



President's message

by Richard Ott

Sometimes we take water for granted. Sure, 7/10 of the planet is covered by it and fresh water (the kind we can drink) is only 2% of that but what is the value of that water? According to my local water provider (Southern Utilities) the value of water is a flat fee of \$20.62 per month plus \$2.05/1,000 gallons (up to 10,000 gallons) and \$3.20/1,000 gallons for greater than 10,000 gallons. Let's say my family uses 9,000 gallons of water per month. That makes my cost $\$20.62 + 9 \times \$2.05/9,000 = \$0.004/\text{gallon}$; that is not very much. In reality the fee I pay is for the infrastructure and transmission of water and the water itself is essentially free. If I go down to the Gas & Grab and purchase a quart of bottled water for \$0.79 the unit cost is higher (\$3.16/gallon) but once again the cost is primarily the price of convenience and is mostly the cost of bottling and shipping the water rather than the water itself.

The irony of all this is that a resource needed by every living organism on the planet and that humans cannot survive without for more than about three days has so little financial value. Sure there are many models used to predict the value of water to economic development. During the drought of 2010-2012 there were lawsuits brought by water rights holders in the lower reaches of Texas' rivers that required reservoir controlling authorities on the upper watershed to release water. There were counter suits by property owners with homes on the reservoirs because they no longer had "water front" property it was "dirt front" property and their home value declined (or so they said) and they had evidence to prove it.

As resource professionals we are often caught in the middle of these arguments trying to explain to aggravated constituents the vulgarities of Texas Water Rights laws. At the same time we are conducting instream flow studies to estimate the biological value of water to the ecosystem. How much do the fish need, how much does wildlife need, how much does the ecosystem need to continue to function? All of these functions have value but putting a price tag on it can be very tricky and even trickier to explain to lawmakers.

As our Texas population grows and climate becomes more unpredictable the inevitable triage of water needs will need to be conducted. One of the functions of the Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society is to provide outreach and we do this at the local, regional, and national levels. Water allocation as well as water quality will become an increasing important issue to be addressed by our membership. My personal opinion is that the "value" of water goes far beyond what someone is willing to pay for it and that as it becomes more rare we better be willing to pay more. The advantage of paying more for something is that we are more careful with it and find more efficient ways to use it. Look at what the



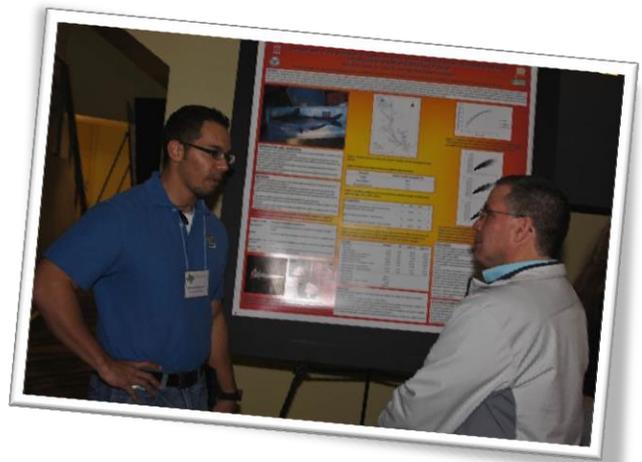
increasing cost of gasoline has done to the auto industry. When I was in high school and gasoline was \$0.25/gallon and 10 miles per gallon was the norm for the family car we burned a lot. This morning I paid \$3.79/gallon to fill up my truck that gets 22 miles per gallon and some cars get over 40 miles per gallon. Cars have gotten more efficient because cost of the fuel has forced us to. Just think how much less my cost would have been this morning if we had not squandered so much oil when gasoline was 0.25/gallon.

This is the message we need to be able to communicate to our families, neighbors, constituents, and lawmakers. We need to set the “value” of water high enough that squandering it is never even considered.

Past-President's Message

by George Guillen

Fellow members, I would like to thank you again, for the opportunity to serve the TCAFS as the Chapter President this last year. It was one of the greatest experiences of my professional career. I was very fortunate to get to work and meet with many of you throughout the year. Some of you I have known for years. However, I was very lucky to meet new friends and work with a great group of people dedicated to our profession. If you have not already, I strongly recommend that each of you consider serving the Chapter formally in the future as an officer or on one of our great committees. I guarantee you will not regret it and will provide you an opportunity to get to know many of your fellow colleagues and expand your professional horizons. Through our dedicated committee members and officers, this last year we got a lot done, finalized our bylaws, identified new donors who have graciously agreed to provide internships to our student members, and unveiled a new TCAFS logo. Last but not least, our President-Elect, now President Rick Ott, along with the help of Dan Daugherty and other members, provided us with one of the best annual meetings ever. The venue was excellent and all the speakers provided high quality technical presentations and workshops. Despite unforeseen technical difficulties, our dedicated workshop instructor, Dan Bennett, rebounded later in the meeting to provide us a great overview of sidescan surveying software! We were very fortunate also to have the AFS President John Boreman as a guest. He spoke highly of our Chapter as serving as an example of full active member participation and professional involvement with current fisheries issues. Finally I again would like to thank our outgoing Past President, Craig Bonds, Treasurer Robert Mauk, Student Outreach Committee Chair Mandy Scott, and Publicity and Exhibits Committee Co-Chairs, Greg Conley and Brad Littrell for their service and support during my tenure as President. I look forward to assisting our new President and our incoming officers, President Elect Bruce Hysmith, and our new Treasurer, Greg Southard during my last year as a formal member of the EXCOM.



