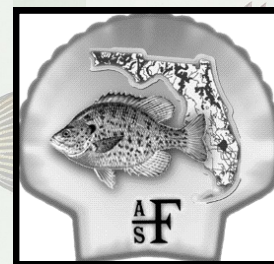


The Shellcracker

FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY



<https://units.fisheries.org/fl/>

Spring 2022

Thank you to everyone who attended the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society! This was our first in-person meeting in years, and it was great to see folks again outside of our video chat viewing boxes. The meeting was held April 5-7, 2022 at the Florida FFA Leadership Training Center in Haines City, Florida. We had 81 attendees, giving 32 oral presentations and 15 posters. Great science and great times were shared by all!

A big, giant thank you to all who helped make this meeting a success. It wouldn't be possible without the aid of members, and we appreciate the work everyone put into it. And a giant shoutout to Steve Beck who took on his first annual meeting as Secretary-Treasurer and did an awesome job!

I would like to congratulate our new officers and welcome them to the Executive Committee team. Ed Camp was elected as President-Elect, I have moved to President, and Daniel Nelson has moved to Past-President. Steve Beck is serving as our Secretary-Treasurer. Our student subunit elected Nicholas Castillo (President), Brent McKenna (Vice President), Jonathan Rodeman (Secretary-Treasurer), and Mack White (University Liaison). Casey Murray has moved to Past-President. In addition, Kyle Miller has taken over as Newsletter Editor.

I'd also like to congratulate our award winners. Lew Bullock received this year's Rich Cailteux Award. Rottman Scholarships were awarded to Tyler Coleman (Doctoral-level) and Natasha Viadero (Masters-level). We also had many student travel grants awarded this year. Casey Murray received the Jack Dequine Best Student Paper Award, with Nicholas Castillo as Honorable Mention. Summer Lindelien was awarded Best Professional Paper, with Ed Camp as Honorable Mention. Brittany Hall-Scharf received the Best Student Poster Award, with Casey Murray as Honorable Mention, and Amanda Croteau received the Best Professional Poster Award, with Jonathan Freedman as Honorable Mention. In addition, Kerry Flaherty Walia was awarded the Power Tie this year. Congratulations everyone!

We are currently exploring new venues for next year's meeting and will have our 2023 dates set as soon as we finalize a location. We have lots going on in our Chapter and many opportunities to be involved. I am so excited for all that we have to come!

Sincerely,

Chelsey Crandall
President, Florida Chapter AFS



Getting in Touch

American Fisheries Society Florida Chapter Officers

President

Chelsey Crandall
FWC/FWRI
7386 NW 71st St
Gainesville, FL 32653
Email: Chelsey.crandall@myfwc.com

President-Elect

Ed Camp
University of Florida/Fisheries and Aquatic
Sciences Program
Gainesville, FL
Email: edvcamp@ufl.edu

Secretary/Treasurer

Steve Beck
FWC/DFFM
7386 NW 71st St
Gainesville, FL 32653
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Newsletter Editor

Kyle Miller
FWC/FWRI
601 W Woodward Ave
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Past President

Daniel Nelson
FWC/FWRI
601 W Woodward Ave
Eustis, FL 32726
Email: Daniel.nelson@myfwc.com

American Fisheries Society Florida Chapter Student Sub-Unit Officers

President

Nick Castillo
Florida International University
Email: ncast169@fiu.edu

Vice President

Brent McKenna
Florida Atlantic University
Email: bmckenna2017@fau.edu

Secretary/Treasurer

Jonathan Rodemann
Florida International University
Email: jrode010@fiu.edu

University Liaison

Mack White
Florida International University
Email: mwhite@fiu.edu



Upcoming Events

August 21-25, 2022: AFS National Meeting: Spokane, WA

Est. January to March 2023: AFS Southern Division annual meeting, Virginia

Interested in contributing something to the Shellcracker? Email: Kyle Miller at kylea.miller@myfwc.com with any articles or information that you would like to be included in the next issue. Prize will be awarded for the best, and worst fish jokes submitted.

Getting involved!

