern Division business.

Cheree Steward asked and received approval of the 2014 business meeting minutes and presented the 2014 Treasurer's Report. We ended the year with \$41,546.40 in total assets.

Larry Connor gave an update on the Rottmann Scholarship Fund. The fund had assets of \$30,388.95 on December 31, 2014, an increase of \$1,117.57 from December 31, 2013. Since inception the Fund has had a 9.15 % annual rate of return, and Larry did not recommend any changes to the Rottmann Scholarship at this time, though it is growing toward increasing the scholarships in the future.

Travis Tuten introduced John Galvez and Andy Strickland as the nominees for President-elect. Both gave brief personal statement and proposed symposium topics. Kevin Johnson was introduced as the candidate for Secretary/Treasurer. Ballots were passed out and a vote was taken.

#### **Committee Reports**

Newsletter - Chris Wiley thanked the authors who contributed in the past year and encouraged others to contribute articles about planned or evolving research.

Website – Eric Sawyers displayed the home page of the new website and requested feedback on appearance and functionality, as well as more pictures of members at work in the field. He said he is investigating better ways to connect payment to registration for our annual meetings. He has also been asked to upgrade the student subunit website and he plans to start that soon.

Raffle – Andy Strickland thanked everyone who brought items for the raffle and said that we had about \$5000 worth of items. He recognized those who donated to our meeting happen including: Yeti, First Magnitude Brewing Company, and various universities and government agencies. He reminded everyone that all raffle proceeds go to fund student travel grants for the Chapter meeting.

Membership – Larry Connor said that our membership increased by seven members last year to 194. Forty seven members are students and 131 are also members of the parent society. The highest Chapter membership on record was 260. Larry postulates that economics and travel restrictions have kept people from the annual meeting, and that is when many renew their Chapter membership. He sent a renewal reminder out via the Chapter listserve and is hoping the response will keep membership from dropping after this year's lightly attended meeting.

Student Scholarships and Awards – Chuck Cichra said that eleven student travel grants were awarded this year – compared to 15 last year. One of the students awarded a grant was unable to attend at the last minute. We had enough money to fund 21 travel grants this year, but only eleven students applied. Students receiving awards represented Florida International University, Nova Southeastern University and the University of Florida.

Chuck then gave the history of the Rottman scholarship and summarized the recipient applications. Emily Olson of the University of Florida received the M.S. Rottman award, and Chelsey Crandall, also of the University of Florida, received the PhD Rottman award. Each was presented with a certificate and a \$500 check.

Florida Chapter Awards – Eric Nagid gave a brief summary of the career of Rich Cailteux what he meant to many in the Chapter as friend and mentor. Larry Connor was then named the 5<sup>th</sup> recipient of the Rich Cailteux award and was asked to step to the podium. He received a standing ovation. Eric read the nomination and presented Larry with the award.

### **Student Subunit Report**

Ross Boucek said that the student blog is still going strong and new people are contributing. The student paper on largemouth bass should be ready to submit for publication in March. The student subunit won the AFS Best Student Chapter award in 2014 and Ross thanked everyone who helped make that happen. Incoming Subunit officers are: Chelsey Crandall –President, Greg Hill – Vice President and John Hargrove – Secretary/Treasurer. A new position of University Liaison has been added to the board in an effort to get students from more universities. Carrie Schuman was elected to that position. Because Ross was not able to attend the AFS meeting last summer to receive the Best Student Chapter award, Chelsey Crandall received it in his place. She presented the award to Ross and thanked him for all he did to help the Subunit receive it.

### **Old Business**

AFS 2017 Annual meeting – Travis said that the Wildlife Society has changed their mind about a joint meeting in 2017, though they might be interested in the future when they can be involved in the planning from the beginning. Meeting leadership has met with AFS by phone and discussed a meeting theme. AFS is still interested in finding another society partner, so Travis asked anyone with ideas to let him know. AFS is planning a site visit for June, and the meeting leaders will meet again with AFS leadership at the national meeting in Portland.

