



President's message

by George Guillen

Fellow TCAFS members, I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather and end of a long hot summer. We in the EXCOM and Committee Chairs are now busy planning for the upcoming annual meeting. There are many interesting and exciting changes that you will be hearing more about at the annual meeting and in the following months. On the lighter side but still very important is the selection of the new TCAFS logo which is being debuted in this newsletter along with how you can vote for your favorite using Survey Monkey. The new more "inclusive" logos now contain both our state marine fish, red drum, along with the traditional state freshwater fish, Guadalupe Bass. The logos were created by Patrick Cooney, a graduate student at N. C. State who recently designed the new Southern Division AFS logo. Craig Bonds, our current Past President, was instrumental in obtaining his services to assist us. We thank them both for the great candidate designs. The winning logo will be unveiled at the TCAFS annual meeting in January. Please vote for your favorite!

Other important accomplishments and activities, some of which are reported on later on in this newsletter include:

- The parent society approved the TCAFS proposed bylaws changes on September 5, 2012 and the newly adopted bylaws are now posted on the TCAFS website. Check it out. In addition, you may want to peruse our Chapter Handbook which is also posted on our website.
- A new \$500 award will be offered to the winner of the best student paper award at the TCAFS annual meeting to attend and present (paper or poster) at the Parent Society annual meeting in Little Rock in 2013. Specific details on eligibility and conditions will be provided elsewhere. Only the student best paper award winner will be offered the travel award. After 2013, the award will support travel and presentation at a professional meeting of the student's choice.
- Thanks go out to the Editorial Committee for scanning and placing all the past Annual Meeting Proceedings on the TCAFS website! If you missed those meetings, now you can see what you missed, read the abstracts, and/or chase down the authors for more details or a copy of a manuscript too!

The Chapter is also in the process of changing our investment management in the near future and will be reporting the details of that effort at the Business Meeting during our Annual Conference in January 2013. Due to the careful management by Endowment Committee, chaired by Dave Terre, our investments remain fiscally strong, but we are evaluating better ways to expand those funds. We are also very excited to report about the recent donations from The Patsy B.



Hollandsworth Family Foundation who contributed an additional \$17,500.00 this year to the TCAFS and the Sportsmen's Club of Ft. Worth who have agreed to support two \$1,500.00 scholarships at the TCAFS 2013 annual meeting. We appreciate and thank them for their continued generous support which the Chapter sincerely appreciates. The continuing work of our Endowment Committee who lead our efforts to identify supporters and work closely with these great organizations and folks are also greatly appreciated. Through these efforts the Chapter is also evaluating a recent offer from the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) to establish a partnership with the TCAFS which would provide opportunities for seasonal employment for student members (BS degree level). This program will start in the summer of 2013. We will provide more information as we work out the details. Finally the Hydro Tech Company has generously donated a water quality instrument to auction off at the annual meeting. The Chapter will hold its first online auction tfor this (details further down in the newsletter). We thank them for their support.

Finally the EXCOM with the help of Ad Hoc Committee dealing with "membership churn" issues has developed a proposal to make membership easier to track for the Chapter and provide better services to our members. The process is published further down in this newsletter and will be discussed and voted upon at the Annual Business meeting. We hope you will carefully review this and will attend and provide input at the meeting. Folks, please try to make our annual meeting this year. As you can see there will be a lot going on and as usual a chance to hear about the great research and management conducted by our members. Also, it is not too late to actively participate in the management of your society. We are still looking for nominations for TCAFS President-Elect, and we are ALWAYS needing help on the various committees, fund raising, judges for presentations etc. This is your Chapter and we welcome and solicit your active participation! Please let us know if you are interested in any of the Committees or helping out during the Annual Meeting. We are also looking for donations for our auction this year as in the past. Until I see you in January have a nice Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

President-elect's message

by Richard Ott

I was out shopping the other day and ran into an associate of my wife's. I was wearing a TCAFS t-shirt and the associate, when seeing the shirt, asked about it. "So what is the Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society; do you keep aquariums?" "Well, yes" I responded, "some of us do but there is more to it than that". I proceeded to explain in a short and cordial way who we are and what we in a way that wouldn't leave the associate totally bored but I know my answer was inadequate. On the way home I tried to formulate an answer that was more encompassing. Yes our core is related to fish but we are also resource managers, administrators, clerks, scientists, educators, economists, marketers, data analysis's, researchers, regulators, taxonomists, toxicologists, chemists, aquaculturists, consultants ...the list is seemingly endless. Furthermore, fish are not the only organisms we do our "stuff" with, there are mollusks, commercially important (and tasty) invertebrates, commercially non-important invertebrates, destructive invertebrates, aquatic macrophytes, bacteria, phytoplankton, zooplankton colony filter feeders.... Again the list seems endless. When I tried to classify where we do our "stuff" and where organisms we do it with live, there was another list: lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, reservoirs, swamps, seeps, potholes, oxbows, bogs, bays, estuaries, oceans. Then I tried to classify the ecological factors or processes that influence the organisms or where they live. Climate, land use, human influence, economy, sociology, government, politics. The diversity is mind-boggling and this has just scratched the surface. When forced to define who we are, I suddenly had a greater appreciation of our diversity both of purpose and of interest.

When reviewing the agenda for our last meeting (the 37th annual meeting by the way) I was a guilty as anyone for cherry-picking the presentations that had something to do with my little part of fisheries not attending those that didn't interest me. Well shame on me, with a little more patience and a broader interest I could have learned something about what WE do.

Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society it's not just about fish any more!

TCAFS 2013 Meeting Announcement

by Richard Ott

The 2013 TCAFS annual meeting will be held at LaToretta Lake Resort and Spa on Lake Conroe in Montgomery on **January 17-19, 2013**. The theme of the Plenary Session is "Large Rivers and Reservoirs: Concepts & Challenges." The meeting will consist of two continuing education courses, an evening social on Thursday, plenary and contributed sessions, our banquet/auction on Friday evening, and the TCAFS business meeting on Saturday. For additional information, contact Richard Ott (richard.ott@tpwd.state.tx.us). See information below on program overview, registration, and lodging to help plan your trip.



For those who are unable to attend, a podcast of the meeting proceedings will be made available

(<http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/meetings/meethome.htm>).

The 2013 Call for Papers is now open. [Abstracts for oral and poster presentations are requested](#) for the 2013 annual meeting of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. The deadline for Abstract Submission is **December 1, 2012**.

