

The Shell-Cracker

FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY



DECEMBER 1990

VOLUME 10(2-3)

Message From the President

DEAR MEMBERS-PLEASE READ THIS: Our Annual Meeting is once again coming up and I urge you to attend. This year we are focusing on you, the members, as our topic of special interest. Your input will be through contributed papers. All we require is a short abstract. Please get off your you-know-what and pay attention to the final call for papers. Also, in light of budgetary constraints, an accepted abstract could be your ticket to the meeting. **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW. SEE REGISTRATION FORM IN THIS NEWSLETTER. THERE ARE ONLY 80 BEDS AVAILABLE ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS.**

******STUDENTS, THE FLORIDA CHAPTER AFS IS OFFERING****
TO COVER LODGING AND MEALS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IF YOU SUBMIT
ONE OF THE TOP 6 STUDENT ABSTRACTS SELECTED FOR PRESENTATION.
Members, lets get some students and encourage faculty
participation.**

This year's meeting will include an unprecedented election. Since Jim Tilmant has gone to Atlanta and Grant Gilmore will not pursue further executive committee office, we will be in the position of electing a "new blood" secretary-treasurer, president-elect, and president. I will become past president and carry the only continuity of office in the executive committee. This can be both exciting and potentially disastrous. The executive committee responsibilities are not trivial. The nominating committee will send you information on prospective candidates before the meeting so be prepared to vote.

We need help getting raffle items for this year's raffle at the Annual Meeting. Call Marty Hale (GFWFC) at (904)357-6631 or Ron Taylor (FMRI) at 813-896-8626 and let them know what you are doing to help.

Guess what - AFS is interested in holding the National Annual Meeting on the west coast of Florida. Be prepared to discuss this at the business meeting.

And finally, I have received some good suggestions by some of our committees on future chapter activities. These will be presented at the meeting. I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE ALL MEMBERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH DISCUSSION AREAS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR CHAPTER ACTIVITIES. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO INCLUDE YOUR SUGGESTIONS ON THE BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA. IF RESPONSE TO THIS OPPORTUNITY IS OVERWHELMING, WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO BE SELECTIVE AND DISCRIMINATORY. Call me at 813-896-8626 or write me at Florida Marine Research Institute, 100 8th Ave. SE., St. Petersburg, FL, 33701.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
Ken Haddad

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The members of the nominating committee, chaired by Bill Loftus, Everglades National Park, are in the process of evaluating and choosing candidates for Chapter offices. They will send a list of candidates and a brief sketch of their backgrounds to Chapter members before our Annual meeting.

FINAL CALL FOR PAPERS

The Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is accepting abstracts for presentation at the Annual Meeting. Abstracts should not exceed 300 words and can range in content from technical research to management activities. Lodging and meals will be free to the top six student abstracts received. All abstracts must include your name(s), address, and phone number. The deadline for submittal is January 5, 1991, or so. Send abstracts to Dr. Churchill Grimes, NMFS Panama City Lab, 3500 Dellwood Beach Road, Panama City, FL 32407.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

The following is a summary of the Southern Division AFS EXCOM Meeting, October 21, Richmond, VA, as submitted by Wes Porak.

David Whitehurst (Virginia) summarized the tremendous improvement in the "Southeastern" meeting by the additional fisheries technical sessions sponsored by the Southern Division of AFS. These include a special [general] fisheries session, a session on contaminants, an aquaculture session, and a session on fisheries habitat utilization of salt marshes. The technical session were in addition to 16 peer reviewed papers presented at the "Southeastern".

Larry Nielsen, President of AFS, discussed the retirement of executive director Carl Sullivan in April. Paul Brouha was selected to replace Carl Sullivan. A commitment has been made to