Kathy Guindon (fundraising chair) said the fundraising goal for the end of 2015 is \$100,000. She sent around a sign-up sheet for anyone willing to help. Solicitation letters, donation forms and non-profit information are all available for anyone interested in soliciting donations. Only cash is being solicited at this point. Kathy said that if a business is interested in contributing anything other than cash, the solicitor should let them know that such would be appreciated closer to meeting time and they should be contacted again then.

Chuck Cichra asked about the raffle at the national meeting. Discussion ensued about whether we would have our normal annual chapter meeting in February 2017 and have our raffle then, or hold our own raffle, in addition to a national raffle, at the national meeting. Travis said that the last few national meetings have not had a raffle, so we could do our own and only have to do one. AFS gets a percentage of the proceeds from a raffle at the national meeting.

Travis encouraged everyone to sign up for meeting planning committees.

Chapter history – Chris Bradshaw said that not much has happened with this since the last meeting, and he recommitted to getting it done.

### **Installation of New Officers**

Travis Tuten announced Andy Strickland as the new President-elect, and Kevin Johnson as the new Secretary/Treasurer. He then turned the meeting over to Jennifer Rehage as the new President. Jennifer gave Chris Bradshaw a plaque to thank him for his service as President. She also gave a plaque to Ross Boucek in thanks for his two terms as Student Subunit President.

### **New business**

We need to find a new meeting location, as the Ocala 4H camp will close at the end of this year. Chris Bradshaw will collect suggestions and make phone calls in the next week. Eric Nagid suggested that a site selection committee be formed, but Chris said he wanted to keep it to three people (Chris, Eric and Mike Allen) to get a decision quickly.

Larry Connor said that he has a complete set of Transactions and one of NAJFM, both from 1974-2014 if anyone wants them. Contact Larry if interested.

Eric Nagid moved to adjourn the meeting and Bob Heagey seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2045.



# Treasurer's Report Florida Chapter AFS

Cheree Steward

1 January 2014 to 31 December 2015

	<b>Checking</b>	<b>Mutual Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
January 1, 2014	\$ 25,205.40	\$ 16,341.00	\$ 41,546.40
December 31, 2014	<u>\$ 26,529.33</u>	<u>\$ 17,249.37</u>	<u>\$ 43,778.70</u>
Difference:	\$ 1,323.93	\$ 908.37	\$ 2232.30

## Credits:

2014 meeting revenue (includes dues)	\$ 12,800.00
Raffle income from 2014 meeting	\$ 2,972.00
Dues paid thru AFS & rebate	\$ 1,206.00
Rottman transfer	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
Total:	\$ 17,978.00

## Debits:

2014 Meeting expenses	\$ (10,733.00)
Rottmann Scholarships	\$ (1,000.00)
Dequine Best Student Paper	\$ (100.00)
2013 Raffle Costs	\$ (900.00)
Annual bank fees	\$ (300.00)
Postage	\$ (10.00)
AFS Liability Insurance	\$ (150.00)
2014 AFS Meeting sponsorship	\$ (1000.00)
2045 SDAFS Meeting sponsorship	\$ (500.00)
2014 Instream Flow Council sponsorship	<u>\$ (500.00)</u>
Total:	\$ (15,193.00)



# 2015 Annual Meeting Awards



## Jack Dequine Student Paper Award

**Best:**

**Nicholas Ducharme-Barth (University of Florida). Classifying VMS data in Gulf of Mexico reef fisheries: model selection and evaluation**

**Honorable Mention:**

**Chelsey Crandall (University of Florida), K. Lorenzen, J. Struve, and J. Dutka-Gianelli. Helplessness, hope and reasonable people: understanding angler feelings toward management**

## Professional Paper

**Best:**

**Steve Crawford (FWC/FWRI). Reflections of an old fish head.**

## Student Poster

**Best:**

**Emily Kroloff (FIU), J.S. Rehage, J. Heinen, R.C. Santos, and R.E. Boucek. Where are all the bonefish? Integrating angler perspectives and ecological changes influencing bonefish declines in the Florida Bay**