Awards Committee update

by Dave Buzan, Awards Committee Chair

Texas chapter members and their supporters contribute significantly to our understanding of fish ecology, fisheries management, and recreational fishing both within the state and nation. At our 2013 Lake Conroe meeting, we recognized individuals and organizations making outstanding contributions both to our chapter and fisheries science. The summaries below offer only a brief glimpse into the broad, important contributions each of our awardees has made.

Special thanks to chapter members who submitted nominations and Awards Committee members (Michele Nations, Jim Matthews, Ya Sheng Juan, Robert Adami, Kristy Kollaus, Luci Cook-Hildreth, Richard Kline, Leslie Hartmann, and David Buckmeier) who evaluated them. Their selfless service makes these awards possible

Special Recognition – Randy Rushin



Randy Rushin first began exhibiting at TCAFS at the 1998 meeting in Athens and has continued since the 2002 Junction meeting as founder of his company, Water Monitoring Solutions. Randy is a devoted supporter of student scholarship fundraising efforts of our chapter. Over the years, he and his company have contributed more than \$10,000 through direct donations to the scholarship fund and purchases at the annual auction. To celebrate the 10-year anniversary of his company at last year's meeting in Galveston, Randy matched some of the auction's proceeds with a generous contribution of \$5,000.

Special Recognition – East Texas Woods and Waters Foundation

East Texas Woods and Waters Foundation is a conservation and philanthropic organization whose members share a passion for conservation, outdoor recreation and education, and community service. Since being founded in 1994, they funded construction of the native aquatic plant nursery at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center. The foundation also secured a 20-year lease of private land along the Neches River to provide bank angling access to one of the state's most popular white bass runs. It partnered with TPWD to pay angler tag return awards for a flathead catfish exploitation study. The foundation has funded multiple projects in support of kids fishing events at the Tyler Nature Center, including purchases of rainbow trout, fish feeders and feed, two fishing piers, an angler pavilion and fish cleaning station and rods and reels. Members regularly volunteer to assist with events and have even provided fish cooking demonstrations to attendees.



Special Recognition – Kirk Winemiller

Dr. Winemiller who is a Regents professor at Texas A & M, his students, and collaborators have studied riverine and fish ecology throughout Texas and the world for over 20 years. This work is published in more than 200 scientific publications, agency reports and conference contributions. Dr. Winemiller served on the National Academy of Science committee that reviewed the Texas Instream Flows Program, was a member of the initial Science Advisory Committee established to help state agencies address environmental flows, and has served as an advisor in the development of flow recommendations for several rivers in Texas. Recently he organized two special sessions on environmental flows and river ecosystem connectivity at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America in Austin, Texas.



Special Recognition – Loraine and Joe Fries



Loraine Fries began her TPWD career in 1989 at the old Lewisville hatchery and then moved to AE Wood and has, through the years, performed in many roles, fulfilling the needs of the Inland Fisheries Division whenever and where ever called upon. Loraine has been a prolific researcher and published extensively through the years. Her final position was Director for Analytical Services/ Inland Fisheries. A major portion of her recent research concentrated on golden algae and she was an active member of the state's Golden Algae Task Force. After 24 years of service with TPWD's Inland Fisheries Division, Hatchery Branch, Loraine Fries hung up her dip nets, sampling gear, analytical tools and writing pen.

Working with Drs. Bobby Whiteside, Dick Anderson, and Tom Brandt, Joe Fries evaluated effects of hand-feeding versus demand-feeding on striped bass growth and survival. Later as biologist at the San Marcos National Fish Hatchery and Technology Center his work shifted to working with salamanders, aquatic insects, and wild rice. He specialized in

developing culture techniques for these species and has authored numerous peer-reviewed articles over the years. He also served as a Texas State University adjunct faculty member on numerous graduate student theses. With Loraine, Joe has recently retired and enjoys being a scuba diving grandparent.



Outstanding Fisheries Student – Rebecca Pizano

Rebecca Pizano, an MS student in the fisheries program at Texas A&M University, has maintained a perfect 4.0 grade-point average while immersed in her research. Her project showed how combined impacts of drought, low flows, high salinity, and concentration of pollution severely impacted the aquatic and riparian components of the Lower Neches. During the course of this project, she interacted with state and federal agencies, and has provided research experiences for undergraduate and graduate students as well as visiting international researchers. Rebecca's research has great potential to impact water management and policy for the lower Neches River. In addition to her academic and research activities, Rebecca is very active in professional and student honor societies, especially those promoting diversity in scientific professions.



Outstanding Fisheries Technician – Bill Hughes



Bill Hughes shows a passion and dedication for natural resource management that sets a standard for those around him to follow. Bill dedicated himself to expanding and managing the Native Aquatic Plant Nursery at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center. He was instrumental in the nursery's design, construction, and maintenance. In 2012 he doubled the nursery's capacity by constructing an additional 6 raceways which he then populated by splitting existing nursery stock. Bill's efforts provided 1,228 mature native plants used in 10 different aquatic habitat projects across Texas in 2012.

Outstanding Fisheries Culturist – Jennifer Butler

Jennifer Butler is an enthusiastic and highly skilled marine Fish Culturist at Sea Center Texas. She was instrumental in designing, acquiring and installing rotifer culture equipment which has substantially increased production of marine rotifers, a key aspect of the state's successful southern flounder culture. The early success of the middle-coast spotted seatrout stocking program can be largely attributed to her role in coordinating collection of brood stock. Her contributions extend beyond the state. The past two years, she has helped Florida International University refine their culture techniques for larval spotted seatrout and red drum they were using for their toxicology work.