Preliminary Program Overview:

- **Registration** (*Thursday, 1:00 – 5:30 pm and Friday 7:00 am - 5:30 pm*)
- **Continuing Education Workshops** (*Thursday, 2:00 – 5:00 pm*)
 - 1) Fish Pathology, by Greg Southard, 2:00 – 3:20 pm
 - 2) Processing images from Recreation-grade side scan sonar with Dr Depth software for use in a GIS. Dan Bennett, 3:40 – 5:00 pm

To sign up for the workshop, check the appropriate spot on the meeting registration form or contact Dan Bennett (dan.bennett@tpwd.state.tx.us; 903-566-2161) and/or Richard Ott (richard.ott@tpwd.state.tx.us; 903-566-2161).
- **Student/Professional Mixer** (*Thursday, 5:30 – 7:30 pm*) Just across the parking lot from the convention hotel at the adjacent convention center in Versailles Room 2. There will be plenty of fun, networking opportunities for students. Beverages will be provided.
- **Plenary Session** (*Friday, 8:00 – 10:00 am*) Three invited speakers will discuss issues and challenges to river and reservoir operation from the controlling authority perspective. A question and answer session will follow for the speaker panel
- **Lunch** (*Friday, time period TBD*) Friday's lunch will be on your own, including the Student-Mentor Lunch. To sign up for the student-mentor lunch, check the appropriate spot on the meeting registration form or contact Mandy Scott (mandy.scott@tpwd.state.tx.us; 325-651-5556).
- **Contributed Papers and Presentations** (*Friday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm and Saturday, 8:00 – 10:00 am*)

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- **Banquet and Auction (Friday, 6:30 – 10:00 pm)** Supper and beverages will be provided as part of the registration price along with the famously entertaining TCAFS auction and raffle.
 - **Past-presidents' Breakfast (Saturday, 7:00 am)** Past Presidents and current Chapter Officers will meet for a complimentary breakfast in the convention center's Prime Restaurant in the private dining room adjacent to the restaurant.
 - **TCAFS Business Meeting (Saturday, 10:20 am – 12:00 pm)**

Registration:

Early registration fee will be \$90 for professionals and \$45 for students, and includes access to continuing education workshops, Thursday night Student/Professional Mixer, all plenary and technical sessions, the Friday night banquet. **Important - The deadline for early registration is January 7, 2013.** Late registration will increase by \$15 for professionals and \$10 for students. Fees for extra guest banquet tickets will be \$35. The registration form can be found at the end of this newsletter or downloaded from our website at: http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/meetings/13meet/TCAFS_2013_Registration.pdf

Resort Information:

LaToretta Lake Resort and Spa is located in Montgomery Texas on the banks of Lake Conroe. **From Houston:** take I-45 North toward Dallas, Exit 87A TX-105 W, and travel 12 miles on TX-105 to Walden Road and turn right. Travel 2 miles on Walden Road and Turn right on La Torretta Boulevard. **From Dallas:** take I-45 South toward Houston, take exit 88 and turn right on Loop 336 W, turn right again on TX-105 W and travel 10 miles to Walden Road. Turn right on Walden Road and travel 2 miles to La Torretta Boulevard. More information on the hotel and convention center can be found at: <http://www.latorrettalakeresort.com/>. Check-in time: 4:00 pm; Check-out time: 12:00 Noon.

I encourage all those needing commercial lodging to stay at the conference hotel to ensure we meet our room block obligations. Room rates are \$77 single king and \$135 for double queen suites. *A \$10 resort fee will apply per room per night. Resort fee includes 24 hr internet access, unlimited phone calls, all incoming faxes, in-room coffee and tea, and access to all of the resort activities (refer to the resort web site for details)* The number to call to make your reservation is 877-286-9590. Please identify yourselves as being with the "Texas Chapter, American Fisheries Society" in order to secure the group rate. You can also [book your reservation online](#). If you book online, make sure to click the box in the lower left corner of the reservation page and enter the code **TCAFS** for a single suite, and **TCAFS2** for a double suite. **Important – the cutoff date for making your reservation is December 18, 2012**

Call for Papers:

Information for individuals interested in presenting a paper or poster is provided below.
[Click here to view Guidelines for Oral Presentations](#)
[Click here to view Guidelines for Poster Presentations](#)

Exhibitors:

Exhibitors interested in obtaining space for their product should contact the following:

Brad Littrell
213 Hyltin St.
Hutto, TX 78634
512-557-0752
blittrell@bio-west.com

Greg Conley
11810 FM 848
Tyler, TX 75707
903-566-2581
greg.conley@tpwd.state.tx.us

Student Opportunities Abound in Texas Chapter AFS

by Mandy Scott, Student Outreach Chairperson



If you are reading this, you are probably already a member of the Texas Chapter of AFS, but you may not know about all of the opportunities available to you as a student member. In this article I hope to show a few of the best reasons for being a student member.

Whether you are presenting a paper or not, there are lots of reasons to attend the next Texas Chapter meeting from January 17-19 at Lake Conroe. Students can attend for a half-price registration rate, participate in special student activities, and accomplish some great job networking while having a lot of fun with old and new friends. There will be the usual jobs bulletin board, student-professional mixer, and student-mentor lunch, as well as interesting continuing ed workshops and presentation sessions. Make sure to register and reserve your room early for the best rates. If you would like to go but need to stay with someone else to make the trip more affordable, just contact me at mandy.scott@tpwd.state.tx.us and I will try to find you a roommate.

The Texas Chapter sponsors several outstanding student aid programs. One is the Texas Chapter AFS scholarship which awards \$1,500 to one doctorate student, one master's student, and two undergraduates each year. The application deadline is December 7. Find out more at http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/students/scolship/tcafs_scholarships.htm

The Texas Chapter also chooses a recipient of a research award named in honor of the late Dr. Clark Hubbs. To find out more about this award that is open to college students, contact Kevin Mayes at Kevin.mayes@tpwd.state.tx.us.

Starting in 2013, two brand new opportunities will be made available for Texas fisheries students. One will be a travel assistance award given to the student who delivers the best student presentation at the 2013 annual meeting. This student will be given \$500 to reimburse travel costs to the September 2013 AFS parent society meeting in Little Rock. This special travel award will be offered to the winner of Best Student Paper at future Texas Chapter meetings, as well.

The second new opportunity is one that should get a lot of students smiling—a job offer! The San Antonio River Authority is partnering with the Texas Chapter AFS to offer a seasonal summertime position with their agency, and the position will be reserved for a Texas Chapter AFS student member. The details of how this position will be filled are still being worked out, but applying for the Texas Chapter scholarship or Clark Hubbs Research Award will likely be a requirement, so make sure and apply!

To find out more about student opportunities with AFS, contact Mandy Scott at 325-651-5556 or mandy.scott@tpwd.state.tx.us.



Follow the Texas Chapter on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/TCAFS>



1st Call for Papers

2013 Annual Meeting
Texas Chapter
American Fisheries Society

January 17 – 19, 2013, Conroe, Texas

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations are requested for the 2013 annual meeting of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. The meeting will be held Thursday through Saturday, January 17 – 19, 2013 at La Torretta Lake Resort and Spa on Lake Conroe, Texas. To submit an abstract to be considered for the technical program, please provide the following information:

Author name(s) (presenting author should be noted with an *)

Presentation type (oral or poster ... please indicate whether you are willing to present the data in the alternative format if requested)

Contact information (affiliation, street address, city, state, zip code, telephone number, and email address)

Presentation title

Abstract (Single paragraph, 300-word maximum length)

In addition, please indicate your intentions for the presentation in the 2013 TCAFS Proceedings (abstract-only or manuscript), and indicate whether the presenter is a STUDENT or PROFESSIONAL. To be considered a student presenter, you must be enrolled at the time the abstract is submitted. PROFESSIONAL PRESENTERS ... please indicate your willingness to judge student presentations.

Oral presentations should be prepared as a 15-minute presentation (with 5-minutes for open discussion) using MS PowerPoint®. Poster presentations should be formatted to include a title, abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion/conclusion, and literature cited. Posters must not exceed 48" in any dimension.

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS IS 01 DECEMBER 2012.