Committees Seeking members:

Award Committee

Rich Caiteux/Outstanding Achievement Awards
Eric Nagid
Eric.Nagid@myfwc.com

Continuing Education Committee

Planning future continuing education workshops
Allison Durland Donahou
adurland@flsouthern.edu
Jason O'Connor
Jason.Oconnor@myfwc.com

Marketing and Membership Committee

New membership ideas in recruitment, retainment, and reactivation of members
Kerry Flaherty-Walia
Kerry.Walia@myfwc.com

Policy Committee

Keep members informed on local to national policy issues on aquatic resources
Ed Camp
edvcamp@ufl.edu

New Venue Search Committee

Search for new venues for future Florida Chapter meetings
Matt Wegener
Matt.Wegener@myfwc.com
Kevin Johnson
Kevin.Johnson@myfwc.com

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Providing members with information on DEI
Chelsey Crandall
Chelsey.Crandall@myfwc.com

Feature your research:

Shellcracker Newsletter

Feature articles or other AFS content
Kyle Miller
Kylea.Miller@myfwc.com

Website

Updates, articles, content
Jason O'Connor
Jason.Oconnor@myfwc.com

Student Scholarships and Travel Grants

Assistance with student scholarships and future scholarship opportunities:
Rottman Scholarship
Dennis PUNCHES Memorial Scholarship (West Palm Beach Fishing Club)
Chuck Cichra
cecichra@ufl.edu

Student Sub-unit

Swag sales, blog updates, student chapter involvement
Nicholas Castillo
ncast169@fju.edu

Raffle/Silent Auction

Assistance with raffle collections, auction items
Amanda Croteau
acroteau@uwf.edu

Events

Florida AFS sponsored aquatic clean ups

Joining current aquatic clean ups or begin your own
Nick Trippel
Nick.Trippel@myfwc.com

Positions



Code of Conduct Officer

Searching for officers to represent
FL AFS code of conduct
Daniel Nelson
Daniel.Nelson@myfwc.com

OR!

Submit your awful fish-related pun to the newsletter editor to win a prize. I promise the corniest of the fish jokes will find their way into a future newsletter.

Examples:

Where did the fish go when he got sick?

To see the sturgeon! (or dock)

What is a pirates favorite letter?

You'd think it be ARRRRRGH, but his first love is the C

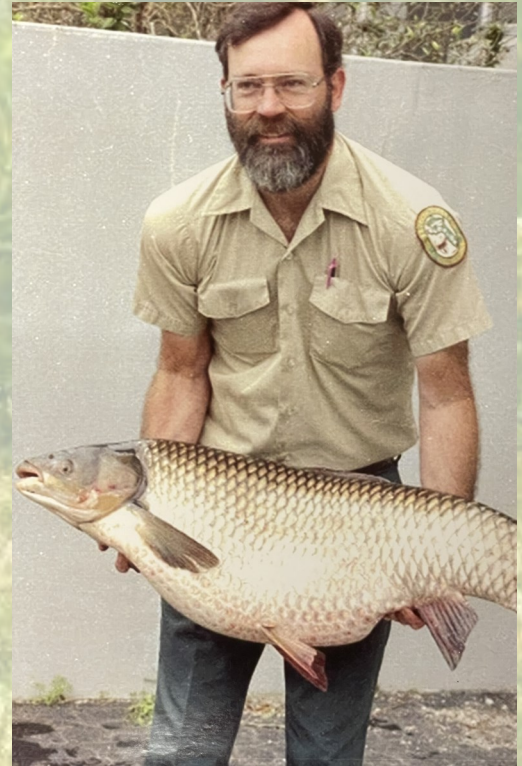
Let minnow if these are too crappie
- Kyle

Carp-e Diem Eustis!

FWRI's Eustis Freshwater Fisheries Field Lab is one of the Institute's 28 field labs throughout the state. The lab was opened in 1966 on land donated to the agency, from the city. The field lab is home to anywhere from 30-40 biologists, with a majority being in freshwater fisheries research. The Eustis lab is unique in that it is also home to biologists studying bears and alligators, freshwater fisheries management, habitat and species conservation, and also law enforcement officers. While the lab was founded with the intention of research on the Harris chain of lakes, it has expanded to cover many statewide projects, encompassing a large variety of monitoring and research.