Outstanding Fisheries Management – *Mark Webb*



Mark Webb is highly respected by his peers as a consummate professional who sees the big picture and knows how to bring people and resources together to reach a common goal. In his role as a district supervisor for TPWD's Inland Fisheries, Mark partnered with the Lake Houston Sports and Recreation Foundation to stock sport fishes in Lake Houston. Mark also used restitution from a pipeline spill to establish native aquatic plant nurseries and evaluate grass-carp-resistant native aquatic plants in Lake Raven. He, with two co-authors, published a manual for establishing native aquatic plants in reservoirs. This manual serves as a primary reference and establishes BMPs for the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership's habitat impairment mitigation strategies, a national effort.

Outstanding Fisheries Education – *George Guillen*

George Guillen, an associate professor of biology and environmental science at the University of Houston Clear Lake, guides his students as they explore how land use affects urban watersheds, freshwater inflow supports populations of organisms, water and habitat quality affect health of marine and freshwater ecosystems, and oil and chemical spills impact estuarine ecology. George is the executive director of the Environmental Institute of Houston which has become a pacesetter in building partnerships in research, education, and outreach. Through his leadership, the Institute encourages environmental literacy within the greater Houston – Galveston area by providing environmental and science-oriented educator workshops.



Outstanding Fisheries Administration - *Brenda Bowling*



Brenda Bowling, an ecosystem biologist with TPWD in Dickinson, developed a photo key of marine fish and invertebrates of the Texas coast. Her work has matured into a web-based taxonomic key and photographic atlas of Texas marine organisms and is now extensively used by thousands of students, fisherman, naturalists, and fisheries professionals. She championed the use of digital technology in managing fisheries data in the 1980's and 1990s. Brenda introduced her website at the most recent meeting of the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife sought her advice in developing a similar fish identification web site for their state.

Outstanding Fisheries Administration - Tim Birdsong

Tim Birdsong is Chief of Habitat Conservation for TPWD's Inland Fisheries Division. In partnership with Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina, Tim led development of the Southeastern US Native Black Bass Initiative, a new National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Keystone Initiative expected to provide over \$30M in new funding for river conservation in the region over the next 10 years. Tim was the primary author of the Business Plan for the overall regional initiative and of three successful grant proposals selected for funding through the initiative. The three grants provided TPWD \$425,000 for conservation of Guadalupe bass populations in the Llano River.



2013 Best Presentation and Poster Awards

Oral presentations and posters were judged by over 20 chapter member judges at the Lake Conroe meeting. The 2013 winners are listed below. Each winner will receive a plaque at the 2014 annual meeting.

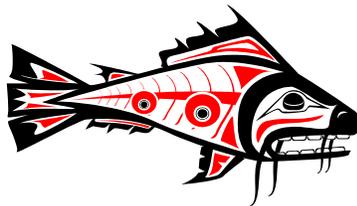
Professional poster: At this year's meeting, there was a tie for Outstanding poster by a professional.

- Kevin Mayes, TPWD, B. Littrell, E. Oborny, J. Webster, and C. Blunt - "Combined Acoustic-Radio Tracking of Blue Sucker in the Lower Sabine River."
- Brenda Bowling, TPWD - "Texas Marine Species Identification Website."

Professional presentation: Ashley Oliver, Half and Associates - "Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) Western Dams Rehabilitation Project: Avoiding Take of State-listed Threatened Mussels and Game Fish in the Elm Fork Trinity River Through Relocation Efforts."

Student poster: A. N. (Niki) Ragan, TPWD - "Saltmarsh Pond Classification and Fish Community Dynamics at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge."

Student presentation: Tiffany Hedrick-Hopper, Texas Tech - "The Effects of Triclosan on Reflex Responses and Anti-predator Behaviors in an Estuarine Fish."



2013 Student Scholarship award winners



Scholarship Committee Chair Mike Morgan (center), poses with (left to right) Harry Tennyson Scholarship by the Sportsman's Club of Fort Worth winners Melissa M. Gires and Michael Dance and TCAFS Student Scholarship Award winners Alin Gonzales, Virginia Eaton and Lindsey Carey.



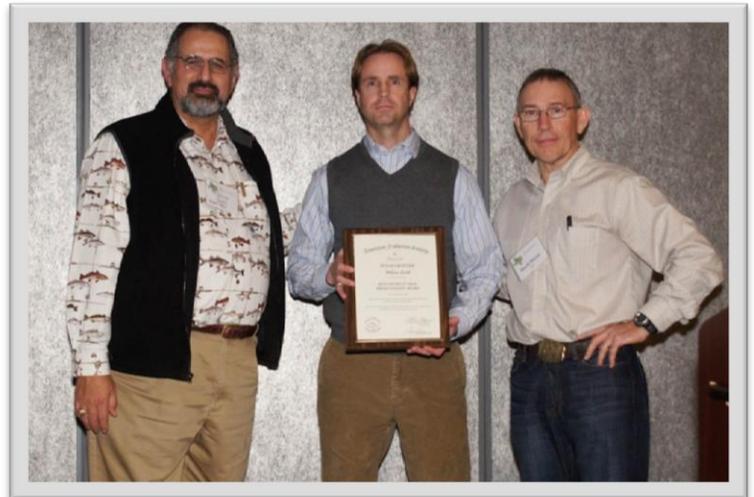
Dan Fitzgerald (center) receives the Clark Hubbs Student Research Award from Chapter president George Guillen (left) and Kevin Mayes, Chair of the Clark Hubbs Committee (right).