Please submit your presentation abstract ELECTRONICALLY (preferably in MS Word®) to:

Dan.Daugherty@tpwd.state.tx.us

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

Special visitor to attend annual meeting



AFS President, Dr. John Boreman, will be attending our 2013 TCAFS annual meeting. This is quite the honor for the Chapter because AFS Presidents usually only attend Division meetings.

John Boreman is currently an adjunct professor in the Department of Biology at North Carolina State University. He retired from NOAA Fisheries in 2008. He received a B.S. (1970) from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, and his M.S. (1972) and Ph.D. (1978) degrees from Cornell University. He worked for the US Fish and Wildlife Service as Northeast Region Power Plant Specialist (1974 – 1975) and as a member of the National Power Plant Team (1975 – 1980). He then worked for NOAA Fisheries as a senior assessment scientist and co-manager of the Emergency Striped Bass Study (1980 – 1984), chief of research coordination for the Northeast

Fisheries Science Center (1984 – 1989), director of the UMass/NOAA Cooperative Marine Education and Research Program and adjunct professor at UMass (1989 – 1997), deputy director (1997 – 2002) and then director (2002 – 2006) of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, then Director of the NOAA Fisheries Office of Science and Technology (2006 – 2008). His research interests have included population dynamics of coastal migratory fishes and environmental impacts on coastal ecosystems. He is currently doing consulting work for NOAA and regional fisheries management councils. He is the author or co-author of over 60 publications. He is an AFS Certified Fisheries Professional, and has been a member of AFS since 1971.

Nominations for Outstanding Fisheries Worker of the Year Awards

by Dave Buzan - Awards Committee Chairperson

“Don’t Miss the Deadline! Nominations for outstanding fisheries worker of the year are due December 14. Nominations are accepted in the following categories:

- Fisheries Administration
- Fisheries Management
- Fish Culture
- Fisheries Education
- Fisheries Research
- Fisheries Student
- Technical Support
- Special Recognition in Fisheries Work



Forms for nominations can be found at:

http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/awards/TCAFS_Award_Nomination_Form_2011.pdf.

Awards will be presented at the chapter’s annual meeting in January. Any questions about awards and nominations can be directed to Dave Buzan, david.buzan@atkinsglobal.com, 512.372.1207.

Announcement of TCAFS scholarships

by Mike Morgan, Scholarship Committee Chairperson

The Scholarship Committee of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is seeking deserving students enrolled in fisheries-related curricula who are interested in applying for scholarships.

Up to six scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each will be awarded to a minimum of two undergraduate students, one Master’s student, and one Ph.D. student. Students are eligible to receive one award in each degree category during their scholastic career. No nomination is necessary, and more than one student from the same university may apply in each category. Scholarships will be awarded at the annual meeting January 17-19, 2013 at the La Torretta Lake Resort on Lake Conroe. Scholarship winners are strongly encouraged to attend the annual meeting to receive their award.

Each applicant must be a member of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society or pay their membership dues when the scholarship application is submitted.

The Scholarship Committee will select the scholarship recipients based on academic excellence, professional activities, promise of future professional involvement, and significant contribution to the field of fisheries science.

Applications must be received by **December 7, 2012**. A copy of the application may be obtained from the TCAFS website at <http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs>. Applications may be submitted by email (preferred) or U.S. Mail.

Applications and questions should be directed to:

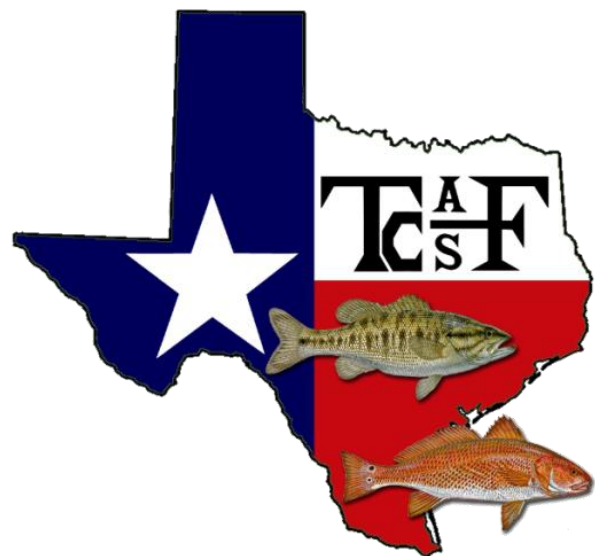
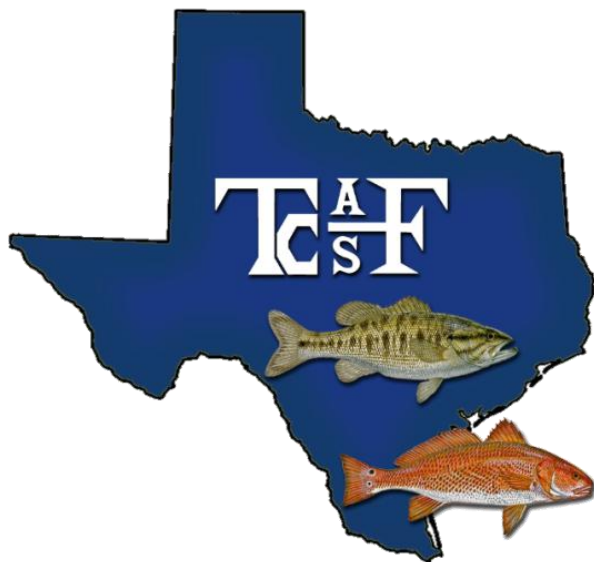
Mike Morgan – Scholarship Committee Chairperson
3030 Sugar Wood Dr.
League City, TX 77573
(281) 974-9964
mike.morgan@tpwd.state.tx.us



TCAFS Logo Enhancement

by Craig Bonds

The green TCAFS logo with the Guadalupe bass has served our chapter well. However, to be more inclusive to our coastal colleagues, Chapter officers thought it would be a good move to include a saltwater fish on our logo. Because the Guadalupe bass is the state's official freshwater fish, we decided to also include the red drum, which is the state's official marine fish. We also decided that the green fish were blending in to the green logo background and not allowing enough color contrast for the fish to visually "pop" out. We contacted Patrick Cooney, a graduate student at NC State and recent designer of the new SDAFS logo, to inquire if he'd be willing to help us design our enhanced logo. Patrick worked with our Chapter officers on numerous iterations of various designs, allowing us to settle on our two favorites. Now it's up to the Chapter membership to select their favorite logo option. Within the next few days, Chapter members will be receiving an e-mail through the Listserv containing an internet URL to a Survey Monkey poll. Follow the link to cast your vote. Logo options are provided on the survey page by scrolling down. Don't forget to click "Done" at the bottom of the page below the logos to cast your electronic vote. For those members uncertain whether their membership is current or whether their e-mail address is included in the Listserv, they may contact Robert Mauk to verify membership status and Kevin Storey to verify inclusion on the Listserv. The winning logo will be unveiled at the 2013 Annual Meeting at Lake Conroe. For questions concerning the Survey Monkey poll, you may contact me at 903-566-1615 ext 202 or craig.bonds@tpwd.state.tx.us