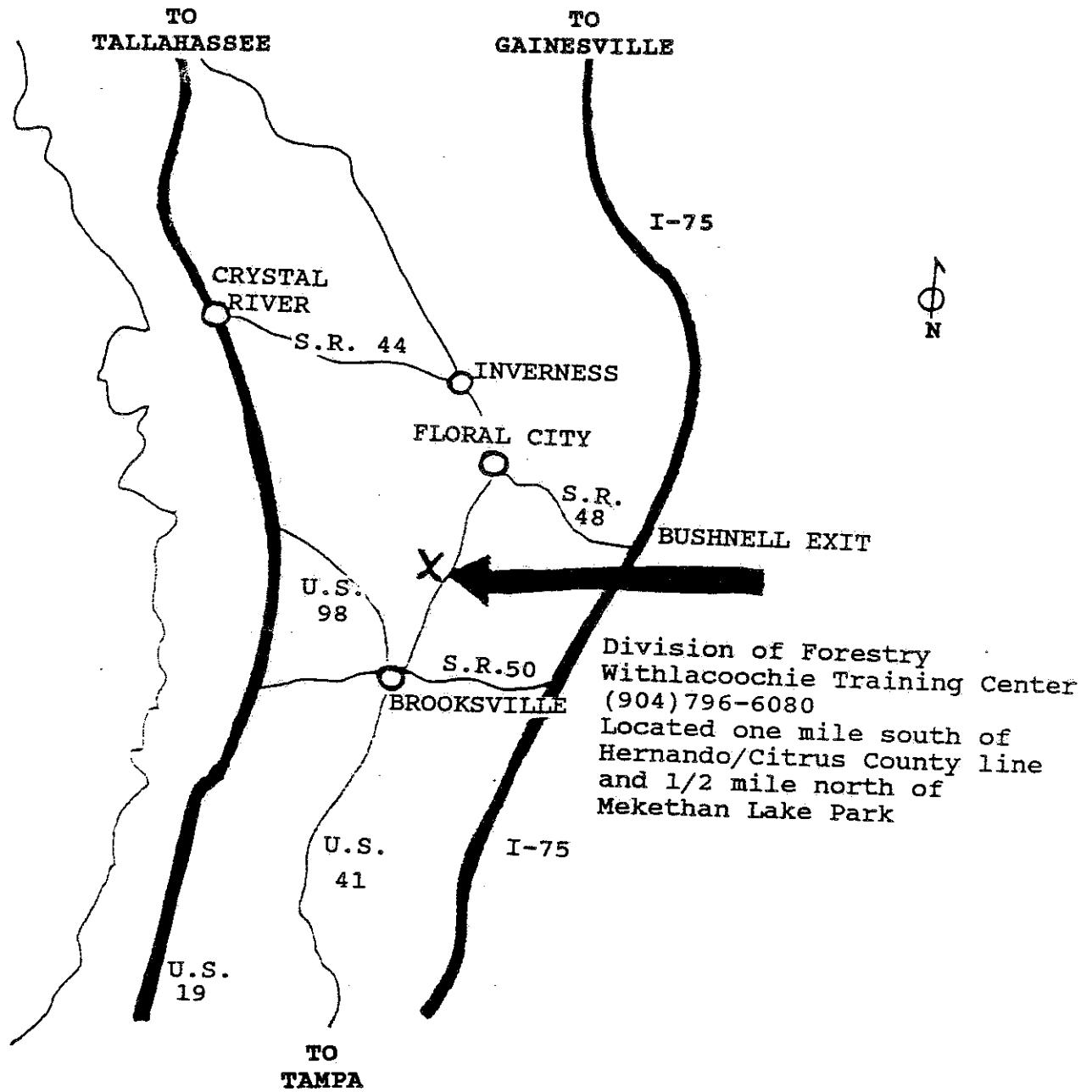
start publishing Fisheries News to provide current updates on fisheries issues to AFS members (i.e., bi-weekly or monthly). Planning of the World Fisheries Congress is on schedule with approximately 500 papers on the agenda. The parent society is in the process of deciding on a name change for the society to account for the wider geographical representation of its membership. Also, a Canadian executive office of AFS will probable be opened by next year.

Southern Division activities included the program expansion (as mentioned above), newsletter improvements, the annual student colloquium, creation of an **OUTSTANDING CHAPTER AWARD**, creation of a new aquaculture technical committee, development of a procedural manual, and push for AFS chapters in all states within the division. Kentucky, North Carolina and Virginia recently formed new AFS chapters. Alabama is the only state without an AFS chapter. Newly elected Southern Division officers include Larry Olmstead (Vice-president, Marty Hale (Secretary-Treasurer) and Steve Filipek (Nominating Committee Chair).