Presentation Award winners from 2012 meeting in Galveston



Brad Littrell (Bio-West) receives the award from Chapter president George Guillen (left) and Awards Committee Chair Dave Buzan (right) for Best Professional Presentation: “Effectiveness of host snail removal in the Comal River, Texas and its ability to reduce cercariae of the invasive gill parasite *Centrocestus formosanus* (Trematoda:Heterophyidae)” from the 2012 meeting in Galveston.

William Smith (Texas A&M University) receives the award from Chapter president George Guillen (left) and Awards Committee Chair Dave Buzan (right) for Best Student Presentation: “Perceptions of spotted seatrout decline and associated displacement behavior among Texas inshore fishing guides” from the 2012 meeting in Galveston.



Dan Fitzgerald (Texas A&M University) receives the award from Chapter president George Guillen (left) and Awards Committee Chair Dave Buzan (right) for Best Student Poster “Are successful fish invasions only from species-rich into species-poor communities” from the 2012 meeting in Galveston.

Michael Gonzales Memorial Internship

The Michael Gonzales Memorial Internship was established in 2012 to honor Michael Gonzales, former Deputy Director of Technical Services at the San Antonio River Authority. This internship opportunity is awarded to a highly motivated outstanding undergraduate student of a Texas institute of higher education. The internship is designed to provide an individual interested in Biology, Chemistry, Geology, other Natural or Environmental Science to intern with the San Antonio River Authority Environmental Sciences Department in San Antonio, Texas.

Candidates must meet the following qualifications:

- Enrolled at an accredited college or university
- Minimum 3.0 grade point average
- Provide 2 letters of recommendation
- Provide a 500 word essay explaining your professional goals
- Provide resume
- Available for phone interview



Interns are asked to commit up to 40 hours per week (Monday-Thursday). The internship will run from May 15th to August 15th (13 weeks). Interns will have the opportunity to work in the San Antonio River Authority Environmental Sciences Department. The selected intern will be working the majority of their time outdoors. Responsibilities will include but are not limited to: collection of water quality samples, fish collection by electroshocker and seine, and habitat evaluations. However, interns will also be instructed in sample and laboratory Quality Assurance and Quality Control procedures as well as Data Management practices.

Applicants should submit their essay along with a resume and two letters of recommendation from relevant sources (professors, previous supervisors, academic advisors, etc.) to:

Steve Lusk
Manager, Environmental Sciences Department
San Antonio River Authority
600 E. Euclid Ave.
P.O. Box 839980
San Antonio Texas, 78283-9980

For additional details see the announcement from SARA at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/pivcrig14q6xw37/SRA%20Announcement.docx>



THE PORTAL TO TEXAS HISTORY

<http://texashistory.unt.edu/>

<http://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/partners/TCAF/>

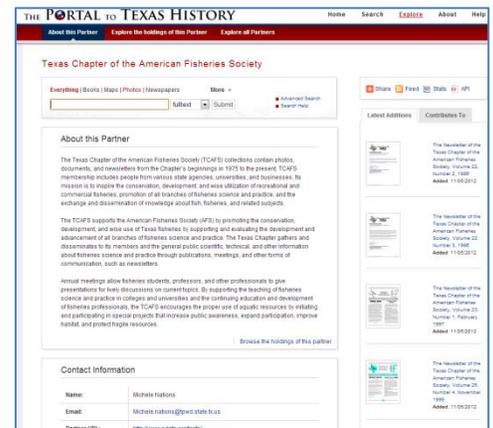
By Michele Nations

The Portal to Texas History was created and is maintained by the University of North Texas Libraries' Digital Projects Unit. They provide their digital content to a worldwide audience. Each month the Portal averages about 150,000 visits. Most of these come from people in the United States, but the rest are from every corner of the world. Visitors from Canada and the United Kingdom are the second and third highest in use. The source for most of the traffic to The Portal to Texas History is from search engines like Google, Yahoo, and Bing along with the social networking sites like Facebook.

In 2002, when the UNT Libraries began planning The Portal to Texas History, their goal was to ensure long-term sustainability. In other words, they wanted to create a digital gateway to collect, archive, and display items of historical value in ways that would allow future generations to access what was collected. All of us have seen the progress of technology (e.g., computers that take up a floor in a building, punch cards fed into computers for programming, no internet (!), no email). Their challenge was/is to collect photos and documents from the past and present and digitally preserve the material for the future. They have also spent a great deal of time and money procured through grants and donations to ensure everything is backed up to several sites.

I first heard of the Portal to Texas History from Troy Stone, a friend who is in charge of digitization projects at my local library (the Boyce Ditto Public Library in Mineral Wells). His group is scanning and entering metadata (descriptions about each item) for the five current projects they have going at this time. What impressed me the most was that he told me of the website's search capability. I tried a search for "fish hatchery" and received a selection from TPWD magazine entries, as well as the newsletters I have entered. This is why I am working hard to get our information on their site. Try entering "Craig Bonds."

The UNT Portal to Texas History has partners consisting of Texas libraries, museums, archives, historical societies, genealogical societies, and private families. And now, the Portal has the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society as one of its partners in preserving history. So far, I have provided 59 newsletters from 1987 to recent years and 80 photos from the 2012 annual meeting. I will continue to add recent photos and newsletters while reclaiming older items from documents and slides. If you have anything you would like to share, please let me know.