Compact MS multiprobe up for auction

Zak Sihalla of © Hydrotech ZS Consulting in Round Rock has graciously donated a Compact MS multiparameter water quality instrument to the TCAFS. This unit (see link below), valued at \$5,370, consists of the Compact MS (new), a 5 meter detachable cable (new), and an Archer PDA (manufacturer refurbished) and will be auctioned off via eBay to raise money for the chapter. Anyone is welcome to bid on the unit. A photo of the unit is attached. The eBay auction is scheduled to begin on January 8, 2013, and will be listed for 10 consecutive days, ending on January 18th around 5 PM prior to the annual banquet/auction. The winner will be announced at the banquet. Payment arrangements for the unit must be completed with the Chapter's Secretary/Treasurer (Robert Mauk) before taking possession of the unit. Once bidding begins, a link to the eBay auction site will be posted on the TCAFS webpage (<http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/index.htm>), the TCAFS Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/TCAFS?ref=ts&fref=ts>), and an email will be sent out through the Chapter's listserv. For more information on the bidding process, please contact Publicity/Exhibits Committee Co-chairs Brad Littrell (blittrell@bio-west.com, 512-557-0752) or Greg Conley (greg.conley@tpwd.state.tx.us, office 903-566-2518, cell 903-520-3821). For details on specifics of the Compact MS please contact Zak Sihalla at © Hydrotech (zak@hydrotechzs.com, or 512-846-2893). Thanks to © Hydrotech for the great donation!



<http://hydrolabrepair.com/products/compact-ms.html>

Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Membership Issues

by Deborah Wade, Committee Chair

The Ad Hoc Committee on Membership Issues provided the following recommendations at the November 9, 2012 ExCom meeting for streamlining and maintaining our membership lists.

The Excom has voted to adopt to implement the following proposed timetable of activities regarding membership updates.

1. February/March (2013). Send e-mail to members who did not attend annual meeting (and those who have not renewed through parent society) that they were missed at the meeting and they should consider renewing.
2. June (2013). Send reminder advising lapsed members they will be dropped from membership rolls if they do not renew by July 1, 2013.
3. August (2013). Purge lapsed members from listserv.
4. September/October (2013). Send e-mail notification to listed members prior to annual meeting. Provide membership renewal form as an attachment. Members who will attend the annual meeting will use the meeting registration to renew. Members who do not attend will use the attached renewal form. (We could do this in 2012 and send it out late November/early December if the Excom wants to accelerate the schedule)
5. Maintain this schedule on an annual basis from this point on.

In addition, the following recommendations are presented for your review as they will be presented for voting by Chapter membership at the annual meeting in January 2013.

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- Simplify registration at annual meeting by incorporating Chapter dues into registration so if you attend the meeting you automatically pay annual dues. Separating these charges creates confusion for volunteers working registration. Show a total charge for professionals and a total for students. (Some Chapters already do this as a way of simplifying their registration and dues management processes.)
 - Opt out of including Chapter renewal with parent society renewal. The parent society only sends a list of members who paid Chapter with their AFS dues once a year. The president can access this information at any time but it's an extra step. It creates work having payments coming into the Chapter from different sources. (This will make the Secretary/Treasurer job easier and streamline the membership list. Some Chapters do not provide the option for renewal at the parent society list. Some members renew online through the parent society and then pay dues with their meeting registration as well resulting in a multiple year renewal or they will not renew at either meeting and think that they are members.)
 - Online registration through the Chapter needs to be revamped. Provide an automatic e-mail to the Secretary / Treasurer through the Chapter website for inquiries about membership. The Secretary/Treasurer will then respond directly to the inquiry by sending a form and an explanation of the dues. (This will streamline the workload of the secretary/treasurer).
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Texas Chapter AFS Business Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2012 Tyler, Texas

by Robert Mauk, Secretary Treasurer

Attending in person: Craig Bonds, Rick Ott, Debbie Wade, Kevin Storey and

Attending remotely via iLinc: George Guillen, Robert Mauk, Dave Buzan, Dan Bennett, Dan Daughtery, Michele Nations, John Taylor, Brad Littrell, Mandy Scott, and Jacob Garcia.

Call to Order: by George Guillen at 9:11 am.

President's Report: (George Guillen)

- George thanked all for attending and Craig and Kevin for setting up the iLinc meeting.
- George reported the two logo options are ready to be published in the newsletter for the membership to view and then vote on. The logos were created by Patrick Cooney, a graduate student at N. C. State who recently designed the new Southern Division AFS logo. The winning logo will be unveiled at the TCAFS annual meeting in January.
- Craig created a ballot in Survey Monkey for members to select the newest TCAFS logo. The logos and information for voting will be published in the newsletter.

Past President's Report: (Craig Bonds)

- Craig announced that the parent society approved the chapter's proposed By-laws changes on September 5, 2012 and the newly adopted by-laws are posted on the TCAFS website.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: (Robert Mauk)

- The Chapter's cash account balance as of 11/9/2012 was \$28,632.92.

President-Elect's Report: (Rick Ott)

- Rick reported that the TCAFS annual meeting information and registration was posted on the TCAFS website.

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- Rick reported that the dates had been corrected for the audio/visual contract which was wrong in the original contract.
 - Rick reported that the chapter needs to get the TCAFS annual meeting information on the Southern Division website.

Committee Reports

Awards – (Dave Buzan)

- Discussion took place regarding monetary award to send winner of the best student paper at the TCAFS annual meeting to a professional meeting to present their work there. It was decided that:
 1. A \$500 award will be offered to the winner of the best student paper award at the TCAFS annual meeting to attend and present (paper or as poster) at the Parent Society annual meeting in Little Rock in 2013. Award will be given after student has paid for registration and had paper/poster accepted. Student must attend and present in order to receive the award. Only the student best paper award winner will be offered the travel award.
 2. After 2013, award will support travel and presentation at a professional meeting of student's choice.
 3. Student can receive the award in multiple years.
- Dave announced the deadline for awards submission is Dec. 14, 2012. Award winners will be decided by Dec. 20, 2012.

Continuing Ed – (Dan Bennett)

- Dan reported that one of the two original continuing education presenters had to drop out.
- Fish Pathology is being taught by Greg Southard
- It was decided that the second class will be "Processing images from Recreation- grade side scan sonar with Dr Depth software for use in a GIS".
- The registration form and meeting announcements will have to be altered to show the continuing education class change.

Editorial – (Dan Daugherty and Tim Birdsong)

- Dan received an e-mail from Tim reporting that all Annual Meeting Proceedings have been scanned and should soon be on the website.
- Rick Ott mentioned he was trying to line up three plenary session speakers and that the session would last two hours in length.
- Dan reported that the first call for papers had been issued and that the second call will go out in the newsletter. He anticipates a third call going out also.
- Rick Ott mentioned that the call for papers should be put on the TCAFS website, on our Facebook page, and Mandy should make sure that the students get the information.

Endowments – (Dave Terre; report given by Craig Bonds)

- Dave reports the endowment fund balance as of Sept. 28, 2012 was \$156,259.26.
- Dave reported The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation donated \$17,500.00 this year and the Sportsmen's Club of Ft. Worth has agreed to support two \$1,500.00 scholarships at the TCAFS 2013 annual meeting.
- Dave reported a possible San Antonio River Authority (SARA) and TCAFS partnership. The proposal is that SARA would provide seasonal employment opportunity for a TCAFS BS degree level student who applies for a TCAFS scholarship. This program would be funded by an endowment fund in honor of SARA employee and TCAFS member Mike Gonzales who recently passed away. It is proposed to start in the summer of 2013. EXCOM saw many upsides to the proposal.
- EXCOM would like to challenge other entities to partner with the TCAFS.
- Dave proposed a new investment service provider and plan for the TCAFS endowment and checking accounts. TCAFS has been with Merrill Lynch but Dave proposed we go with Edward Jones. There are many reasons to change providers including poor communication, high fees, under-performing investment strategies, and statements that are difficult to comprehend. Dave has had personal

experience with Edward Jones and feels very comfortable doing business with them. EXCOM voted to change providers to Edward Jones. Dave will initiate the process of making the change.