**Honorable Mention:**

**Chelsey Crandall (University of Florida), K. Lorenzen, M. Monroe, and J. Dutka-Gianelli. Why participate? Understanding citizen science volunteer motivations**

## Professional Poster

**Best: Julie Vecchio**

**(Saint Stephen's Episcopal School). Researchers' trash is an educator's treasure: Field specimens as educational tools.**

## Rottmann Scholarships

**Masters-Level Recipient: Emily Olson**

**University of Florida, School of Forest Resources and Conservation, Program in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. Her advisor is Rob Ahrens.**

**Doctoral-Level Recipient: Chelsey Crandall**

**University of Florida, Department of Biology. Her advisor is Kai Lorenzen.**

**Power Award – Chris Bradshaw**



**and Bob Heagey**

**For their tag team talk “Calling names:  
When in Rome do you speak Latin?”**

**Lamp**



**Shade Award —**

**James Kramer**



### **Rich Cailteux Award:**

The recipient of the Rich Cailteux Award was Larry Connor. Larry started with FWC in 1979 in Panama City, where he worked primarily on grass carp. That project ended in mid 1980 and Larry moved to DeLeon Springs to work on the St. Johns River where he helped with striped bass stocking and stocking success evaluations, as well as sampling other fish populations and conducting creel surveys. In the mid 1980's Larry began working on the newly created Fisheries Statistics project where he developed standardized data sheets, built databases and consulted with fisheries projects on sample designs and analyses. During this period, Larry modified a computer program used to analyze creel survey data, updating the analysis tool to reflect current methodology. He then gathered creel data collected by multiple projects as well as historical angler catch surveys, finally giving FWC the ability to analyze long term data across different freshwater systems. This program is still in use today and is being modified to allow central storage and sharing of creel data statewide. In addition, Larry also pulled the voluminous water chemistry data into a database, so the chemistry lab could retrieve and compare data. In 2004 Larry moved to the Exotic Species Coordination section within FWC's Division of Habitat and Species conservation, where he was instrumental in collating information on a wide variety of species he had not previously worked with, while continuing to advise fishery projects. Recently he worked on several exotic species eradication projects including Gambian Pouched Rats and Prairie Dogs. Larry has long been active in the Florida Chapter and Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. He was the Chapter Secretary/Treasurer from 1995-1996, Chapter President from 1997-1998, Southern Division Secretary/Treasurer from 1999-2001 and Southern Division President from 2004-2005. He has been a wealth of information for the officers who have followed him. Larry has always been willing to take on new challenges and to help whoever, whenever. He oversaw the entire (roughly \$300,000) budget for the 1995 AFS national meeting in Tampa. When the Florida Chapter hosted the Southern Division meeting in 2001, Larry was instrumental in choosing the host city, negotiating contracts and tending to the details of the meeting. He has managed the Rottmann scholarship fund from its beginnings in 1997 and has been the chair of the Florida Chapter Membership Committee since 1991. In this capacity he keeps membership lists up-to-date and sends the Shellcracker newsletter to members. In the 1990's, Larry designed the computer program that the Chapter still uses for meeting registrations. The program gives us a searchable membership database with current contact information and generates the reports we need for meetings including number of attendees, number and sizes of shirts to order, and number of meals and accommodations. Whether working with FWC or helping with the Florida Chapter activities, Larry has always looked for a better way to do things, with the ability to see the big picture. In the past 25 years, no other member has been more actively involved with the Florida Chapter's activities. Even though he has retired from his FWC position, Larry continues in all of his Chapter responsibilities and we truly appreciate it all.