If you've ever spent time on Florida's freshwater systems, attended an AFS meeting, or generally logged onto any outdoors Facebook group, you are aware of Florida's issues with invasive plants. Invasive plants degrade and diminish Florida's conservation lands and natural resources. The invasive plant management section is the lead agency in Florida responsible for coordinating and funding the statewide plant control programs. More than 60 biological, chemical, and mechanical tools are available to manage aquatic plants in Florida waters. This toolkit is somewhat limited by stakeholder perceptions of management activities. While herbicide may be drastically more cost effective, human dimension studies have shown that mechanical and biological methods are greatly preferred. The most effective biological control thus far has been with triploid grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*). The sterile grass carp are voracious herbivores, however they can be tricky, with specific food preferences. With growing pressure from the public, it is essential that we manage plants in a cost effective manner that is compatible with the current water body and research atmosphere. Invasive Plant Management biologists rely on the research from biologists at Eustis field lab, to best manage these invasive plants.

I've synthesized the efforts of two of Eustis' own biologists, Boyd Thompson and Logan Masterson. Their combined research shows the effort and modifications necessary to develop a Best Management Practice for invasive plants using grass carp as a biocontrol. Logan just began tracking grass carp with radio telemetry tags on Lake Apopka and Lake Yale. Understanding the movement, habitat use, and mortality rates of grass carp will be critical to calculate stocking rates. Boyd studied hauling and post stocking mortality of carp and the management of carp in multi use lakes. One catch – Boyd's articles were published in the third volume of Lake and Reservoir Management (currently volume 38). Invasive plant management is, and will continue to be, an essential operation for the Eustis researchers. Triploid grass carp are key to this management, as a biological control with lasting effects.



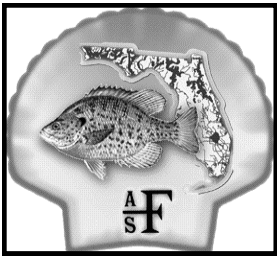
In Boyd's 15+ years working with grass carp, he collected data on growth, feeding, stocking rates, and food selectivity in grass carp. In addition to the benefits of grass carp, Boyd also documented cases where grass carp just should not be used. He learned first hand how difficult they are to recapture, and how overstocking can decimate native plant populations. His critical analysis also ensured that the carp were not detrimental to water quality, benthic invertebrates, or waterfowl. Boyd's research laid the groundwork for an effective biological control that can mitigate invasive plants for up to 15 years at a time.

In addition to his years of contribution to Florida's freshwater plants research, Boyd is still working at the Eustis field lab. Whether you need assistance swapping trailer tires, charging batteries, or running the air compressor, Boyd is willingly available. He keeps us smiling with tales of grass carp sampling in days past and loads of cool specimens in his office. He is also instrumental in office operations like keeping a leak-free roof over our heads. If you're ever at the Eustis field lab, make sure that you find Boyd and ask to check out a set of grass carp pharyngeal teeth.



An additional concern in stocking grass carp into a system like the Harris Chain is that fish will emigrate due to the connectivity of the lakes. Logan's goal is to use radio telemetry to assess stocking mortality and natural mortality for triploid carp in lake Apopka. Radio telemetry data will further be used to investigate the movement, habitat use, home range, and emigration from the lake. This information will help accurately stock carp, since they can not easily be removed when control is achieved. His joint research project will be cooperative among freshwater fisheries research, freshwater fisheries management, invasive plant management, and the University of Florida. Logan's project is an example of the effectiveness of inter-agency cooperation in developing Best Management Practices. Wish him luck as he tracks his grass carp across the 30,000 acre, 4th largest lake in the state!





AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
FLORIDA CHAPTER

**Minutes of the 42nd Annual Business Meeting of the Florida
Chapter American Fisheries Society**
April 20-22, 2021

President Dan Nelson called the meeting to order at 1600 hours and Steve Beck established a quorum with approximately 55 Chapter members in attendance.

Current officers, past-presidents, committee chairs, and several members of the Florida Chapter were in attendance: Dan Nelson, Chelsey Crandall, Bob Heagey, Steve Beck, Jason O'Connor, Kyle Miller, Casey Murray, Amanda Croteau, Chuck Cichra, Chris Anderson, Kevin Johnson, Nick Trippel, Wes Porak, Kerry Flaherty-Walia, Travis Tuten, Ed Camp, Matt Cleary, Drew Dutterer, Summer Lindelien, Alexis Trotter and many more.

One revision was made to the agenda for the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Florida Chapter American Fisheries Society Business Meeting: Discussion of the new West Palm Beach Fishing Club-Dennis Panches Memorial Scholarship to the Committee Reports Discussion.