Capture Today . . . For Today is Tomorrow's Yesterday.

Texas Chapter AFS Business Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2013

Montgomery, Texas

by Robert Mauk, Secretary Treasurer

Call to Order: by George Guillen at 12:04 pm.

Determination of a quorum: Yes

Approval of minutes: - George asked for approval of last year's annual meeting minutes (as e-mailed to membership via Listserv in the February newsletter and published on the TCAFS website). Deborah Wade made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Danny Lewis. Motion was approved.

President's Report: (George Guillen)

- George reported Dave Buzan replaced Matt Chumchal as chair of the Awards committee this past year.
- George reported that publicity/exhibits co-chairs, Brad Littrell and Greg Conley are both stepping down with the positions to be filled later. One of the chairs will likely be filled by Jenny Oakley.
- George reported that Mandy Scott was stepping down as chair of student outreach and Michael Homer was named the new chair.
- George reported that Chris Moret had stepped down as co-chair of the Issues committee and that Mark Webb will replace him.
- George reported he was glad that the Texas A&M student sub-chapter has been interacting and attending ExCom meetings.
- George reported that having committee chairs attend ExCom meetings remotely has been going well.
- George reported this past year's accomplishments have included approval of the chapter's new by-laws.
- George closed with the unveiling of the new TCAFS logo selected by vote of the membership.

SDAFS Officer Update: (Craig Bonds)

- Craig reminded the chapter membership that the SDAFS annual meeting will be Feb 7-10 in Nashville, TN.
- Craig reported that the SDAFS has a new logo and the website has undergone changes.
- Craig reported the Puerto Rico chapter will officially join the SDAFS at the Nashville meeting.
- Craig discussed that the SDAFS website has been enhanced. Gloria Schoenholtz with Virginia Tech redesigned the whole site in WordPress. Craig suggested TCAFS might want to consider a similar change. The SDAFS webmaster is being paid a retainer fee for services, including assistance to subunits for migrating their webpages over to the WordPress platform. More information on this will be forthcoming after the 2013 SDAFS business meeting.
- Craig reported that the SDAFS Student Colloquium has an uncertain future. This is the first year that it is not being held due to declining participation and similar student opportunities provided by the Division annual meeting. A student luncheon will occur at the Nashville meeting to discuss the Colloquium's future.
- President Murphy appointed Craig and Michelle Klopfer of Virginia Tech to investigate web-conferencing options and to develop recommendations for ExCom consideration. A proposal has been written and will be available to subunits soon.
- Craig reported meeting podcasts currently facilitated by Greg Summers (OK), will now be administered by Jessica Baumann (NC).
- Craig reported that Mark Thurman of TN will be resurrecting the Non-game Aquatics Technical Committee from years of relative inactivity at the Nashville meeting.
- After the 2013 Nashville meeting, future meetings look to be held in Charleston, SC in 2014; Savannah, GA in 2015; and Oklahoma in 2016 (host city TBD).

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: (Robert Mauk)

- The Chapter's cash account balance as of 1/1/2012 was \$25,280.33. The Chapter's income was \$46,779.25 for the year and expenses were \$25,742.10. A total of \$15,140.69 was transferred into the TCAFS endowment fund. The 12/31/2012 ending balance was \$31,176.79.
- There were a total of 189 registrations, including 18 guests, 113 professionals, and 58 students at the 2013 TCAFS annual meeting.

Committee Reports:

Awards – (Dave Buzan)

- Dave thanked all members of his committee who helped choose award recipients and all who volunteered to judge presentations and posters.
- Dave reported that all award categories with the exception of Research received nominations this past year. Dave asks that members start thinking of nominating for next year.

Continuing Ed – (Dan Bennett; report given by Greg Southard)

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- Dan wanted to thank everyone involved in continuing education and those who presented this year.
 - Dan is thinking of surveying the membership to solicit ideas for next years' continuing education classes.

Editorial – (Dan Daugherty and Tim Birdsong; report given by John Taylor)

- Dan thanked all the presenters and was very pleased with the high student participation in presentations and posters.
- Dan thanked Dakus Geeslin, Brad Littrell, and Matt VanLandeghem, this year's moderators for their service.
- Dan reported this year we added 8 presentations since in the past we haven't had enough time for all the presentation submissions.
- Tim Birdsong reported that all of the annual proceedings should soon be on-line.

Endowments – (Dave Terre)

