

FEBRUARY

VOLUME 14 (1)

SURPRISE, A NEWSLETTER

Well, it took a little while, but Chuck Cichra and I have finally been able to get the torch passed between us. Sorry it has taken so long. My plan is to get a newsletter out quarterly. With the upcoming national meeting only a few short months away, I see the Shell-cracker as an important vehicle to keep everyone aware of what is happening. In addition, I would like to keep the membership aware of meetings, new publications, nominations for awards, calls for help, and other fisheries related activities. If something comes up, please let me know, and I will incorporate it into the newsletter. Just send the item to:

Peter Hood
FMRI, FDEP
100 8th Ave. S. E.
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
813-896-8626, (FAX 813-823-0166)

15 th Annual Meeting
Florida Chapter, American Fisheries Society
Withlacochee State Forest Training Center
Brooksville, Florida
21-23 March 1995
For registration and meeting information, see
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AFS NATIONAL MEETING NEWS

FROM THE DESK OF RON TAYLOR, GENERAL CHAIR

I want to say thank you to each member for the support and commitment that you have shown over the past couple of years. Without everyone's support all of this hubbub over the 1995 national meeting would not be going on. No one has ever given me an outright "no" when asked to pitch in and give a hand. It is encouraging to work with a group of people who have such enthusiasm. But it ain't over yet, in fact, the job has just begun. Up to this point, most of the work has been planning the budget. The next phase is putting plans to practice and this calls for people, time, and action. If you are serving on a committee, then you have a job, however, if you are not, then you need a job to make Tampa '95 a success. Seriously, in the coming months, if you are approached by a committee chair asking for your services, please give them a "yes". I know that Rich and the registration group will need additional people, as will Heagy and the transportation group to shuttle people to and from the airport or other destinations. Plus, we will need some people to act as roving sign posts and hall monitors in the Trade Center. It will give you an opportunity to interact with the national membership and receive a reduced registration.

We are already garnering compliments for the work we have done to date. The national staff and many members of the executive committee have said we are doing an excellent job and that it is a pleasure to work with the Florida Chapter. I know you are not interested in a blow by blow description but, Lee Redmond, the '95 national president, gives us glowing accolades for the job we have done up to now. He will be at our annual chapter meeting in March and has expressed a desire to meet as many of the Florida Crackers as possible. If you don't already have plans, come to Brooksville this year to show your support for what we are doing and to volunteer if the call goes out. **On to Brooksville! On to Tampa!**

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL RAFFLE COMMITTEE:

Good news, good news, good news. The 1995 National Raffle Committee has successfully acquired a Hewes flats boat to be won at the ANNUAL MEETING in Tampa. A very special thanks goes out to Scott Deal, Bruce Park, and Mark Castlow for their very generous donation and support of the American Fisheries Society. In addition, a trailer has been donated by Dave Greenway of EZ Loader SE and Ed Zawadzki of Lowrance Electronics has verbally committed to the electronics. All of these gentlemen deserve your thanks and if feasible, your business. Keep your fingers crossed that an engine comes through. **SAVE, YOUR MONEY NOW** because raffle tickets will be \$5.00. Go ahead and spend those dollars on tickets because we want to be sure that this is the most successful raffle ever. Rumor has it that there may be other exciting prizes such as an exotic fishing trip and a gheenue or canoe. See you in TAMPA.

Wanted: Photographers (ie. someone who enjoys talking f-stops, exposure times, pushing film, and forgot-to-remove-the-lens-cap stories)- We need people with a photographic bent to take pictures of groups and events at the national meeting. We will supply the film and you take the pictures. If you are interested in helping out this way, contact Peter Hood, Public Relations, Press, and Photo chair, FMRI, FDEP, 100 8th Ave. S. E., St. Petersburg, FL 33710, 813-896-8626, (FAX 813-823-0166).

15 th Annual Meeting
Florida Chapter, American Fisheries Society
Withlacoochee State Forest Training Center
Brooksville, Florida
21-23 March 1995

Tentative Schedule: Subject to Change

Tuesday, 21 March 1995

1:00pm - 6:00pm Registration
3:00pm - 5:00pm National Meeting Committee Meetings
5:30pm - 6:30pm Dinner
7:30 pm - ??? Social

Wednesday, 22 March 1995

7:00am - 8:00am Breakfast
8:00am - 5:00pm Registration
8:30am - 11:45am Contributed Papers
12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch
1:30pm - 3:00pm National Meeting Workshop
3:30pm - 5:00pm Contributed Papers
5:30pm - 6:30pm Dinner
7:00pm - 8:30pm Business Meeting - Rich Cailteux President
8:30pm - ??? Raffle and Social

Thursday, 23 March 1995

7:00am - 8:00am Breakfast
8:30am - 12:00pm Contributed Papers
12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch
1:00 pm - 1:30pm Best Paper and Lampshade Awards

**** 1995 Program News ****: There are still a few open slots left in this years program but they are going fast!! If you would like to present a paper please send an abstract (Hardcopy) to: Steve Miller, 1025 Winterhawk Drive St. Augustine Florida 32086. (904-329-4387). The final deadline is February 15 so don't delay!!!