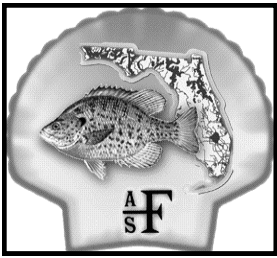
Dan Nelson then asked for and received approval of the agenda.

AFS and Southern Division AFS Business:

Mark Rogers (President Elect, Southern Division AFS) reviewed presidential charges and provided several updates summarized as: 1) encouragement to become aware of and make nominations for awards, 2) increasing communication between technical committees and agency leadership (several vacant seats on committees), 3) New Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, 4) importance of change of officer forms, 5) briefing book, 6) AFS Code of Conduct, 7) importance of International AFS membership, 8) upcoming meetings: International AFS: Aug 21-25, 2022, SEAFWA: Oct 23-26, 2022, Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress: May 15-18, 2023, and the SDAFS annual meeting location schedule, and 9) reflected on Thomas Kwak, longtime AFS member, recently passed.

Amanda Croteau gave an update on the AFS Membership Committee. She informed members of a new survey coming out soon as a follow-up to the DEI survey, upcoming free webinars about the benefits of International AFS membership, and that the process to “gift” memberships is being developed.

Secretary/Treasurer Steve Beck asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the 41st (2021) Annual Business Meeting of the Florida Chapter American Fisheries Society as they appeared in the April 2021 Shellcracker newsletter. The motion was made, seconded and passed.



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

FLORIDA CHAPTER

Minutes of the 42nd Annual Business Meeting of the Florida Chapter American Fisheries Society

April 20-22, 2021

Steve Beck then presented the 2021 Treasurer's Report. It was noted that changing officers on accounts in January is not ideal to due security issues limiting account access that arose immediately prior to the annual meeting. The chapter ended the year with \$74,539 in total assets, a \$2,075 loss from the beginning of the year. The loss came primarily from our Morgan Stanley mutual funds. The Chapter's main debits in 2021 were our Rottmann Scholarships (\$2,000), sponsorship of the FWC Snook Management Symposium (\$1,000), and virtual 2021 meeting expenditures. The Chapter's main credits in 2021 came from the 2020 AFS parent society dues FL Chapter dues refund check (\$1,230), Chapter dues from PayPal/checks (\$1,039), donations (\$500), and Subunit income from various sources including 2021 Sheepshead Shuffle (\$477), the 2021 Virtual Silent Auction (\$878), and the 2021 ExCom Challenge (\$444).

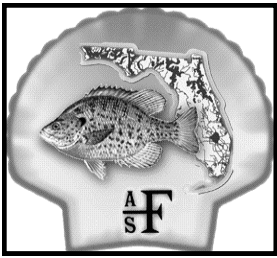
Steve Beck also gave an update on the Roger Rottmann Memorial Scholarship Fund via an a priori email from Larry Connor. The Fund had assets of \$51,611.47 as of 31 December 2021, representing a \$3,858.34 increase from the 31 December 2020 assets of \$47,753.13.

Past-President Bob Heagey then facilitated elections for chapter President-Elect. Candidates Kristy Lewis and Ed Camp each gave a bio about themselves and their vision as chapter president (Kristy Lewis in absentia, bio presented by Kira Allen). There was some discussion whether Steve Beck needed to be elected as Secretary since he was appointed by the ExCom in January 2022 to replace Chris Anderson when he stepped down (permitted in the Bylaws). Bylaws also state all officers must be elected at the annual meeting when terms expire, but since the term for Secretary-Treasurer position is open-ended, it is unclear whether Secretary-Treasurer needed to appear on the ballot. It was decided that all appointed officers should be elected at the next annual meeting and Steve Beck was included on the ballot running unopposed for Secretary-Treasurer. Paper ballots were distributed, collected, and tallied by Bob Heagey.

Committee Reports

Membership – Steve Beck gave an update on membership via an a priori email from Larry Connor. The Florida Chapter ended the year with 253 members, which is an increase of 93 members from 2020, though this increase may be inflated due to the Covid pandemic. A total of 142 members paid their dues through the Chapter website in 2021. The Chapter's membership included 76 student members. Approximately 64% of the chapter members, 163, were also Society members. The breakdown of student and society member should be used with caution given missing data from some members who did not register though International AFS. Pre-pandemic Chapter membership was 214 total (58 student/175 Society) in 2018, and 223 total (68 student/178 Society) in 2019.

Newsletter – Kyle Miller introduced himself as the new Shellcracker newsletter editor, replacing Scott Bisping who served July 2018-January 2022. He reminded members that they can submit articles for the Shellcracker at any time and types of articles that get highlighted.



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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Website – Jason O'Connor replaced Chris Anderson as webmaster in 2021. He reviewed changes made to the Chapter website including: 1) updating format to better match the International AFS website, 2) improved information access, 3) updated past meeting information archives, 4) developed annual meeting abstract submission portal and export format to facilitate meeting program assembly.

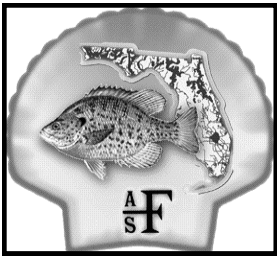
Raffle/ Silent Auction – Amanda Croteau started by reviewing the 2021 virtual silent auction and how the ExCom Challenge had been created. She highlighted prizes available for the 2022 raffle/auction/challenge including several rods, artwork, and a kayak and how all funds are used for student travel for the next annual meeting. Amanda reported over \$7000 worth of prizes had been donated for the 2022 fundraiser.

Student Scholarships and Awards – Chuck Cichra began his comments by mentioning that this is the 24th year the Rottmann Scholarship has been awarded. He also highlighted the increased student involvement over the years and how important it is for our Chapter. Chuck then gave the history of the Roger Rottmann Memorial Scholarship and summarized the recipient applications before announcing that Natasha Viadero (Florida International University) received the M.S. Rottmann award and Tyler Coleman (University of Florida) received the Ph.D. Rottmann award. He went on to comment about how impressive students resumes and applications are these days, and how that (plus an increased endowment of the Rottmann fund) led to the separation of the award into a M.S. and Ph.D. level. Five universities were represented by this year's applicants.

He also spoke about the student travel grants and that 14 students applied. While awarding all applicants full travel grants (meals/lodging) for the annual Chapter meeting would have slightly exceeded the student travel grant budget (temporarily increased by no travel needed for the 2020-21 virtual meetings), the Chapter was willing to cover the excess expense. However, two student applicants were not able to attend the meeting so the student travel grant budget was not exceeded. Given the number of applications, this committee will develop stricter evaluation criteria and/or alternative award structure before the 2023 annual meeting.

Florida Chapter Awards – Bob Heagey presented the history of the Rich Cailteux Award, which is meant to recognize individuals for their career contributions to the fisheries profession and the Florida Chapter. Lew Bullock was then named the 10th recipient of the Rich Cailteux Award for his pioneering marine fisheries research and Bob read several nomination letters. There was no Outstanding Achievement Award this year.

Continuing Education – Jason O'Connor reported on the October 2021 Marine Fish ID workshop, materials for which can be found on the Chapter Website. He thanked Vic Diconzo for conducting the 2022 annual Chapter meeting workshop on Critical Thinking and Problem Solving. He said they would like to organize a summer and fall workshop for 2022 and that they are currently collecting ideas.



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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Marketing and Membership – Kerry Flaherty-Walia discussed social media pages created/managed by Allison Durland Donahou and Amanda Croteau and encouraged members to join/follow/like the pages and provide content. Between 25-206 people were reached with each post, with the most popular posts being job announcements. Kerry reviewed International AFS Communication Committee initiatives; presenting the new AFS logo and the need to incorporate this into the Chapter logo. This also provides an opportunity to design the Chapter logo. International AFS is developing guidance on incorporating the new logo and the MMC will work on this for the Chapter and is looking for volunteers.

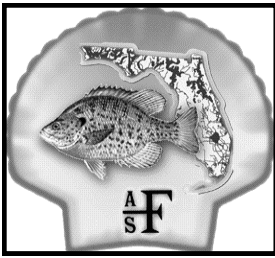
Policy – Ed Camp detailed providing Chapter support for HR 2773, Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2021, which aligned with International AFS advocacy. He also outlined discussions around a decision not to establish a Chapter position on (not become involved in) proposed changes to the Lake County Water Authority that appeared to increase political influence on water management decisions. He also shared that the next policy topic could be proposed changes to the Lacy Act which could negatively affect marine ornamental fish aquaculture and that we were waiting to see if International AFS will develop any guidance.