Many thanks to the sponsors, donors and volunteers who made this year's Raffle a success with a net of \$1687. Eight students who received travel grants from last year's Raffle were also able to sell many tickets at the meeting. The trio of Fernando Noriega, Ben Barker and Chelsey Crandall were our top three ticket sellers this year. We also want to thank all the attendees (and other people at our labs, offices, etc.) who bought tickets and/or made bids on Silent Auction items before and during the meeting. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Andy Strickland and Alan Collins, FLAFS Raffle Committee Co-Chairs

## A special thanks to the sponsors of the 2015 FLAFS annual meeting:



## Thank you to the generous organizations that donated items for the 2015 FLAFS Student-Raffle

STATE	CITY OR AREA	BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION/OR PERSON	STATE	CITY OR AREA	BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION/OR PERSON
FLORIDA	EAST POINT	AMANDA SMITH	FLORIDA	PANAMA CITY BEACH	WALMART - WEST
	EUSTIS	LARRY AND DIANA CONNOR			LA QUINTA INN--EAST
	GAINESVILLE	AMY BENSON'S ESPECIAL GLASS ART			SUNJAMMERS KAYAK SHOP
		FIRST MAGNITUDE BREWERY		QUINCY	BELL AND BATES HOME CENTER
		THE LODGE IN GAINESVILLE			AQUATIC IMPRESSIONS
		FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY		ST. PETERSBURG	DIANE PEEBLES, ARTIST
		THE BALLYHOO GRILL		ST. TERESA	FSU COASTAL MARINE LAB
		GATORS PLUS		TALLHASSEE	CAPITAL HITCH
		MAUDE'S CAFE			SEMINOLE OUTDOORS
		PEEBLES PRINT FRAMING			WALMART - TENNESSEE STREET
		DARYL PARKYN			BOB WATTENDORF
		TRAVIS TUTEN			FWC
	LAKE TALQUIN	LAKE TALQUIN LODGE		WEST PALM BEACH	WEST PALM BEACH FISHING CLUB
		INGRAMS MARINA			
		CAPT. DAVID BOYD	GEORGIA	CARTERSVILLE	TELLUS SCIENCE MUSEUM
		CAPT. DAVID HEFLIN			
	LYNN HAVEN	WALMART	KANSAS	LEAWOOD	JOE TOMELLERI AMERICANFISHES.COM
	MIDWAY	BEST WESTERN			
		LINDY'S CHICKEN	TENNESSEE	CHATTANOOGA	SUGARS BBQ
	MIAMI	WEST MARINE			CHICK FIL A
	MOUNT DORA	MARY JOHNSON			LOGAN'S GRILL
	ORLANDO	P F CHANGS			TENNESSEE AQUARIUM
	PANAMA CITY	BONEFISH GRILL		OAK RIDGE	AM. MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND ENERGY
		DOUG DEVRIES		PIGEON FORGE	MUSIC ROAD RESORT
		PAUL BRENT, ARTIST		SWEETWATER	LOST SEA ADVENTURE
		FIREHOUSE SUBS			
		SAMS	TEXAS	AUSTIN	YETI COOLERS
		WALMART			
		HOWELL TACKLE	WEST VIRGINIA	FLAT TOP	WINTERPLACE SKI RESORT
	PANAMA CITY BEACH	CAPT. ANDERSON FISHING FLEET			
		CAPT. ANDERSON'S RESTAURANT			
		MARGARITAVILLE			
		TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL			
		GULF WORLD MARINE PARK			
		HALF HITCH TACKLE			
		J. MICHAEL'S RESTAURANT			
		WALMART - EAST			



### 2015 FLAFS Student-Raffle Committee

**Co-chairs** - Andy Strickland (FWC) and Alan Collins (NOAA, retired)

**Members-** Ross Boucek (FIU), Larry and Diana Connor (FWC, retired), Chelsey Crandall (UF), Nichole Dunham (FWC), Jonathan Freedman (FU), Kathy Guindon (FWC), Ryan Jiorle (UF), Kevin Johnson (FWC), Linda Lombardi (NOAA), Daryl Parkyn (UF), Jennifer Rehage (FIU), Travis Tuten (FWC), Bob Wattendorf (FWC)