**** State Chapter Raffle Prizes Needed **** Because of the outstanding work they have done on the National Meeting raffle, the raffle committee has not had much time to work on this years state raffle. It may not be as big as last years but the raffle will go on!! How else will we ever get the business meeting to end?? We are asking that all those attending bring a raffle prize. Dust off all those old Diving Schmoos and contribute them back to the pot. Contributions are tax deductible and we will send out official letters to any local businesses or bait shops you may get to contribute. For more info contact Doug Haymans at 813-896-8626.

The following is a list of accepted abstracts as of January 23, 1995

AGE AND GROWTH

Applications of Age and Growth Information for Largemouth bass in Florida.

Wes Porak. Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

Age and Growth of Gulf Sturgeon in the Apalachicola River, Florida.

Laura G. Jenkins. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Determination of the Stock Structure of Nassau Grouper Utilizing Elemental Fingerprints of Otoliths. Heather M. Patterson and Jonathan M. Shenker. Florida Institute of Technology.

On the Non-Random Nature of Biostatistics Used in Growth Parameter Estimation: The Spanish Mackerel as Case Study. Josue Martinez. University of Miami.

Perennial Occurrence and Fast Growth Rates by Crevalle Jacks in the Hudson River Estuary. Richard S. McBride. Florida Marine Research Institute.

Development of an otolith microstructure-based technique to determine inlet of origin of Atlantic menhaden recruited to North Carolina estuaries. Andrew W. David, J. Jeffrey Isely, and Churchill B. Grimes. National Marine Fisheries Service Panama City Laboratory.

Age, growth, age at maturity, and size composition of spotted seatrout in Northwest Florida. Chad D. Bedee, Christopher L. Palmer and Douglas A. DeVries. National Marine Fisheries Service, Panama City Laboratory.

PAPERS

Spawning Frequency and Egg Production of Spotted Seatrout in Conditioning Rooms. Brian B. Wisner, Kristin L. Mertz and Thomas R. Capo. University of Miami Experimental Hatchery.

From Sport Fishing Bust to Commercial Fishing Boon: A History of the Blue Tilapia in Florida. Marty M. Hale, Joe E. Crumpton and Ralph J. Schuler, Jr. Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

Reproductive Biology of the gag in the Northeastern Gulf of Mexico. L. Alan Collins, Allyn G. Johnson, Christopher C. Koenig and Christopher P. Keim. National Marine Fisheries Service. Panama City Laboratory.

INDIAN RIVER LAGOON HABITAT RESTORATION

Restoring Fish Nursery Habitat: The Indian River Lagoon SWIM Impoundment Reconnection Program. Ron Brockmeyer. St. Johns River Water Management District.

The Seagrass Monitoring Program for the Indian River Lagoon: How Will Fisheries Benefit? L.J. Morris, R.W. Virnstein and R. R. Miller. St. Johns River Water Management District.

Population Study of Blackchin Tilapia and Associated Fishes Within an Impounded Salt Marsh of East-Central Florida. Craig H. Faunce. Florida Institute of Technology.

Recruitment of Larval Tarpon and Ladyfish into the Indian River Lagoon. Elizabeth G. Cowie and Jonathan M. Shenker. Florida Institute of Technology.

Recruitment of Larval Snappers (Family Lutjanidae) Through Sebastian Inlet, Florida. Sara L. Smith and Jonathan M. Shenker. Florida Institute of Technology

GENERAL INTEREST CONTRIBUTED

**Florida Chapter of The American Fisheries Society
1995 Annual Meeting Registration**

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 PHONE _____ E MAIL _____
 AFFILIATION _____
 ARRIVAL DATE/TIME _____

Please select one of the following Registration Fees:

Early Registration (Before March 10, 1995)

If you have already **Paid** 1995 Fla. Chapter dues
 your registration fee is: (\$15.00) _____

If you **have not Paid** your 1995 Chapter Dues
 your registration fee is: (\$25.00) _____

Full Meals and Lodging (\$76.00) _____
 (Include dinner and lodging on Tuesday night;
 breakfast, lunch, dinner and lodging on Wednesday
 and breakfast and lunch on Thursday.)