- Dave reported that he continues to nurture relationships with our major contributors including The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation and the Sportsmen's Club of Ft. Worth.
- This year Larry Courington and his brother Greg Courington, both board members of the The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation attended our meeting.
- Dave reported that in late 2012, the TCAFS ExCom made the decision to move the chapter's endowments and checking accounts from Merrill Lynch to Edward Jones. This decision was made to improve our earnings and reduce our expenses. Ongoing communication between TCAFS and Merrill Lynch has also been an issue. This change over will occur in 2013.
- The committee formed a new relationship with the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) to provide an exclusive seasonal, summertime job opportunity for a BS level TCAFS member. A memorandum of understanding between SARA and TCAFS is currently being drafted to begin in 2013. This new program will be named after Mike Gonzalez, a former TCAFS member. Mike passed away this last year.
- Dave reported that the endowment fund starting balance for 2012 was \$124,449 and the current balance was \$156,084. Donations during the year included \$17,500 from The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation, \$3,000 from the Sportsmen's Club of Ft. Worth, and \$6,141 from proceeds of the 2012 TCAFS meeting and raffle.
- Six student scholarships totaling \$8,000 were granted in 2012.
- TCAFS invested \$20,140 into the endowment fund. TCAFS made \$11,236 on our investments (a 8.27% increase). There was also another \$259 in other credits from Merrill Lynch.
- Dave thanked all contributors to the student scholarship program.
- Dave thanked Kevin Mayes for helping on the committee this year and for leadership on the Clark Hubbs Research Grant award. Dave and Kevin will be working this year to find a private partner to help grow this award.
- Dave recognized two key individuals (Jimmie and Kirk Green) for their continued help with TCAFS Endowment Committee activities and for their communications with The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation.
- Dave recognized Mike Morgan and the entire Student Scholarship Selection Committee, for all their outstanding work over the past year.
- This year (2013) we gave a record number of scholarships. Seven deserving students received awards totaling \$9,500.

History – (Michele Nations)

- Michelle reported that the TCAFS Facebook page is up and running.
- Michele wanted to thank those who sent their biographies in and discussed some problems when she initially requested them from the membership with e-mails being delivered to some members junk folders.
- Michele reported on working with the University of North Texas Portal to Texas History with getting TCAFS information uploaded to the site.

Internet – (John Taylor)

- The TCAFS website will undergo some changes as covered during the SDAFS Officer report. Migrating to a WordPress platform offers some advantages in ease of maintenance of the site and that we are exploring the potential to use some of the SDAFS webmaster's time to also convert our site to WordPress. If we are unable to utilize the SDAFS webmaster, the ExCom may consider hiring a consultant to help with the migration.

Membership – (Debbie Wade)

- Debbie brought the recommendations of the Membership Ad Hoc Committee to the membership for discussion and a vote. The Ad Hoc Committee was formed in response to the chapter not having a good membership list because of the many ways to become a member including paying the Parent Society or paying the chapter. There

is also confusion of those who attend the annual meeting thinking they are automatically members.

- Recommendations included a timetable of activities to remind members to pay membership dues that included:
 - *February/March*- send e-mail reminders to members who did not attend annual meeting or not renewed through parent society.
 - *June*- Remind lapsed members they will be dropped from membership roll if they do not renew by July 1.
 - *August*- Purge lapsed members from listserv.
 - *September/ October*- 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 included:
 - Simplify registration at the annual meeting by including TCAFS membership in the registration fee.
 - 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.
 - Change the on-line membership registration so that Sec/Treas. becomes aware that someone is interested immediately and can respond.
- After much discussion Gene Wilde made a motion that was seconded by Greg Conley to put recommendations to a vote. Measure passed by majority vote.

Nominating – (John Clayton; report given by Craig Bonds)

- President-elect nominations for 2013 were Bruce Hysmith and Mike Morgan.
- Secretary/Treasurer candidates were Tim Bister and Greg Southard.
- The nominating committee thanked the candidates for consenting to run.
- Seventy-one votes were received with 50 on-line votes.
- Bruce Hysmith was elected as the new TCAFS President-elect and Greg Southard is the new Secretary/Treasurer.

Pond Management – (John Tibbs)

- No report.

Issues – (Niki Ragan and Chris Moret)

- No report.

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

- Committee wanted to thank Zac Sihalla and HydroTech for donating the water quality instrument that was auctioned off on e-bay. The unit brought \$3,500 to the endowment fund.
- The auction / raffle netted a profit of close to \$5,000.00 not including the water quality instrument.
- The co-chairs are both stepping down and there is a need to find new co-chairs. Ideally a government employee and a private business employee might get the best results in terms of donations.

Scholarships – (Mike Morgan)

- Mike thanked his committee members for all of their help in evaluating the applicants for student scholarships.
- Mike reported that scholarship applications were received from 6 undergraduates, 11 Master's students, and 3 PhD students for a total of 20 applications.

Student Outreach – (Mandy Scott; report given by Mike Homer)

- Mike reported that 26 students attended the student/mentor lunch.

Student Subunit Chapter Reports – (TAMU)

- No report submitted.

Old Business:

- No old business.

Installation of New President: Rick Ott was installed as the new president. Rick presented George with the Past President's plaque. Rick presented Robert Mauk a plaque honoring his service as Sec/Treasurer to the TCAFS.

- Rick then thanked John Boreman, AFS President who attended the annual meeting.
- Rick thanked Danny Lewis for his service as audio/visual volunteer.
- Rick mentioned that ExCom had voted to reimburse the best student presentation winner up to \$500 for costs to attend and present their research at the Little Rock, AR parent society meeting if they choose to do so.

New Business:

- Dave Buzan raised the idea of providing honorable mention awards, particularly in the student category.
- Discussion took place among business meeting participants and it was decided that the awards committee should prepare a discussion of the topic at the next ExCom meeting.

Adjourn:

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Flotsam & Jetsam – fish stories from around the world

➤ **The fate of sharks in the Arabian Sea**

Former marine biologist Thomas P. Peschak spends more than 300 days a year pursuing marine conservation photography and ocean reportage. A Fellow of the ILCP (International League of Conservation Photographers) and a contributing photographer to National Geographic Magazine, he has documented sharks and the shark fin trade for over a decade. Between 2008 and 2012 he has documented the harvest of sharks in the Arabian Sea, one of the top global suppliers of sharks. He observed the largest catches off Oman and every night freezer trucks hauled sharks to Dubai where nightly auctions are held. This city now ranks among the top five export hubs for the sale of shark fins destined for Hong Kong, the world center of the fin trade.