History – (Michele Nations)

- Michelle reported that she has submitted information to Portal to Texas History at the University of North Texas.
- Michele said that biographical sheets will be sent out in the upcoming newsletter.
- Michele reported that efforts to redesign the History web page on the TCAFS website are near completion.
- Michele requests the TCAFS 2011 and 2012 membership lists.
- Michele reported that Ray Mathews is working on a history document.
- Michele reported that the Facebook page will be updated with photos and scholarship information.

Internet – (John Taylor)

- John reported he had just updated the History page on the TCAFS website.
- Craig mentioned that the Southern Division AFS website would be migrating to a different server maintained by the Parent Society. The TCAFS website is currently on the same server as the Southern Division so it will be necessary for the TCAFS website to migrate also. John said it shouldn't be much of a problem but he needs to know a date for the switch.

Issues – (Chris Moret and Niki Ragan)

- No Report

Membership – (Debbie Wade)

- Debbie reported that the current membership is made up of 175 professionals and 48 students.

Newsletter – (Kevin Storey; report given by Debbie Wade)

- Deadline for items to be received for next newsletter is Tuesday Nov. 13, 2012.

Nominating – (John Clayton; report given by George Guillen)

- John reported he had four candidates to run for the two open offices (President-elect and Sec/Treas.) but three of the individuals have backed out. The nominating committee is looking for non-TPWD employees to run for office but so far have been unable to find anyone. John and Craig have a list of names they will be contacting to see if they are interested in serving the chapter.

Pond Management – (John Tibbs)

- No Report

Publicity/Exhibits – (Greg Conley and Brad Littrell; report given by Brad Littrell)

- The committee is actively seeking donations for the raffle. They currently have \$250.00 in gift cards from Academy.
- Looking for guided trips, so if anyone can line some up, the committee would appreciate it.
- Would like to obtain some bigger ticket items, especially for special raffles. Suggestions were made for iPads, guns, and a kayak for the special raffles.
- Hydro Tech has donated a roughly \$5,000.00 water quality instrument to auction off. Because of state and federal agencies and universities purchasing procedures, it was thought that the unit wouldn't go for nearly what it is worth. It was decided to put the item on E-bay to try to maximize the income to the chapter. Details are still being worked out but the membership will be kept aware of this auction and are encouraged to bid on the unit.

Scholarships – (Mike Morgan: report by John Taylor)

- Mike gave John student submission information to include in the annual meeting announcement on the TCAFS website.

Student Outreach – (Mandy Scott; Report by George Guillen)

- Mandy reported that Bass Brigade elected new officers and that she stepped down as the president. The new officers are President- Dakus Geeslin; Vice-President- John Clayton; Secretary- Nathan Reynolds; and Treasurer- Greg Cummings.
- Mandy reports that Kevin Mayes helped update the fisheries school contact list and will use it to advertise the Clark Hubbs award.
- Mandy will be submitting a newsletter article about student activities at upcoming chapter annual meeting, new travel award, scholarship, and new job opportunity with San Antonio River Authority.

Texas A & M Chapter President – (Jacob Garcia)

- Student chapter wants to have a fundraiser probably sometime in the spring. They are looking for information of where they could obtain fish for a fish fry fundraiser. Members pointed them to the Texas Aquaculture Association website.

Old Business:**Ad Hoc Committee on Membership Churn:**

- Recommended a timetable of activities to remind members to pay membership dues that includes:
 1. February/March- send e-mail reminders to members who did not attend annual meeting or not renewed through parent society.
 2. June- Remind lapsed members they will be dropped from membership roll if they do not renew by July 1.
 3. August- Purge lapsed members from listserv.
 4. Sept./Oct.- Send e-mail reminders to members prior to annual meeting to renew. Provide membership renewal as an attachment to use if they are not attending the TCAFS annual meeting. They will use the meeting registration form if they are attending the meeting.
- Additional recommendations include:
 1. Simplify registration at the annual meeting by including TCAFS membership in the registration fee.
 2. Opt out of having the Parent Society collect TCAFS dues when a member pays their Parent Society fees. It is frustrating and time consuming trying to get a list of TCAFS members who pay through the Parent Society.
 3. Change the on-line membership registration so that Sec/Treas. becomes aware that someone is interested immediately and can respond.
- Full recommendations will be published in the newsletter. This will be discussed at the Business meeting and voted on.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 am.

Today is Tomorrow's Yesterday

by Michele Nations

Past Scholarship Recipients in the Present – Where are They Now?

Scholarships have been awarded by the TCAFS since 1989 with the goal of providing scholarships being to recognize academic and professional excellence and to help deserving students attain their educational and career goals in the fisheries-related sciences, and thereby promote good stewardship of the aquatic resources throughout the state.

Winners are selected annually by the Scholarship Committee from applications submitted by undergraduate and graduate (M.S. and Ph. D.) students from across the state. The selection of the winners is based on 1) academic excellence, 2) professional activities, and the 3) promise of future professional involvement and 4)

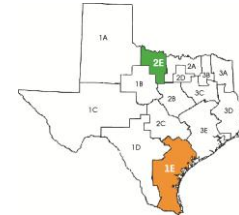
significant contribution to the fisheries science. The deadline for applications this year is December 7, 2012, so please check out our TCAFS website (Students tab) for more details.

These scholarships mean more than money to the students who receive them, as I will show you in this and future articles. I want you to meet a few of the people who have won them and allow them to tell you what the scholarship meant to them. Let's start with John Findeisen, one of the 1995 winners:



The scholarship paid for my last semester (Spring 1996) of graduate school at Southwest Texas State University. In June 1996 I accepted a Fish and Wildlife Technician position with the Inland Fisheries Division of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and was stationed in Wichita Falls, Texas. I worked as a technician in the

Wichita Falls District 2E office from July 1996 through March 1998. I received a promotion to assistant fisheries biologist in April 1998 and was stationed at the Inland Fisheries District 1E office in Mathis, Texas. A little over a year later, I received another promotion to district leader, also in Mathis, and have been here since. Additionally, I am a TCAFS scholarship committee member.



Another 1995 recipient, Gil Rosenthal gave me this report of what's been happening since he won the scholarship:



I got my Ph.D. in 2000, did a postdoc at UCSD (University of California, San Diego) on visual communication in marine fish, started a faculty job at Boston University in 2002, and moved to Texas A & M in 2006 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2009. The scholarship helped me conduct field work for my Ph.D. on male display traits and female mating preferences in swordtails (*Xiphophorus*) in the Sierra Madre Oriental in Mexico. Thanks in



Rhonda Struminger



part to the fellowship, I was able to discover natural hybrid zones between *X. malinche* and *X. birchmanni*, which have formed the basis of my research program ever since. My wife, Rhonda Struminger, and I own the CICHAZ field station in Calnali, Hidalgo (www.cichaz.org). My current research

focuses on integrating field studies of the evolutionary ecology of hybridization, laboratory studies of mating behavior, and evolutionary genomics using next-generation sequencing.

If you're interested in his work, you might want to check out of his TAMU Rosenthal Lab page (<http://swordtail.tamu.edu/en/index.html>). I like the saying by Isaac Asimov at the top of his page that says "The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds the most discoveries, is not 'Eureka!' but 'That's funny . . .'"



In 1996, four scholarships were given out, with one going to Kenneth Ostrand. Through web searches I was able to find him and ask him about what was going on in his life. Here is his reply.

I am currently the Deputy Director of the USFWS's San Marcos Aquatic Resources Center. After graduating from Tech, I worked for the Illinois Natural History Survey and was the Director of the Sam Parr Biological Station. I worked for them for about 5 years. I then took a position as the program head for the Ecological Physiology Program at the USFWS's Abernathy Fish Technology Center in Longview, Washington. I was there for about 7 years before taking the current position.

When I got the scholarship, I was working on Regional and Local Abiotic Determinants of Fish

Assemblages in Ephemeral Streams in Texas. Currently my research integrates the fields of physiology (e.g. bioenergetics, osmoregulatory, reproductive, and stress-related biochemical processes), behavior (e.g. migration, microhabitat use, inter- and intra-specific competition), and ecology (e.g. alternate life history strategies, population dynamics, community interactions) linking basic science to applied questions. My research includes examining the marginal and long-term changes in population demographics as a result of internal and external environments, the mechanistic factors that influence population demographics, such as the adaptation of an organism's physiology, and the role of behavior on population demographics and its adaptation to internal and external environments.

The next recipient that I contacted won scholarships in 2006 and 2009 – Josh Perkin. Like the previous people who have been presented in this article, he exemplifies what the scholarships are all about. His dedication to the field of fisheries is evident because he has won 2 of the 3 possible scholarships, and he continues to excel in his career.



After winning the undergraduate scholarship in 2006, I went on to graduate school at Texas State University-San Marcos and studied movement and habitat associations of the Guadalupe bass, as well as long-term patterns in stream flow and fish assemblage composition in the Guadalupe River Basin. As a Master of Science student, I was awarded the TCAFS Graduate Student Scholarship, as well as the Outstanding Fisheries Student of the Year Award in 2009. After graduating from Texas State University-San Marcos, I began work on a Ph.D. at Kansas State University where I studied fish biodiversity response to stream fragmentation and was awarded recognition from the AFS in the form of a John E. Skinner Memorial Award from the National AFS in 2010, the Otto Tiemeier/Frank Cross award from the Kansas Chapter AFS in 2011, and

Best Poster, as well as Best Paper presentations from the Kansas Chapter AFS during 2012. I actually handed in my dissertation just today (Nov. 2, 2012) and have accepted a postdoctoral research associate position split between Kansas State University and the University of New Mexico.

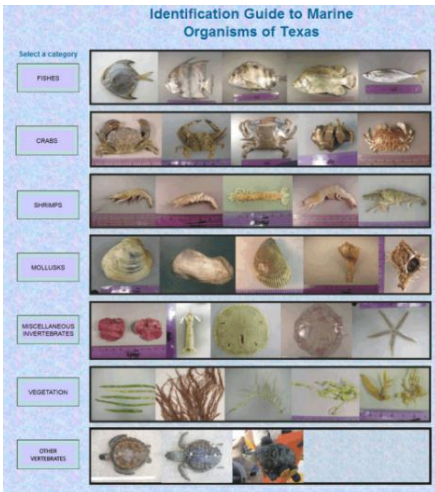
Throughout my career as a graduate student, awards from the AFS served as motivational mile-marks and much-needed financial support that I used to further my career as a fisheries biologist. The Texas Chapter AFS will always be my home chapter, and I sincerely hope the future brings an opportunity to continue fisheries work in Texas and perhaps eventually a leadership role in the chapter.

As you can see from the stories of these people, it is a true honor to receive scholarship awards. On the History page of the TCAFS website, I mention that history is alive and that what is happening today is tomorrow's history. We need to capture today so that those who come after us will see our footsteps. We see the footsteps of the people who have won the scholarships, and if you look at history from the "footstep" perspective, you might see that their footsteps mark the record of leadership. Who will follow in their footsteps? Will it be you?



Flotsam & Jetsam – fish stories from around the world

➤ Identification guide to marine organisms of Texas



Have you ever been to the coast and picked up something on the beach or caught something in the water and you had no idea what it was? Thanks to the exhaustive work of Brenda Bowling of the Dickinson Marine Lab of the Coastal Fisheries Division of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department your days of uncertainty are short-lived! She has been the driving force behind a new website “Identification guide to marine organisms of Texas”, <http://txmarspecies.tamug.edu/>, that provides an extensive collection of images of all manner of marine organisms. The project was apparently started to provide technicians and biologists with visual aids to help in identification of marine species collected in routine sampling. For each species, there are a series of photographs, descriptions of distinguishing characteristics, and similar species are also identified. While you’re at it, you can view images that identify anatomical features of major groups of organisms. For anglers there is a length/weight conversion tool that lets you get an estimate of fish weight based on your input of species name and

length in inches. Since this project is web-based, it will no doubt be continually expanded and updated. Maybe on your next trip to the coast, you’ll remember to use this tool on your smartphone, tablet, or computer. Your kids, family and friends will love you for it!

➤ Here’s looking at you!

A grapefruit-sized eyeball washed up on a South Florida beach in Pompano Beach in early October. The large blue eyeball is believed to be from a large swordfish. Officials from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission are conducting genetic testing to confirm the identification. The images created a bit of a sensation on the Internet.



“Experts on site and remotely have viewed and analyzed the eye, and based on its color, size and structure, along with the presence of bone around it, we believe the eye came from a swordfish,” said Joan Herrera, curator of collections at the FWC’s Fish and Wildlife Research Institute in St. Petersburg. “Based on straight-line cuts visible around the eye, we believe it was removed by a fisherman and discarded.”

Swordfish are highly migratory and can be found from the surface to depths of 2,000 feet. Swordfish in the Atlantic can reach a maximum size of over 1,100 pounds, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. They feed on a wide variety of fish and invertebrates.



➤ Oarfish washes ashore on Baja California beach

Beachgoers on the busy Medano Beach at Cabo San Lucas in Mexico were treated to the bizarre sight of an oarfish in mid-October. These fish are deep-water residents that are rarely seen. Some have been known to reach lengths in excess of 30 feet. Because of their long, slender, silver, scale-free bodies, and their bright orange dorsal and pelvic fins their appearance has helped spawn myths of sea serpents and sea monsters among ancient mariners. Oarfish inhabit depths between 600 and 3,000 feet where they swim with undulating serpent-like motions. They are found in all temperate to tropical oceans. The oarfish family contains four species in two genera.

➤ Million dollar yellowfin tuna

Guy Yocom, a 55-year old businessman from Dana Point, California caught a large yellowfin tuna in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico on September 18, 2012. Exactly how large? Well two separate scales registered 421.5 and 427 pounds respectively. Whenever the official weight is confirmed the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) will declare this as a new world record. Another tuna weighing 427.9 pounds was caught in April but since two men from the crew touched the rod it effectively invalidated the record so it was never submitted to IGFA for consideration.