Technical committee activities included: Trout Committee-planning a 1991 workshop on forestry practices and fisheries management, and completing a proceedings from a brown trout workshop. Striped Bass Committee-recently sponsored a symposium on 25 years of culture and management of striped bass at the society meeting, and recently completed a striped bass guidelines manual for culture and management. Reservoir Committee-coordinating a gear evaluation workshop for shad and large-scale study on Lake Taxoma, developing long-range plans for the southeastern reservoir data base, and is providing a representative to SFI to serve on a steering committee for a Black Bass Symposium in 1992. Warm Water Streams Committee-completing the proceedings from a smallmouth bass symposium, working on the proceedings from a floodplain rivers and is developing a stream impact evaluation manual. Pollution Committee- held a session on contaminants at the division meeting. Small Impoundments Committee- no report. Marine and Estuarine Resources Committee-sponsored a session on fisheries use of salt marshes at the division meeting, sponsored a session on endangered species at the society meeting, and is in the progress of developing a survey on marine fishery statistics for state and federal agencies.

Ideas from other chapters include fisheries education in the public schools, quarterly "social" meetings with an invited speaker, development of a pond management handbook, joint meetings with other chapters, proceedings from annual meetings, and a mandatory poster session by all attendees at the annual meeting (with posters and markers provided at the beginning of the meeting).

Directions to the Florida Chapter, AFS
1991 Annual Meeting



**Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
1991 Annual Meeting Registration**

Please complete and submit this 2 page form with a deposit to reserve a space (NOTE: lodging is limited.) Please check the appropriate spaces that correspond to the meals and lodging that you would like to reserve.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ PHONE: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

ARRIVAL DATE/TIME: _____ / _____

Full Meals and Lodging: (\$54.00) _____

(includes dinner and lodging on Monday night; breakfast, lunch, dinner and lodging on Tuesday; and breakfast and lunch on Wednesday)

Partial Meals and Lodging:

Monday: Dinner: (\$ 5.00) _____

Lodging: (\$15.00) _____

Tuesday: Breakfast: (\$ 3.00) _____

Lunch: (\$ 4.00) _____

Dinner: (\$ 5.00) _____

Lodging: (\$15.00) _____

Wednesday: Breakfast: (\$ 3.00) _____

Lunch: (\$ 4.00) _____

Total for meals and lodging: _____

NAME: _____

Please select one of the following
Registration Fees:

Registration fee for a
paid 1991 AFS National Member or a
paid 1991 Florida Chapter Member: (\$15.00) _____

Registration fee: (\$25.00) _____
(includes 1991 chapter dues)

Total for meals and lodging: _____
(from previous page)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: (Minimum \$10.00 Deposit) _____

BALANCE DUE: _____

Please make checks payable to: FLORIDA CHAPTER, AFS

Return to: Grant Gilmore
Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, Inc.
5600 Old Dixie Highway
Fort Pierce, Florida 34946

....IN THE NEWS

AFS Position Statement
TRANSGENIC FISHES

Ann R. Kapuscinski and E. M. Hallerman recently authored an AFS Position Statement on TRANSGENIC FISHES. Here is some interesting background information they provided citing the importance of the Position Statement ----- The advent of gene transfer techniques has introduced the development of lines of fishes, as well as other aquatic organisms, bearing introduced genes. Such modifications are typically aimed at substantial changes of performance characters (e.g., faster growth), extension of environmental tolerance (e.g., cold resistance), or expression of novel proteins. Most fisheries professionals would agree that (1) traits other than those targeted by gene transfer are likely to be affected, (2) overall phenotypic performance of such fishes is virtually uncharacterized, and (3) introduction of such fishes into natural aquatic communities is likely to cause ecological impacts.

Because the performance and ecological impacts of transgenic organisms in natural ecosystems are unknown, uncontrolled release of transgenic fishes is undesirable. Public policies for regulating development and release of transgenic organisms are currently being formulated. It is important that fisheries scientists become involved in evaluations of the performance and ecological impact of transgenic fishes, and in development of relevant public policies to ensure that rational, carefully considered decisions are made regarding development and release of transgenic fishes.

Sexism and the Society -- Individuals are being sought to help rewrite the Society's Code of Ethics. Written several years ago the code is outdated in its use of pronouns. The code appears sexist (and overly corporate sounding) and does not reflect the progressive nature of the Society. If you are interested in helping rewrite the code and can spend a few days to bring it back into the 21st century, please contact Don Erman (415) 642-8285.

Certified Fisheries Scientist No. 1990, is James R. Hartzler who received his certificate in 1990. Hartzler is an eight-year member from Saylorsburg, PA. AFS certification of fisheries scientists began in 1968 and in 1985 was expanded to include Associate Fisheries Scientist. The certification process is a thorough one with provisions for appeal of rejections. The Fisheries Scientist application fee of \$100.00 for members and \$200.00 for Non-members (\$50 and \$100 respectively for Associate Fisheries Scientist) only partially covers the cost, with the Society subsidizing the balance. Over the last few years there have been approximately 60 applications per year. For a brochure describing the program send a self-addressed 9" x 12" envelope with 65 cents postage to the central office of the AFS, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814.

Fisheries Techniques Slides -- The set of slides that illustrate many of the techniques described in Fisheries Techniques (L. Nielsen & D. Johnson, eds.) can still be purchased for \$125.00. The collection includes over 200 slides, along with a list of slide descriptions. These are arranged to accompany the chapter sequence in the book. Send a check made out to the Education Section, AFS to Dr. James Haynes, Aquatic Ecology and Biol. Science, SUNY College at Brockport, Brockport, NY 14420.

A very successful Southern Division annual meeting was held October 21-24, 1990, in Richmond, Virginia. There was strong attendance at the substantially expanded fisheries technical program. Dick Stroud and Bob Jenkins (Fayetteville, AR) were awarded the Division's Outstanding Achievement Award and Dr. Larry Olmsted and Marty Hale were elected Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer respectively. Susan Shipman succeeded Dr. Rich Noble as Division President while Dr. Nick Parker succeeded Shipman as President-Elect. Vice President Olmsted is 3rd in line for the Presidency. Other highlights of the conference included a Past-President's breakfast and the organizational meeting for the new Virginia Chapter. At the well-attended annual Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies banquet, Carl Sullivan was presented with the C.W. Watson Award by Awards Chairman Fred Harris of North Carolina.

A review of the value of rotenone as a fisheries management tool, and the rationale for the selection of its usage over alternatives has been requested of the North Central Division by Jack Bails, deputy director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The request came on the heels of a July, Muskegon River incident in which there was excessive fish mortality. Following the incident, the Michigan Governor and the Natural Resource Director ordered a cessation of all rotenone until approved by the Natural Resources Commission. Division Past President Lee Redmond responded for the Division in a very professional manner. For copies of the exchange of correspondence, send a self-addressed business envelope with 25 cents postage to AFS headquarters.

More funding for the Wallop-Breaux Aquatic Resources Trust Fund will flow for the newly passed deficit reduction tax package. There will be approximately \$81 million new dollars from higher boating fuel taxes and taxes on small engine (lawnmowers, chainsaws, line trimmers, snow blowers, etc.) gasoline. Approximately \$47 million will be allocated to a new National Wetlands Restoration initiative with the remaining \$34 million added to the Aquatic Resources Trust Fund available for state matching grants. AFS, through its active participation in ALAB (The American League of Anglers and Boaters), played an important role in persuading Congress to provide the new funding.

Methods for Fish Biology has at long last gone to the printer and will be ready for delivery by year's end. It is both a reference

and an handbook for the study of fishes. Standard methods and their theoretical frameworks are presented for research into fish genetics, taxonomy and systematics, histology and neurology, physiology and energetics, surgical techniques, growth and reproduction, toxicology, behavior, and ecology. The book, edited by Carl Schreck and Peter Moyle, was made possible by a grant from Exxon USA. It has required more than 4 years to complete and is a monument to the persistence and quality insistence of Managing Editor Bob Kendall, coupled with the unselfish volunteerism of 37 chapter authors and the editors. Look for promotional fliers due out soon.