Partial Meals and Lodging

Tuesday: Mar 21, 1995	Dinner	(\$ 8.00) _____
	Lodging	(\$21.00) _____
Wednesday: Mar 22, 1995	Breakfast	(\$ 3.00) _____
	Lunch	(\$ 6.00) _____
	Dinner	(\$ 8.00) _____
	Lodging	(\$21.00) _____
Thursday: Mar. 23, 1995	Breakfast	(\$ 3.00) _____
	Lunch	(\$ 6.00) _____

Total Amount _____

Total Enclosed: (Minimum \$10.00 Deposit) _____

Balance Due _____

Please Make Checks Payable to: **Florida Chapter, AFS**

Return to: Larry Connor (904) 357-5\6631
 Fisheries Research Lab Fax (904) 357-6635
 P.O. Box 1903
 Eustis, Florida 32727-1903

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Excellence in Fisheries Education Award Committee
Education Section, American Fisheries Society

The American Fisheries Society (AFS) Excellence in Fisheries Education Award was established in 1988. The award is administered by AFS Education Section and is presented annually to an individual to recognize excellence in organized teaching and advising in some aspect of fisheries education. Nominees must be an AFS member, have been actively engaged in fisheries education within the past five years, and have had at least 10 years of professional employment experience in fisheries education. Two or more people may act as nominators, but at least one nominator must be a AFS member. **Nomination deadline** is March 31, 1995. Additional information can be obtained from: Bobby Whiteside, Chairman, Excellence in Fisheries Education Committee, Aquatic Station, Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, TX 78666.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society's Mid-Year Meeting, 23-26 February, 1995 in Virginia Beach, VA. Symposia already scheduled for the technical program include Management of Striped Bass and its Hybrids, Interbasin Water Transfers and Ecological Issues, Blue Crab Research, Success Stories in Public Education, and AFS Point/Counterpoint session entitled "Is it Appropriate to Jeopardize Ecosystem Integrity to Achieve Fishery Management Goals". Program information can be obtained from Edward Christffers, Program Committee Chairman, USFWS, 177 Admiral Cochrane Dr., Annapolis, MD 21401 (410-573-4530)

National Wetlands Workshop, April 3-7, 1995 in New Orleans, LA. Contact U. S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Wetlands Research and Technology Center, Attn: CEWES-EP-W, 3909 Halls Ferry Rd. Vicksburg, MS 39180-6199 (phone 601-634-2569/4217 or Fax 601-634-3664)

Third Reservoir Fisheries Symposium, June 12-14, 1995 in Chattanooga TN. Contact Steve Miranda for more information at P.O. Drawer BX, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (Fax 601-325-8726).

Seventy-fifth annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Eleveth Annual Meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society, and Forty-third annual meeting to the Herpetologists' League, June 15-19 in Edmonton, Alberta. Contact the ASIH local committee for more information at the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E9, Canada (403-492-4281/Fax 403-492-9234).

Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, September 23-27, 1995 in Nashville, TN. The theme of the meeting is "The Status and Future of Ecosystem Management in the Southeast". The deadline for manuscripts is May 1, 1995 and the Fisheries Associate Editor is Richard W. Luebke, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Heart of the Hills Research Station, HCO7, Box 62, Ingram, TX 78025 (210-866-3356).

And don't forget the **125th Annual AFS** meeting in Tampa, August 28-31.

FOR NET SURFERS: "A biologist's guide to Internet resources" version 1.7 is available from Una Smith, Yale University, Dept. of Biology, Osborn Memorial Laboratories, PO Box 6666, New Haven, connecticut 06511-8155 (solaris@cicei.ulpgc.es@SMTP@FIRNVX).

This guide is available over Internet at no cost.

Directions to the Florida Chapter, AFS Annual Meeting

TO
TALLAHASSEE

TO
GAINESVILLE

I-75

CRYSTAL
RIVER



S.R. 44

INVERNESS



FLORAL CITY



S.R. 48

BUSHNELL
EXIT

Division of Forestry
Withlacoochi Training Center
904-796-6080
Located one mile south of
Hernando/Citrus County line
and 1/2 mile north of Mekethan
Lake Park

U.S. 98

S.R. 50



BROOKSVILLE

U.S. 19

U.S. 41

I-75

TAMPA

15TH ANNUAL MEETING: 21-23 March 1995

**WITHLACOCHEE STATE FOREST TRAINING CENTER,
BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA**