

OKLAHOMA CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Volume 19(1)

THE LATERAL LINE

December 1998

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PAST-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Thanks to everyone involved in the success of the joint meeting with the Arkansas and Kansas chapters in Fayetteville, AR last February. I received congratulations to our chapter from a number of professionals including the out-of-state workshop leaders on the quality of the meeting and its participants. Hats off to all of you. For those of you that couldn't make it, the meeting included 3 workshops, 3 technical sessions and professional posters on display. Workshops covered the biology and identification of freshwater mussels, the use of new software for estimating population abundance and productivity, and the new methodology and analysis for handling age and growth data. Presentation quality was high, with once again, a very strong group of student presentations from the Oklahoma Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit at OSU. Congratulations were extended to Harold Namminga the "Outstanding Fisheries Worker of the Year" for his service to the profession and to Jimmie Pigg who received a special recognition award from the Student Chapter for his support of student professionalism over the years. On the lighter side, the prime rib was thick and the beer did flow, which provided the proper atmosphere for the exchange of the most contemporary "angling survey" results among the motley assortment of professionals present. These are some of the highlights of a very positive meeting but now we need to look to the future.

Julia Matlock is our new president-elect and she will be getting things ready for a fall meeting, in state. Let's all make an effort to make sure she doesn't have to look too far for some help. Other changes include the Student Chapter taking over the Lateral Line responsibilities from Larry Cofer who took them over from Ken Cunningham.

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MESSAGE (Continued from Page 1)

We are also in need of someone to take charge, and I mean CHARGE!!! of the pond management seminar program to get it off the ground in a larger way. At the last meeting, we all agreed that the pond books we invested in would move a lot faster if we could get this program going. I suggest trying to get at least two seminars in each region over the course of this next year. We have a lot to gain here not only financially, but also in providing a positive and professional forum for us to interact with a significant number of aquatic resources, a priori (i.e., before you are cornered in a boat somewhere trying to explain large-scale management objectives to someone that is convinced their misinformation is gospel). We also may be able to coordinate these seminars such that the location would benefit some of the companies or mom and pop outfits that have supported our activities over the years. In this way, we can avoid the appearance of coming "to the well" too often and possibly even give something back to these supporters. Finally, for those that require loftier goals, it will aid in "stamping out the flames of ignorance" with regard to pond management. All of the above are worthwhile goals for this program.

Enclosed is a ballot that asks the membership to vote on accepting the bylaws of the student subunit as part of our own and in doing so making the Oklahoma Student Chapter of the American Fisheries Society an official entity. This has been a dream of the chapter for some time and the work of an outstanding core of students primarily at Oklahoma State University. Special recognition is due Conrad Toepfer, Craig Pauker and Jim Long who provided the necessary longevity across their academic careers, as well as, the resourcefulness and tenacity to bring this idea this close to reality. I urge the membership to give these bylaws unanimous approval.

Finally, as some may already know, I will be leaving Oklahoma in August 1998 to take a similar position at Fort Hays State University. Although the opportunity to relocate near aging family members is irresistible, it is with no small degree of reluctance that I will be leaving my position at Southeastern Oklahoma State University and the state of Oklahoma. When I came to Oklahoma I thought I knew something about fish, but it became clear early on I knew little about fisheries or about being a fisheries professional. As a student I learned most everything I can claim to know about these two areas from many of the members from this chapter. For that I will be always grateful. The best of luck to you all and good fishing.

William J. "Bill" Stark, President

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Starting Balance	\$10,422.31
Credits	
SEAFWA Mixer	294.00
1998 Chapter Meeting (Ark.)	2,229.59
Membership Dues	240.00
CMA Dividends	95.71
Pond Booklets	114.00
Raffle (Chapter Meeting)	421.00
T-Shirt sales (Student Sub Unit)	<u>421.00</u>
Total	\$3,815.30
Debits	
Awards	88.26
Scholarships	447.00
Workshop (Age & Growth)	700.00
Printing	86.38
CMA Fees	80.30
T-Shirts (SSU)	<u>527.54</u>
Total	1,929.48
Scholarship Investments (Mutual Funds)	
Franklin Inc.	8,510.28
Global Allocation	<u>2,577.51</u>
Total	\$11,087.79
Total Credits	3,815.30
Total Investments	11,087.79
Total Debits	<u>1,929.48</u>
Ending Balance (11-30-98)	\$12,973.61
Student Sub Unit Balance (11-30-98)	\$452.72

**SECRETARY/TREASURER
NOMINATIONS**

Nominations are currently being sought for Secretary/Treasurer. Bill Wentroth has served the Chapter well in his two year term but now his time is up. Those wishing to nominate someone or be nominated themselves are asked to contact Kim Erickson at 405/521-3721 or by e-mail at kerickso@oklaosf.state.ok.us.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Greetings,

How are things in the fisheries world? It has been a little while since our last newsletter and there has been some changes as to who is editing and publishing *The Lateral Line*. The Student Sub-chapter has graciously volunteered to take this task on. Thank you very much. Also, in the way of an update, Dr. Bill Stark has taken a teaching position in Kansas. We wish him well. However, this leaves me as both President-Elect and President. I have been assured that this has happened before. So we will handle it as we always have. A meeting is being planned for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of February, 1999 at Roman Nose State Park, near Watonga.

I have had two items of business cross my desk. The first, is a request for a statement of endorsement for the Conservation and Reinvestment Act. The Act, if put into law, would redistribute Outer Continental Shelf Revenues toward wildlife and outdoor conservation efforts. I will be polling a cross section of the membership and, unless there is some serious heartburn over the issue, I will sign on behalf of the chapter. If anyone would like a copy of the Act, give me a call or e-mail me and I will send you a copy of the information I received.

The second piece of business was an e-mail from Reggie Harrel, President of the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. The e-mail was sent to all chapter presidents. He has some concerns about the Southern Division's participation in the Southeastern. This is a quote from his correspondence. "This year we had only 13 papers accepted for presentation-publication. This is embarrassing. I can't believe we have only 13 notable efforts ongoing in our division that are worthy of submission for publication to showcase what our membership is doing." Reggie has set up an ad hoc committee to address how we as the Southern Division can improve our presence at the Southeastern and our contributions to the Proceeding.

The committee will be asking questions such as “Why are our publication submissions down?”, “Why are our members not submitting papers to the Southeastern?”, “What can be done to encourage submissions?”, etc. If anyone has an input on these questions, please send it to me and I will draft a response and send it in.

As the meeting is a short time off consider this newsletter a call for papers also. I encourage all interested to present. Please have titles to me by the 27th of January.

Thanks,

Julia K. Matlock, President

STUDENTS! STUDENTS! STUDENTS!

The Chapter will again award the Jimmie Pigg Student Travel Grant/Scholarship to a student or students who are involved in fisheries research studies and who are planning to present their findings at an upcoming AFS meeting. Last year, Jim Long and Craig Paukert of the OSU Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit were recipients of a \$200 travel grant from the Chapter.

The award is named in honor of aquatic biologist and educator Mr. Jimmie Pigg, who donated the initial Chapter funding to create the award. Any student who is active in fisheries or related aquatic discipline is eligible to apply. Recipients are selected by the Chapter Nominating and Awards Committee and are presented the award at the Chapter business meeting. Selection is based on academic qualifications, professional service, contribution to fisheries and the applicant's demonstrated desire and need for the award.

Awards are based on merit and are not necessarily given each year. Interested students should contact the Nominating and Awards Committee Chair, Kim Erickson at 405/521-3721 or e-mail kerickso@oklaosf.state.ok.us for more information and appropriate application forms.

OUTSTANDING FISHERIES WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Nominating and Awards Committee is soliciting nominations for the Oklahoma Chapter's most prestigious award, **The Outstanding Fisheries Worker of the Year Award**. This award is presented annually to an Oklahoma fisheries professional who has made significant contributions in the field of aquatic resources conservation, management, research, culture, or education. Fishery workers in Oklahoma have, over the years, amassed a multitude of achievements and advancements in fisheries science. This award recognizes their efforts.

It's time to select the individual from among our ranks who deserves the special recognition this award endows. Please take a moment and think about who deserves the award in 1999. Nominations should include a descriptive justification, with examples of work excellence, explaining why your nominee deserves this coveted recognition. Submit your nomination by January 25, 1999 to:

Kim Erickson
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
1801 N. Lincoln
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

PRESIDENT-ELECT NOMINATIONS

Nominations are furiously being taken for Chapter President-Elect. Julia Matlock is the current President-Elect, but is serving as President due to Bill Stark's departure from Oklahoma. Her term will expire at the business meeting in 2000. The successful nominee will not only take over the reigns as Chapter leader in 2000, but he or she will become the Program Chair for the first Chapter meeting in the new century!!! If you would like to be considered or nominate someone for this position, please contact Kim Erickson at 405/521-3721 or by e-mail at kerickso@oklaosf.state.ok.us.

**THE 19TH ANNUAL MEETING
OKLAHOMA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
AND FIRST (AND ONLY) CALL FOR PAPERS
3-5 FEBRUARY 1999
ROMAN NOSE STATE RESORT**

The Oklahoma Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will hold its 19th Annual Meeting at Roman Nose State Park near Watonga, OK. The meeting is still in its early planning stages but will offer technical sessions, a student/professional mixer, and chapter business meetings. Registration will be on-site (no pre-registration has been scheduled).

Roman Nose Resort Park is located 8 miles north of Watonga on state highways 8 and 8A and 81 miles northwest of Oklahoma City. It is located near Lakes Watonga and Boecher. This area was once a favorite of the Cheyenne tribe of Native Americans and is now a scenic retreat set on a canyon bluff overlooking ancient mesas. Towering cedar, buffalo grass and wild blue sage add to the beauty of this legendary setting, and to the enjoyment of numerous recreational activities.

Roman Nose Resort features 83 acre Lake Watonga, 515 park acres, a resort lodge with 47 guest rooms, 10 cottages, 3 meeting rooms, the Redbird Restaurant, 2 camping areas, tipis, and the Spring of Everlasting Waters (an underground river system flowing 200 gallons per minute). There is also a 9 hole, 35 par golf course with a natural hazard on the 7th hole known as "Canyon Hole". Located nearby is the Watonga Cheese Factory, Alabaster Caverns State Park, and the Chisholm Trail Museum.

RATES FOR THE GUEST ROOMS AT THE LODGE RUN \$40-\$50 PER NIGHT DURING THE WINTER (DEC 1 - FEB 28) AND FROM \$125-\$150 FOR A SUITE. A block of 20 rooms has been set aside for this meeting. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-654-8240 or 580-521-2464.

Julia Matlock is the program coordinator and is requesting submissions to the technical sessions. Abstracts are welcome, but only title and author(s) are being asked for at this time. Student presentations are especially encouraged. Please send titles and author(s) no later than January 27 to:

Julia Matlock
Byron State Fish Hatchery
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
Route 1 Box 67
Byron, OK 73723
405/474-2663

PRELIMINARY MEETING AGENDA

February 3, 1999

8:00 - 5:00 Registration
6:00 - ? Social

February 4, 1999

8:00 - ? Technical Sessions
7:00 - ? Dinner

February 5, 1999

8:00 - 12:00 Business Meetings

VIBRATIONS AND OTHER STIMULI SENSED BY THE LATERAL LINE

Teaming with Wildlife

On October 7, the US Congress introduced two wildlife-related bills: the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (House Bill 4717) and the Reinvestment and Environmental Restoration Act. These bills will dedicate a percentage of offshore oil and gas revenue for coastal impact assistance (Title I), land-based recreation (Title II), and wildlife conservation (Title III). In Oklahoma, the bills are expected to provide 5-7million dollars annually for wildlife conservation. The house bill dedicates 10% of funds to wildlife conservation, while the Senate bill dedicates 7%. Title III funds will be administered under the Pittman-Robertson framework but can be used to all fish and wildlife species. For more information on these acts, visit the website: <http://www.teaming.com>.

Pallid sturgeon reintroduction in North Dakota

The pallid sturgeon was listed as endangered in 1990. After it was determined that the population was headed toward extinction, because the wild population had not reproduced in 20 years and because of habitat degradation. As a recovery strategy, about 750 pallid sturgeons were bred in captivity from wild sturgeon captured in the Missouri River. They were released in the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers near Williston, ND in August. As well as a stocking program the US Fish and Wildlife service is working to restore breeding habitats to allow them to spawn in the wild.

AFS Sponsors 1st Student Writing Contest

The American Fisheries Society is hosting its first ever student writing contest "to recognize students who do an excellent job communicating the value of fisheries research to the general public." Undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit a 500- to 700-word article describing their research in a manner understandable by the general public. Reserch may be in progress, completed, or in the planning stages.

The top three winners will be invited to the AFS annual meeting (at the winner's expense) where their articles will be displayed at the poster session. Winners

will also be given a plaque recognizing their accomplishments and the their articles will be published in *Fisheries*.

Deadline for submission is **January 15, 1999**. Send your article to Laura Hutchcroft; AFS; 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 110; Bethesda, MD 20814. Questions can be directed to Laura at 301/897-8616 ext. 201.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

IF NOT, DO SO TODAY!!

Your 1999 Chapter dues are due! Unless you have paid you dues via the Parent Society, please send your dues payment to Bill Wentroth ASAP. The Chapter needs your support (\$5 per year) to continue its vital mission. Consider renewing for two or three years and avoid the hassle. Alternatively, you might consider renewing for life (\$50). Dues collected from life memberships go to support the Chapter's Student Travel Grant/Scholarship Fund. Oklahoma Chapter AFS Membership Renewal Forms are located on Page 7.

And while your renewing, consider serving on one of the Chapter's committees. If one of the committees on the renewal form looks appealing, give the committee chair a call and offer your assistance.

Contributions to <i>Vibrations</i> are most welcome. Any information of interest to Chapter members is appropriate. Send contributions to Jim Long, OK Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, 404 Life Sciences West, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078; phone 405/744-6342; fax 405/744-5006; e-mail longjm@okstate.edu.

CALENDAR

February 3-5, 1999 - *The Annual Meeting of the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Fisheries Society.*

Roman Nose Resort Park, Route 1, Watonga, OK 73722, 580/623-7281. On State Highways 8 and 8A, eight miles north of Watonga, 81 miles northwest of Oklahoma City, near Lakes Watonga and Boecher. Send titles to Julia Matlock, Byron State Fish Hatchery, Rt. 1 Box 67, Byron, OK 73723, 405/474-2663 by January 27.

February 25-28, 1999 - *The 7th Midyear Meeting of the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society.*

Marriott Hotel Downtown, Chattanooga, TN. Contact Dave Rizzuto, 901/423-5725; drizzuto@mail.state.tn.us.

March 2-4, 1999 - *1st International Symposium on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in Fishery Sciences.* Seattle, WA. Contact Tom Nishida;

tnishida@enyo.affrc.go.jp.

March 17-19, 1999 - *Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society First Annual Symposium.*

Clarion Hotel, Chattanooga, TN. Contact Paul Johnson, 423/785-4074; pdj@tennis.org.

April 6-11, 1999 - *Early Life History Section Meeting and 23rd Annual Larval Fish Conference.* National Marine Fisheries Service Laboratory and National Ocean Service Center for Fisheries Habitat Research, Beaufort, NC. Contact Jonathan Hare;

jhare@hatteras.bea.nmfs.gov.

August 29-September 2, 1999 - *129th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society.* "Integrating Fisheries Principles from Mountain to Marine Habitats." Adams Mark Hotel, Charlotte, NC. See the December issue *Fisheries* Vol 23 (12) for meeting details. Contact Betsy Fritz, 301/897-8616 ext. 212; bfritz@fisheries.org for meeting information.

OKLAHOMA AFS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

1 Year \$5 _____

2 Years \$10 _____

3 Years \$15 _____

LIFE \$50 _____

COMMITTEES (Please check at least one)

Activities Committee _____

Aquatic Education _____

Continuing Education _____

Environmental Concerns _____

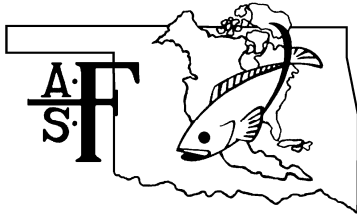
Newsletter _____

Nominating and Awards _____

Program _____

Raffle _____

Detach, make check payable to *OKAFS*, and send to: Bill Wentroth, Secretary-Treasurer, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Route 2 Box 480, Ponca City, OK 74604. For parent society information, contact Bill at 580/762-2248 or bill_wentroth@mail.fws.gov.



OKLAHOMA STUDENT CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Volume 4(1) **THE LATERAL LINE STUDENT SUPPLEMENT** December 1998

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

This term marks the second turnover in our student organization since we were first organized in mid 1996 and the first turnover since we became officially recognized in late 1996. Obviously we are a young group, but one that has done much in our first two years. Many thanks go to Conrad Toepfer and Craig Paukert, the 'inventors' of our group, and to Bill Fisher, the mentor of our group. Without any of them, we would not exist now in our present capacity.

Craig spoke of our accomplishments in the December 1997 issue of the *The Lateral Line* and I wish to simply reiterate a couple of them here. We have become monetarily independent of the Oklahoma Chapter largely by t-shirt sales. Traditionally we have sold Stranger Creek t-shirts featuring the artwork of Joseph Tomelleri. It appears that that source of t-shirts may no longer be available to us and since have looked elsewhere. We have contacted Quality Classics, distributors of Ray Troll designed t-shirts, and believe that they offer a line that will be of interest to the rest of the fish-heads out there. We have also begun our crusade toward creating a state-wide student chapter by recruiting Northeastern State University as an official affiliate. Many thanks here also go to Jim Schooley and Jeff Howard for their work to accomplish this goal. NSU has also mentioned their desire to host the Annual Fisheries Techniques Demonstration this spring at an area lake near Tahlequah and we look forward to moving out of Stillwater for that event.

The new term brings new hopes and expectations. We hope to increase statewide involvement especially with the University of Oklahoma and Southeastern State University. We plan to diverge out in our activities by organizing stream cleanups, hosting speakers for monthly meetings, getting involved in Aquatic Education Programs through the ODWC, and building a lasting relationship with OSU Chapter of The Wildlife Society. We hope to expand our fund raising activities with new t-shirt designs. We also hope to continue building the already laid foundations of this organization so that it will perservere well into the future.

Jim Long
Oklahoma Student AFS President

STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

Οκλαηομα Χηαπτερ ΑΦΣ Α1

- Paul Balkenbush (MS 1996 OSU) has accepted a position as Stream Biologist with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.
- Scott Chappell (MS 1998 OSU) is currently working for Virginia Department of Inland Fisheries.
- Jeff Howard (BS 1998 NSU) is currently working on a Masters at Tennessee Tech.
- Phil Lienesch (Ph.D. 1997 OU) will be working on a post-doc doing some research in the Arctic Circle in Alaska in 1999.
- Jim Long (Graduate Student OSU) received the Southern Division AFS Reservoir Committee Reservoir Research Scholarship in Feb 1998.
- Geff Luttrell (Ph.D. 1997 OSU) is teaching at a college in Kansas.
- Chad McCoy (BS 1997 OSU) is currently working for Texas Parks and Wildlife.
- Craig Paukert (MS 1998 OSU) recieved the Oklahoma Chapter's Jimmie Pigg Travel Award and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. at South Dakota State University.
- Jason Schaffler (undergraduate NSU) is the winner of the first annual Oklahoma Student Chapter Fisheries Involvement Award.
- Dana Winkleman is the new assistant leader of the Oklahoma Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit at OSU.

We apologize to anyone whose accomplishments were not recognized, if you would like to be recognized in the next newsletter, please e-mail Jim Long at Longjm@okstate.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE 4th ANNUAL FISHERIES TECHNIQUES DEMONSTRATION will take place at a time and place to be announced later. This is a perfect opportunity for students to get hands-on experience they might not receive in the classroom. Professors, this is the perfect opportunity to take your students out on a field trip with little planning and preparation on your part.

REPORTS

TREASURER

Starting Balance (1 August 1998) **\$ 828.51**

Credits

T-shirt sales	\$ 400.00
Fish Fry w/ TWS	<u>\$ 89.00</u>
	\$ 489

Debits

Fisheries Inv. Award	\$ 47.00
T-shirts	\$ 527.54
Fish Fry w/ TWS	\$ 49.36
Office supplies	<u>\$ 46.30</u>
	\$ 670.20

Ending Balance (31 November 1998) **\$ 647.31**

FISHERIES TECHNIQUES DEMONSTRATION

The third annual techniques demonstration was held on April 25, 1998 on Lake Tenkiller. The event was host to approximately 25 students combined from Northeastern State University (NSU) and Oklahoma State University (OSU) Demonstrations included trap netting, gill netting, seining, boat electrofishing, backpack electrofishing, otolith removal, and stomach content removal.

NOMINATIONS

Nominations are currently being sought for the office of President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The current officer's terms will expire in February 1999 at the Annual Business Meeting in Watonga. Anyone interested in becoming a vital link in the affairs of the student chapter should contact Jim Long.

BY-LAWS

Enclosed is a ballot to vote on the adoption of the by-laws for the student sub-unit for which all members of the Oklahoma Chapter are requested to participate. To save money and paper, we request that you examine the draft copy of the by-laws on the internet at:

http://zoology.okstate.edu/zoo_sorg/okafs/bylaws.htm

If you do not have access to the internet, we will e-mail, fax, or mail a hard copy. Proposed changes, questions, as well voting by e-mail or phone may be referred to Jim Long.