AFS supports "No Net Loss of Wetlands." At the Domestic Policy Council's Wetlands Task force hearing in Peoria, IL. Don Roseboom presented excellent testimony on behalf of the Illinois Chapter with support from Robert Kirchner, Lewis Osborne, Robert Sheehan, and Richard Sparks. Terry Steinward, North Dakota Fish Chief and Dakota Chapter Past-President, presented testimony at the "open mike" session during the Bismark, ND, hearing and Tom Kron, Alaska Chapter Past President presented remarks at the "open mike" session in Anchorage. Finally, Eric Smith, Connecticut Marine Fisheries Assistant Director and President of the Southern New England Chapter presented testimony on behalf on AFS and a broad spectrum of user organizations at the Providence, RI, hearing on September 17th, 1990. Copies of Roseboom's and Smith's testimony are available from AFS upon receipt of a self-addressed, stamped 9x12 envelope with \$1.25 postage.

The AFS uses plastic wrappers for mailing journals because its the most cost-effective way to outwit the Postal Service's penchant for destroying items in its 'care' and because AFS isn't convinced that paper has environmental advantages over plastic in the form used. This was AFS Managing Editor Bob Kendall's response to a letter of inquiry from Mike Fraidenburg. Bob supported his statement by saying that most of the plastic wrappers are properly disposed of in landfills by AFS members and that similarly disposed of paper doesn't degrade very rapidly either once it's buried. He also noted that some paper that does decompose releases acids and other organic pollutants to groundwater and adjacent streams so maybe we don't want our waste paper or plastic to be all that degradable, until chemists have found a way to curb the deleterious by-products.

The update of "Monetary Values of Fishes and Fish Kill Counting Guidelines" is progressing well. The Socioeconomics Section has charged Dr. David Rockland with directing the Federal Aid Project. Over 170 Questionnaires concerning costs of raising various species of fish were sent to hatcheries to provide a current data base. Approximately 60 responses have been received to date and where possible have been used to produce regionalized costs by fish size class. In addition various fish kill scenarios have been described along with appropriate assessment procedures. Drafts are being prepared to meet a completion schedule of early fall.

Standardizing scientific and vernacular fish names is the goal of the AFS Names of Fishes Committee. This dedicated Committee of seven, under chairman Dr. Richard Robins, has completed the 1990 update of Common and Scientific Names of Fishes. After 10 years of laborious effort, the committee has also completed the World Fishes Important to North Americans. The former included 159 new species plus about 400 name changes which have occurred since 1980. The world fishes manuscript lists 1,800 exotic species (none of which is in the North American list) which have been imported into the U.S. by the ornamental fish industry, the food industry, aquaculturists, hobbyists, and researchers. AFS is searching for \$37,300 in grants to publish both books, with manuscripts to be ready for the printer this fall.

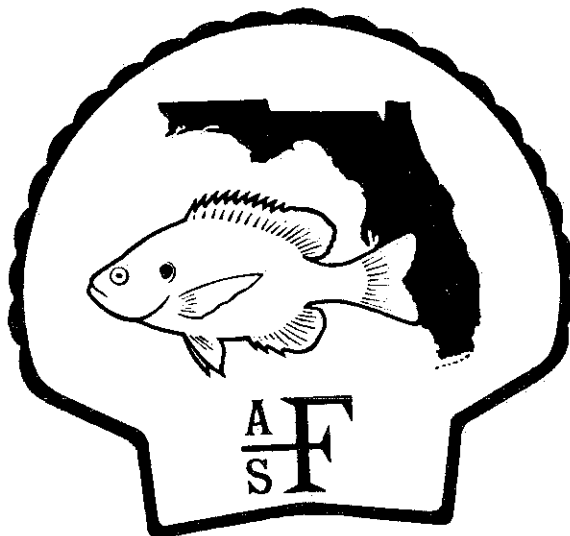
The AFS fisheries biologist salary survey is in full swing with responses requested for 67 state agencies. In the near future AFS will also send survey forms to Canadian provinces plus the U.S. and Canadian federal agencies the employ fisheries science professionals. AFS hopes to determine and compose total employment figures, starting level salaries plus average salaries for each agency. This will be the fourth such survey conducted over the past dozen years with results published in Fisheries.