What makes the catch even more interesting is if it is certified Yocom will win a \$1 million prize because he caught a world-record of a limited list of eligible species in this year's Mustad Hook-a-million contest during the contest window. Yocom thought ahead of time, entered the contest and caught the fish with a Mustad hook. Also, since the \$1 million is paid over a 50-year period, the prestigious all-tackle world record, if approved, is the most rewarding aspect of his catch. He caught the fish on 100-pound-test line after a short 55-minute struggle. His timing was great since he caught the fish just 12 days shy of the end of the contest on September 30, 2012!



➤ Great Barrier Reef in peril

Marine biologists analyzing data collected during 2,258 surveys at 217 individual reefs on Australia's Great Barrier Reef have shown a decline in coral cover from 28.0% to 13.8% between 1985 and 2012. They attributed the loss of 50.7% of initial the coral cover to tropical cyclones (48%), coral predation by the crown-of-thorns starfish (*Acanthaster planci*) (42%) and bleaching linked to climate change (10%). These agents had a combined annual mortality rate of 3.38%. Fortunately in the relatively pristine northern region, there was no overall decline. The estimated rate of increase in coral cover in the absence of cyclones, crown-of-thorns starfish, and bleaching was 2.85% per anum, demonstrating a substantial capacity for reef recovery. In the absence of crown-of-thorns starfish, coral cover would increase at 0.89% per anum despite ongoing losses due to cyclones and bleaching. The outlook for the Great Barrier Reef would be improved if populations of crown-of-thorns starfish were reduced by improving water quality and developing alternative control measures. These measures would only be effective if climatic conditions were stabilized as losses due to bleaching and cyclones would continue to increase.



<http://www.pnas.org/content/109/44/17995>

➤ Some fish will eat just about anything

In mid-July, 2012, 31-year-old Haans Galassi was wakeboarding with friends on Priest Lake in north-eastern Idaho when his hand became entangled in the towline connecting his wakeboard to the boat. As the rope tightened it snapped four of his fingers off. Paramedics rushed him to a hospital in Spokane, Washington by helicopter. Two months later detectives from the Bonner County, Idaho, sheriff's office contacted him with some unusual news. Fisherman Nolan Calvin found one of his fingers in a lake trout that he was cleaning after he caught it on September 11. He put the fish on ice and took it to the sheriff's office just in case the missing finger was from a homicide victim. Detectives were able to match a fingerprint from the severed digit to Galassi. The fish was caught about 8 miles from where Galassi lost his fingers.



➤ Invasive lionfish in Texas waters

In the mid-1990's lionfish, venomous marine fish native to the Indo-Pacific, were unintentionally introduced into the Atlantic Ocean. The Atlantic population of lionfish consists predominantly of the Red lionfish (*Pterois volitans*) which accounts for 93% of the population and the Devil firefish (*P. miles*) which accounts for the rest. Since that time these invasive species have become established along the East Coast of the U.S., and in the



wider Caribbean Sea. They have been sighted throughout the Gulf of Mexico for a number of years but multiple recent sightings off the Texas coast indicate their populations are continuing to expand westward. Dr. Matt Ajemian, a post-doctoral research associate at the Harte Research Institute (HRI) spotted two fish offshore of Port Aransas in October 2012. The first fish was observed about 40 miles southeast of Port Aransas and the second sighting was about the same distance but due east. They were filmed in relatively deep water at a depth of almost 200 feet on artificial reefs through the use of a remotely operated vehicle. The researchers intend to report these observations to the USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species program (NAS) through their website reporting portal. Earlier this summer HRI scientist also observed several lionfish at the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary located approximately 100 nautical miles offshore of southeast Texas.

Lionfish pose a serious risk to coral reef communities because they are generalist carnivores that consume many species of fish and invertebrates but they have few predators of their own. They possess a relatively high reproductive rate, becoming sexually mature in less than a year. They spawn in pairs and each female in the Caribbean can produce over 2 million eggs annually. Reproduction occurs throughout the year about every 4 days. Albins and Hixon (2008) demonstrated a reduction of 79% in net recruitment of coral reef fishes on Bahamian patch reefs over a five week period as a result of the presence of lionfish. Lionfish have also been shown to reduce species richness in coral reef communities which may pose a substantial threat to native communities. Reduction in the abundance of herbivorous species such as parrotfish by lionfish predation has the potential to create overgrowth of corals by seaweeds and macroalgae. Lionfish also have the potential to cause extreme pain and sickness to anglers and divers who might handle them improperly because of their numerous venomous spines. Many areas throughout the southeast U.S., the Bahamas, Bermuda, and the wider Caribbean have adopted lionfish “derbies” in an attempt to help to eradicate these fish and preserve coral reef communities. These species are apparently quite palatable but they must be handled carefully. If lionfish continue to spread in Texas waters it may not be too much longer before they're included in “Identification guide to marine organisms of Texas”!

<http://schmidtocean.org/story/show/1167>

<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/taxgroup/fish/lionfishdistribution.aspx>

<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?speciesID=963>



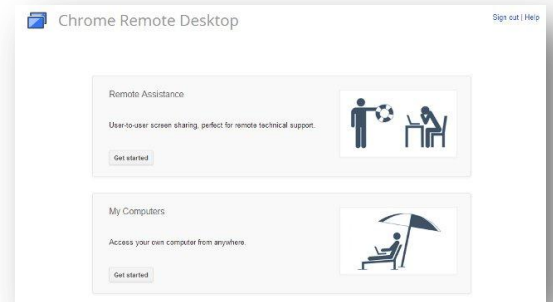
A Kemp's Ridley sea turtle that was probably born in the Gulf of Mexico ended up 5,000 miles from home on the rocky coast of Holland in December 2011. These endangered turtles are among the world's great long-distance travelers. The 4-year old female who was subsequently named “Flip” was injured and stunned by the cold when she was found. After being nursed back to health by specialists at a Dutch aquarium she was flown from Amsterdam to Houston by KLM. On arrival, Flip was driven to Port Aransas where she was released into the Gulf of Mexico on November 9. Her movements are being monitored through a satellite transmitter that was glued to the back of her shell before she was released.



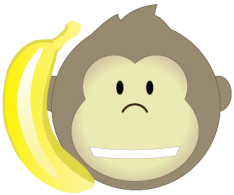
Freebies for the busy fisheries professional!

➤ Need to share a desktop?

There are times we need to access information on another computer. If you use the Google Chrome browser, there's an extension called Chrome Remote Desktop (<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/chrome-remote-desktop/gbchcmhahfdphkhkmpfmihenigjmpp/related>) that lets you accomplish this task. Each of the computers must be running Chrome Remote Desktop in Chrome. You can either Access or Share your desktop. If you elect to Share your desktop, the application will generate an Access code which the user on the other desktop (Access) will have to enter to access your machine. Once this code is entered, let the sharing begin! This is great if you need to get computer support from a remote user. If you prefer, you can configure your system to let you access an unattended machine. On the machine you wish to access, you must do some setup before you can begin. First select "Enable remote connections" in Chrome Remote Desktop. (Note: This does not seem to be available in Linux, at least not yet) You will be prompted to create an access code which will give you access to the machine from a remote computer. Despite having to do a little advance planning, it's a valuable tool. Now you can go to another machine log into your Google account in Chrome, start Chrome Remote Desktop and the machine you have set up to Enable remote connections will be displayed as an icon. Click on the icon, enter the access code and you'll be there. Remember you'll have to leave Chrome Remote Desktop running on the computer you wish to access remotely. Remote desktops are not new, but this one is simple to use, utilizes your Google account and will operate under Windows, Mac, and Linux. If you need to copy information from the desktop you're accessing, you can save it to a cloud-based service like Dropbox and then access it from the machine you're working on.