The demand for shark fins has encouraged the widespread use of gill nets in the Arabian Peninsula but their indiscriminate use not only affects sharks, but also endangered sea turtles and whales. A series of his photographs were recently published on Time Magazine's LightBox website at <http://lightbox.time.com/2012/11/29/the-shark-trade-of-the-arabian-sea/#1>

➤ **Combatting snail fever by culturing prawns**

Schistosomiasis or bilharzia is a parasitic disease caused by several species of trematodes that is common in developing countries with 90% of cases occurring in Africa. Manifestations include abdominal pain, diarrhea, fever, fatigue, genital sores, and occasionally central nervous system lesions can occur. Snails serve as the intermediary hosts. People with no access to proper water and sanitation facilities are at risk of exposure to contaminated water containing these snails. According to U.N. estimates more than 200,000 people die each year from bilharzia. Although there are treatments for the condition, there are as yet no practical measures to prevent re-infection when people are re-exposed to contaminated water.

In the Republic of Senegal, a West African nation with a population of 12.8 million, a non-profit scheme called Project Crevette (Prawn) is working to re-introduce prawns into the Senegal River in hopes of eradicating the disease. Freshwater snails are a convenient source of calcium and they are eaten readily by freshwater

prawns. In the 1980s, the Diama Dam was built to prevent saltwater from back-flowing into agricultural lands. Prior to the construction of the dam, freshwater prawns were an important source of revenue to locals. Construction of the dam has blocked the prawns' access to their saltwater breeding grounds and they virtually disappeared in two years.

300 people were treated for schistosomiasis and this group was divided into two. Half of the people accessed the river within a fenced area containing stocked freshwater prawns and the other group continued their access to the river as usual. After six months, the infection rate was 80% lower at the site where the prawns were stocked. Restocking the river has the potential to generate income to the Senegalese and reduce the incidence of bilharzia. This project aims to develop a prawn hatchery to produce tens of millions of fingerlings every breeding cycle to be sold to village cooperatives. Prawns reach marketable size in six months and they sell for five times the price of fish.



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-21080224>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7T1vfr0aXU4>
<http://www.projet-crevette.org/index.php?lang=en>

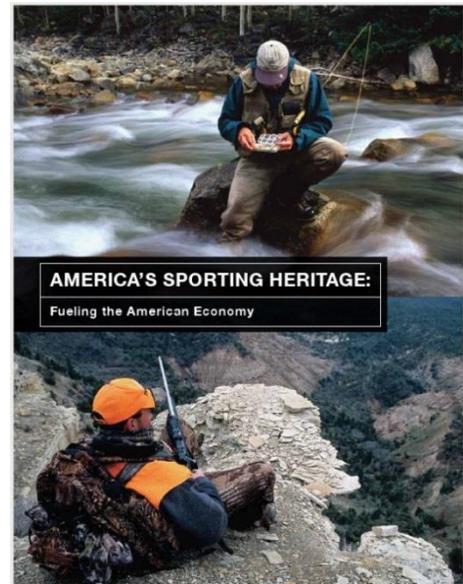
➤ 2013 Sportsmen's Economic Impact Report

The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) recently produced their 2013 Sportsmen's Economic Impact Report on the number of hunters and anglers in the United States and the economic impact they have on the nation's economy. The report is based on data collected by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFW) *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife Associated Recreation*. The USFW report is put together every five years and additional economic figures for the CSF document were compiled by Southwick Associates with funding from the National Shooting Sports Foundation and the American Sportfishing Association.

The combined contribution of hunters and anglers to the U.S. economy was \$90 billion during a period of one of the greatest economic depressions in American history. This is equivalent of \$2,407 spent per hunter and angler, more than the global sale of Apple's iPhone and iPad.

In 2011, 33.1 million Americans over age 15 fished. This is an increase of 11% since the last survey was compiled five years ago. If you include younger anglers from 6 to 15, that number swells to 41.6 million.

- In 2011 America's anglers spent \$1.5 billion on bait, \$142 million on tackle boxes, \$2.37 billion on rods and reels, \$593 million on lines and leaders, \$628 million on hooks and sinkers, and \$1.17 billion on artificial lures.
- 2011 trip-related expenditures of \$21.8 billion spent by anglers is more than the combined revenues for all major professional sports leagues, MLB, NHL, NBA, and the NFL, for the same year.
- America's anglers support 828,133 jobs across the United States. As a frame of reference McDonald's employs 761,000 nationally.
- Anglers paid \$8.2 billion in federal taxes in 2011 an amount that would pay the salaries of 410,000 active duty privates in the U.S. Army.



<http://www.sportsmenslink.org/uploads/page/EIR%20final%20low-res.pdf>



Freebies for the busy fisheries professional!

➤ Need screenshots?

If you need to save screenshots from your computer for presentations or handouts, using the PrintScreen (PrtScn) button on your keyboard is just not powerful enough. PicPick (<http://www.picpick.org/en/>) is a versatile utility. It is supported by all versions of Windows from XP onwards. Once you install the program and load it into memory, you can either open the application and select the type of view you want or simply press PrtScn to get a quick screenshot. From the application you can crop the image and insert text, highlighting and other effects before saving the image.