The Sullivan Building was dedicated in Bethesda at the Renewable Natural Resources Center on July 18 in a noontime ceremony with many AFS members in attendance. In acknowledging the honor, Sully traced the history of the Renewable Natural Resources Foundation's development and the contributions made by various people who pioneered the concept. Characteristically, he minimized his fifteen-year contribution to the Foundation as he charted its future potential in building a center for renewable natural resource organizations. Sully was joined for the ceremony by his wife, Dolores, and his son, Carl R. Sullivan III, and family. AFS editorial offices, the focus of Permanent Home Expansion efforts, are located in the Sullivan Building.

Writing for Fishery Journals is the newest AFS publication and is the outgrowth of a 1988 AFS annual meeting symposium developed and sponsored by the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists. Edited by Dr. John Hunter (with major assistance from Bob Kendall) the 102-page book should have great utility for field fisheries managers, students, teachers, and researchers. Publication funding support was provided by the Fisheries Management Foundation of Seattle, Washington, and the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The price to AFS members is \$12.00 and non-members \$15.00

A major request for publication funding has been submitted by AFS to the DOI-Minerals Management Service. The request is for support in publishing the 16 volumes being produced by the AFS Committee on Common and Scientific Names of Aquatic Invertebrates from the U.S. and Canada. Two volumes (Mollusks and Decapod Crustaceans) are completed with Ctenophores and Cnidaria (jelly fishes, corals, comb jellies) ready for the printer and three other volumes in draft. Hundreds of taxonomists are involved in the ambitious effort which will also include aquatic insects and a separate volume on endangered and threatened aquatic invertebrates. The Committee, under energetic chairman Dr. Donna Turgeon, has the determination, talent, and momentum, but the all important funding is not yet in sight.

A college campus network of AFS representatives has been established by Brian Murphy and colleagues of the Education Section. The goal of the network is to have an AFS member faculty contact at every college and university with a fisheries program. These representatives will be asked to serve as local information sources for potential AFS members and will have membership packets and recruiting posters. Copies of the "network" list are available to anyone sending a request with a self-addressed, 25 cent postage-paid envelope the the AFS headquarters, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814.



MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcement and call for papers: "Warmwater Fisheries Symposium I," June 4-8, 1991, Phoenix, Arizona. No such meeting, featuring warmwater fisheries and fishing opportunities in the western states, has ever been held before. The symposium presently has 24 co-sponsors, including three Divisions of AFS. It looks like Jim Cooper, Al Mills, and Mark Hichert are cooking up a landmark event so get involved and submit an abstract before July 1, 1990, to Warmwater Fisheries Symposium I, Wildlife and Fisheries Management, USDA - Forest Service, 5517 Gold Ave., S.W., Albuquerque NM 87102.

Fifth International Toxic Marine Phytoplankton Symposium is planned for October 28-November 1, 1991. The Newport, Rhode Island, meeting will focus on toxic, harmful, and nuisance blooms and species of marine phytoplankton and their consequences. Suitable topics for contributed papers, posters, and workshops include taxonomy, cellular and molecular biology, physiology, biochemistry, toxicology, ecology, environmental regulation, public health, and aquaculture issues. A published proceedings will be peer reviewed. If you are interested please write for a nonbinding pre-registration form. Send requests and questions to Dr. Theodore Smayda, Professor of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island, Narragansett, RI, 02881-1197, or phone (401) 792-6171.

The Game and Fish Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will host the Alabama State Lakes Tour June 11-13, 1991. If you are interested in obtaining information concerning this meeting, contact:

Alabama Game and Fish Division
Fisheries Section
Attn: Stan Cook
64 North Union Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130
(205) 242-3471

Membership Directory - Mailing List Update

The membership committee is working to put together a member directory for distribution to Florida Chapter members, and need your help. If there are errors in the address or year of payment appearing on your mailing label, please contact:

David Clapp
Florida GFC
P.O. Box 1903
Eustis, FL 32727

Additionally, if you did not fill out a membership survey form at the last annual meeting, please fill out the survey sheet below and mail it to David Clapp.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Areas of expertise 1) _____
2) _____
3) _____

Areas of interest 1) _____
2) _____
3) _____

Additional comments (What would you like the Chapter or membership committee do for you?) _____

Thank you for your help,
David Clapp
Brandt Hennigsen
Dylan Jones

Michael D. Murphy
Newsletter Editor
Florida Chapter of the AFS
FMRI, 100 Eighth Ave. S.E.
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-5095