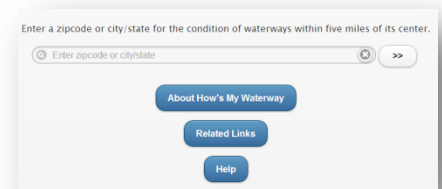
➤ Need a painless Web-based conferencing tool?



Conference calling is a convenience that we use to converse with multiple people in remote locations. This process is sometimes fraught with frustration involved in having to get access codes in order to log into the system so you can participate. Speak (www.speak.com) is apparently a bit easier. The first step is to set up your account and select a URL for you calls. To set up a conference call, just e-mail your URL to each participant. They click on the link, enter their phone number and Speak immediately calls them back and they've joined your call. For now Speak is free, though a pricing model is coming for premium subscribers.

➤ Check the health of U.S. waterways

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched a new website to help people find information on the condition of thousands of lakes, rivers and streams across the United States from their smart phone, tablet or desktop computer. Available at <http://www.epa.gov/mywaterway>, the How's My Waterway website uses GPS technology or a user-entered zip code or city name to provide information about the quality of local water bodies. The release of the website helps mark the 40th anniversary of the Clean



Water Act, which Congress enacted on October 18, 1972, giving citizens a special role in caring for the nation's water resources. Forty years later, EPA is providing citizens with a technology-based tool to expand that stewardship.

"America's lakes, streams and rivers are national treasures. Communities and neighborhoods across the U.S. want to know that their local lakes, rivers and streams are healthy and safe to enjoy with their families," said Nancy Stoner, acting assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Water. "This new website provides easy, user-friendly access to the health of a waterway, whether it is safe for swimming and fishing, and what is being done about any reported problems. People can get this information whether researching at a desktop or standing streamside looking at a smart phone."

One more thing, Windows 8 is here

Ready to make the jump to Windows 8? You'd better act quickly if you want to save some cash! If you've got an existing computer running Windows (XP, Vista or 7), you can upgrade to Windows 8 Pro for \$42.69 (\$39.99 + \$2.70 tax). Download the Upgrade assistant at <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows/buy> When you run this program, you will be advised of any software that's not compatible with Windows 8 and after you provide credit card information you will get a product key and then you can either copy the installation program onto a USB drive or download an iso file which you'll need to "burn" to DVD. The upgrade has to be installed over an existing version of Windows, you cannot install it on a blank hard drive. Act quickly, this offer expires on January 31, 2013! Remember, you don't have to install it right away. As long as you have the product key and the installation program, you can install it when you're good and ready. If you're not the adventurous type, you can also buy a Windows 8 Pro program DVD from Microsoft (\$69.99) and have it shipped to your door.

http://www.microsoftstore.com/store/msstore/html/pbpage.Windows_8_Pro?WT.term=windows+8+upgrade&WT.mc_id=pointitsem_Microsoft+US_bing_5++Windows+8&WT.medium=cpc&WT.campaign=5+-+Windows+8&WT.content=rM9eoRed&WT.srch=1&WT.source=bing&cshift_ck=94233b8f-a978-4a2e-88f6-83a64c782191csrM9eoRed

Fans of Windows Media Center can request a free product key for Windows 8 Pro at the following website. <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-8/feature-packs> This offer also expires at the end of January. After that you'll have to pay about \$10 for the program.

If you need some help getting started with Windows 8, Dell offers a free 147 page pocket edition of Windows for Dummies in e-book format at <http://marketing.dell.com/windows-8-ebook>





TCAFS Registration Form

La Torretta Lake Resort - Lake Conroe
January 17 – 19, 2013



Registration includes access to all technical sessions, the continuing education workshops, Thursday night Student/Professional Mixer, and Friday night banquet. The deadline for early registration is January 7, 2013. Please print legibly, especially e-mail addresses.

Name _____		Date _____
Street Address _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Work Phone _____	Email Address _____	

MEETING REGISTRATION:	Cost/Person	Total Cost
Regular Member Registration – Received by 1-7-13	\$90	
Received after 1-7-13	\$105	
Student Registration – Received by 1-7-13	\$45	
Received after 1-7-13	\$55	
Extra Friday Night Banquet Ticket	\$35	
Chapter Dues – Professional/Student (<i>Please note student registration & membership is for full-time, currently registered students only.</i>)	\$12/\$5	
Participating in the Thursday Continuing Education Workshops? <i>Free, but pre-registration is required.</i>	\$0	
2:00-3:30 pm Fish Pathology - Greg Southard Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
3:30-5:00 pm Processing images from Recreation grade side scan sonar with Dr. Depth software for use in a GIS – Dan Bennett Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
(contact Dan Bennett to register: 903-566-2161 ext. 202; Dan.Bennett@tpwd.state.tx.us)		
TOTAL REGISTRATION COST (<i>make checks payable to TCAFS</i>)		

_____ Yes, I would like to participate in the Friday Student/Mentor Lunch. If yes, please pair me with someone with interest in or experience with: Government Agency _____ Academia _____ Private Consulting _____

COMMITTEES: – Please indicate which committee(s) you are willing to serve on.

Awards		Internet		Nominating	
Editorial		Endowments		Pond Management	
Issues		Membership		Publicity/Exhibits	
Continuing Education		Student Outreach			

_____ Professionals (students not eligible), please check line if you are willing to serve as a presentation judge at the meeting

<p><u>MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION (1 form per person) AND PAYMENT TO: (please make checks payable to TCAFS).</u></p>	<p>Robert Mauk TX Chapter AFS Treasurer 409 Chester Ave. Wichita Falls, TX 76301 Phone: 940-766-2383 Robert.Mauk@tpwd.state.tx.us</p>
<p>_____ To pay by Credit Card (PayPal), check here and email completed registration form to Robert Mauk.</p>	

Join the Texas Chapter

If you are interested in joining or renewing your membership to the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, you can get membership materials at our web site, www.sdafs.org/tcafs/index.htm or by contacting Deborah Wade, Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, 5550 FM 2495, Athens, TX 75752, (903) 670-2234, Deborah.Wade@tpwd.state.tx.us

If your e-mail address has changed, please contact us with an update so you can continue to receive the chapter newsletter.

Members are encouraged to make submissions to the Newsletter Editor by mail or e-mail to one of the addresses listed below.

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PRESIDENT-ELECT.....Richard Ott
PAST-PRESIDENT.....Craig Bonds
SECRETARY-TREASURER.....Robert Mauck

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CONTINUING EDUCATION.....Dan Bennett
EDITORIAL.....Dan Daugherty
ENDOWMENTS.....Dave Terre
HISTORY.....Michele Nations
INTERNET.....John Taylor / Janet Wisian
ISSUES.....Chris Moret & Niki Ragan
(includes Stocks-at-Risk & Exotic Species Sub-committees)
MEMBERSHIP.....Deborah Wade
NOMINATING.....John Clayton
POND MANAGEMENT.....John Tibbs
PUBLICITY / EXHIBITS.....Greg Conley / Brad Littrell
SCHOLARSHIP.....Mike Morgan
STUDENT OUTREACH.....Mandy Scott

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