Skitch (<https://evernote.com/skitch/>) is an alternative created by the makers of Evernote. It is a simple application which lets you select the area of your screenshot rather than doing a full screen and then cropping it. Skitch also lets you annotate the image and add enhancements like arrows and text. You can save the image to your computer or send it directly to Evernote.

➤ Cloudy for Gmail

Gmail is well integrated with Google Drive for cloud storage which is no surprise since they are both services of Google. If you access your Gmail account through the Chrome browser and need attachment support for Box, Dropbox, Evernote, Facebook, Flickr, Instagram, Picasa and others, there's an extension called Cloudy for Gmail which will give you what you need.

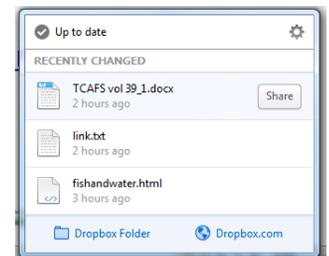


<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/cloudy-for-gmail/fcnjifpcmnoabmbhponbioedjceaddaa>. When you click the "Attach" button from the compose view, you can select files from any of your cloud services or social networks. You can attach files from multiple services in a single e-mail.

➤ Dropbox's updates its desktop client to version 2.0.0

If you are not a Dropbox user, you need to get with the program! The newest client has an updated interface that lets you see which files have recently been synced directly from the system tray (Windows) or menu bar (OS X). If you want to share recently-synced files, you can now click a "Share button" next to the file name in Dropbox's notification menu.

<https://www.dropbox.com/install>



➤ Create your own website or portal

Dropbox users can host web pages for free using DropPages (<http://droppages.com/>) or Pancake.io (<https://www.pancake.io/>). Both of these services use a shared Dropbox folder to host your webpages, making accessing and editing your pages simple. Our District office has been using a series of webpages that are stored on our own network. It was easy to migrate this Intranet to Dropbox and I am now using Pancake.io to access the content from a browser on any computer. It is a bit slower than the original version but it is convenient to have access to the information from anywhere. You will still need to create your own html pages and link them all together. If you want to do some quick and dirty creation and editing, there is a "Composer" program included with the SeaMonkey browser (<http://www.seamonkey-project.org/releases/>) Liferhacker provided a brief introduction of DropPages and Pancake.io at: <http://liferhacker.com/5860139/host-web-pages-for-free-within-dropbox-with-droppages-or-pancakeio>

Obituary - Gary L. Powell

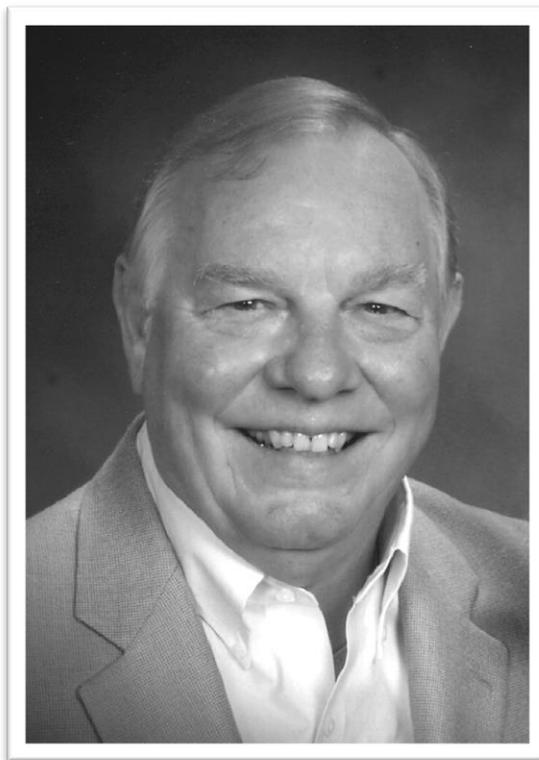
Gary L. Powell, 65, passed away on Saturday, March 2, 2013. He was born December 29, 1947 to Lawrence and Virginia Powell and grew up in Salem, Indiana. It was during his years on the family farm, exploring the forests, creeks and caves of southern Indiana, that Gary's interest in science and biology took root. After earning his AB degree in biology from the University of Indiana, he went on to The University of Texas at Austin for his doctoral work in Vertebrate Zoology (Ichthyology) under Dr. Clark Hubbs.

In 1975 Gary began his 28-year career with the Texas Water Development Board, serving as director of the Environmental Division. He managed 13 diverse scientific and engineering programs, notably studying the environmental flow needs necessary to maintain the health and productivity of aquatic ecosystems. He helped pioneer the use of advanced technologies to evaluate the freshwater inflow needs of coastal bays and estuaries in Texas, and later in Florida as well.

After retiring from the TWDB in 2003, Gary founded his consulting firm, Aquatic Science Associates, and chaired numerous scientific review panels for the Southwest Florida Water Management District, the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority, and others. His most recent publication was a chapter in the book "Gulf of Mexico Origin, Waters and Biota: Volume 4, Ecosystem-based Management," published by Texas A&M University Press (in press).

Gary is survived by his wife of 41 years, Carol; his daughter Kimberley Baltau and son-in-law Mark Baltau of Santa Clarita, CA; grandson Travis Baltau; brother Kevin Powell of Indianapolis, IN; nephew Matt Powell of McKinney, TX; niece Karla Powell of Orlando, FL.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested that donations be made in honor of Gary Powell to the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Federation ("TCAFS Student Scholarship Endowment," 6505 Freesia Ct., Austin, TX 78739), or to the American Cancer Society.



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

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