2017 Tampa Profits Ad Hoc – Eric Nagid provided comments a priori via email, stating this committee has been dissolved and that the remaining funds from the International AFS 2017 meeting in Tampa should be used to send Jack Dequine Award winners to International AFS meetings and provide sponsorship to Southern Division meetings.

New Venue Search Committee – Matt Wegener provided comments a priori via email and Kevin Johnson provided a brief presentation on meeting venue history and considerations. Information has been compiled on FFA cost and amenities, reasons for moving locations, requirements for a new venue, potential locations, and selection criteria for a new location. There has also been renewed interest in doing a joint meeting with surrounding states. The president of Georgia AFS made this point during their recent state meeting. This, of course, comes with its own hurdles but it's very much on the table.

Student Subunit Report

Student Subunit President Casey Murray began by promoting student research by discussing the Reefs to Rivers blog, Shellcracker student highlight articles, and the Subunit's Facebook and Instagram pages. Casey then reminded the chapter to support subunit fundraising efforts which include purchasing merchandise, utilizing the Amazon Smile account, and signing up for the 5th annual Sheepshead Shuffle. She encouraged members to sign up for Amazon Smile, which generates donations to the Chapter when items are purchased on Amazon at no cost to the purchaser. Casey then presented the newly elected officers for the Student Subunit: President: Nick Castillo (FIU), VicePresident: Brent McKenna (FAU), Secretary/Treasurer: Jonathan Rodemann (FIU), and University Liaison: Mack White (FIU).



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

FLORIDA CHAPTER

Minutes of the 42nd Annual Business Meeting of the Florida Chapter American Fisheries Society

April 20-22, 2021

Old Business

Aquatic Cleanup Events - Nick Trippel spoke about the beginnings of the now annual FL AFS Aquatic Cleanup events around the Harris Chain of Lakes and how the event has led to a good relationship with local government and facilitated future interactions. Over 2000 lbs of garbage was removed with over 6000 lbs removed since the program began. He mentioned that the events are held on the 3rd Saturday in September, which coincides with the International Coastal Clean-up. He said that cleanup events can be organized anywhere and at any time and encouraged members to contact him if they want to host an event and/or attend events held by other groups. He reminded members to record and submit the amount of trash (number of items, pounds of trash, etc.).

Installation of New Officers - Bob Heagey congratulated Ed Camp on being voted the new President-Elect and Steve Beck as Secretary/Treasurer. Chelsey Crandall then presented a plaque to Dan Nelson for his time as Chapter President. She also presented a plaque to Casey Murray for her time as Student Subunit President. A plaque will be sent to Scott Bisping for his time as Newsletter Editor (July 2018 – January 2022).

New business

Chelsey Crandall announced that the 2023 meeting location and time has yet to be determined and is a top priority post-meeting. Chelsey Crandall announced the formation of a new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee following the International AFS initiative (volunteers needed), which would utilize the International AFS Equal Opportunity Section toolkit.

Dan Nelson announced the need for two Code of Conduct officers to help facilitate the International AFS Code of Conduct initiative. Dan Nelson announced that the Chapter will host the 2029 Southern Division AFS annual meeting.

Chuck Cichra presented the new annual Dennis Panches Memorial Scholarship to be provided by the West Palm Beach Fishing Club. This club often donates merchandise to the annual meeting raffle/auction and in the past won an International AFS conservation award. He stated the club was interested in providing the Florida Chapter an annual scholarship \$2,500-\$5,000 in value in exchange for promoting the club/Dennis Punch, and the club would like the Chapter to figure out distribution requirements. Volunteers are needed and a new committee may need to be established.

Chelsey Crandall thanked membership and adjourned the business meeting at 1815 hours.

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

FLORIDA CHAPTER

2022 ROGER ROTTMANN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



In 1998, the Florida Chapter AFS established a memorial scholarship in memory of Roger Rottmann, one of the first fisheries biologists ever hired by the State of Florida University System. This scholarship was established to recognize outstanding students enrolled in Florida universities and colleges. Any student working toward a graduate degree related to the freshwater or marine fisheries sciences, is encouraged to apply. Scholarships were awarded this year: one at the Masters level *and* one at the PhD level. Below are the winners of the 2022 Scholarships.

Masters Level:

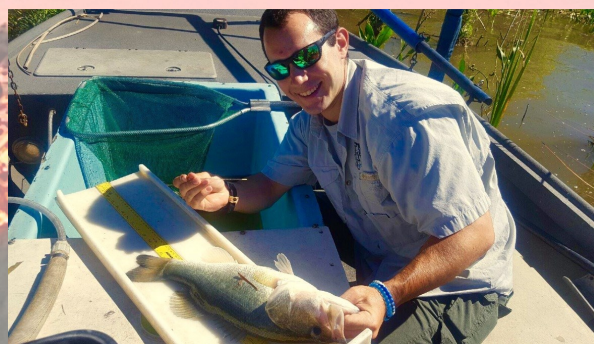
Natasha Viadero

Florida International university

PhD Level:

Tyler Coleman

University of Florida



2022 RICH CAILTEUX AWARD

The purpose of the Rich Cailteux Award is to recognize individuals who have maintained a long-term commitment to research, management, and/or conservation of Florida fisheries and aquatic resources. This award aims to honor individuals for their career contributions to the fisheries profession and enhancing the visibility of the Florida Chapter. The Rich Cailteux Award is the highest honor Florida AFS may bestow upon an individual member or collaborating group.

This year, past president Bob Heagy presented the Rich Cailteux Award to **Lew Bullock**. Lew was named the 10th recipient of the Rich Cailteux award for his pioneering in marine fisheries research. Bob read many nomination letters expressing gratitude and appreciation for Lew's dedicated service.



2022 Raffle, Silent Auction, & ExCom Challenge



Silent Auction

We had 8 silent auction packages which included original artwork, fishing charters, and getaway packages valued at over \$5800.

Congrats to all of our winning bidders!



Original Gyotaku art by Chuck Seaman

ExCom Challenge

Past-president Bob Heagey was the "winner" of this year's Excom Challenge, receiving the most votes and a pie to the face at our bonfire social. Check out the video on our Facebook page @FloridaAFS.

Thank you to Bob Heagey and everyone who voted! Funds raised by the ExCom Challenge support student travel grants.



Thank you!

We received approximately \$8000 in donations from artists, guides, attractions, hotels, restaurants, business, and chapter members. Thank you to all our donors and volunteers!

Together we raised over \$2700 to support future student travel awards to our annual meeting!

*Amanda Geoff.
& Chelsey*

Student Subunit Update

By: Nick Castillo

A new student subunit is in town! New officers were elected for 2022-2023 and include students from Florida Atlantic and Florida International Universities. We welcome Jonathan Rodemann as our Secretary/Treasurer, and Mack White as our University Liaison. Both from Florida International University in Miami. We also welcome back Brent McKenna from Florida Atlantic University as our Vice President. Congratulations to Nick Castillo from Florida International University as our new President. Keep up to date with our student researchers by checking out our blog (<https://flafsstudentsubunit.wordpress.com>), Facebook, and Instagram.

We are very proud of our student subunit's participation in the recent Florida AFS chapter meeting. 11 students presented their research to an audience of over 80 biologists. In addition to the oral presentations, 12 students participated in the poster session. Congratulations to Casey Murray for receiving the Jack Dequine Best Student paper Award! Casey presented on the Otogeny of Digestive Function in larval Chinese algae eater. Congratulations as well to Brittany Hall-Schard for receiving the Best Student Poster Award, for her poster on thermal tolerance of common snook. Thank you to all of our students who participated in this chapter meeting. From posters and presentations, to raffle ticket sales, we couldn't have done it without y'all.



Support our Students

Are you a student interested in promoting your research or developing your science communication skills? Become a contributor to our blog Reefs to Rivers (<https://flafsstudentsubunit.wordpress.com>) or send us pictures and have your research featured on our Instagram (www.Instagram.com/flafsstudent)

Contact us at flafsstudent@gmail.com for information on how you can get involved. Don't forget to follow our blog, Instagram, and Facebook (www.Facebook.com/AmericanFisheriesSocietyFIStudentChapter).

Do you use Amazon? By shopping with our Amazon Smile account, <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1208319>, Amazon donates to FLAFS. Funds go to support student travel awards. Sign up today!

