



President's message

by Kevin Storey

I'll have to say the experience of planning the annual meeting in Tyler was rewarding and I am relieved we did not encounter any major problems. I was assured everything would work itself out and in the end it did. Although the president-elect shoulders much of the responsibility for coordinating the event, there are many Chapter members who work steadily in the background taking care of details that many of us take for granted. I would like to personally thank all those members who reviewed and selected presentations, promoted the meeting, encouraged student engagement, selected scholarship winners, secured sponsors and donations for our raffle and auction, managed our endowments, prepared and gave presentations, managed registration, sought new Chapter officers, judged presentations, assisted with audio visual responsibilities, provided continuing education workshops and to members who attended the meeting and supported the work of TCAFS. (I have not doubt that a sentence of this length would be harshly criticized by technical writers!) I would love to identify individuals by name but then I'd run the risk of leaving someone out so I'll keep my acknowledgement in general terms. I think a larger percentage of TCAFS members are involved in Chapter operations than I have observed in other clubs and organized groups that I have been involved with. Thanks to you all.

At the business meeting in Tyler, we discussed the need to consider modifying the meeting format in order to accommodate additional presentations since we don't have enough time for all of the submissions that are received. An AdHoc committee chaired by Dan Daugherty and including Dave Buzan, Mike Morgan, Allison Pease, Gene Wilde and Brian van Zee was charged with reviewing the issue and making recommendations to the ExCom. Their goal was to accommodate eight to ten additional oral presentations. The following recommendations are estimated to accommodate up to nine additional presentations and they were approved by the ExCom;

- Remove the plenary session from the program and replace it with a 45-minute "Welcome/Keynote Speaker"
- Accommodate up to 2 additional presentations between 5:00 and 5:30 PM on Friday
- Adopt steps to expedite speaker transitions between presentations by shortening introductions and providing front-row seating for presenters

On behalf of the Chapter, we thank you for your prompt resolution of this issue.

The title of the 2015 plenary session was "Drought and its effects on Texas fisheries". We have all been dealing with drought impacts for the past few years but I am relieved recent rains have eased that situation. In

East Texas, drought used to be something that happened to other people. Recently a lack of rainfall has made some of the reservoirs we manage inaccessible, has exposed shorelines that used to be inundated, and two of our major reservoirs were getting low enough that future plans to stock temperate bass this spring were in jeopardy. A series of steady rain events have raised reservoir elevations and opened up access again. Sometimes you can have too much of a good thing, and at Lake Tyler some boat ramps had to be closed because loading docks and parking lots were flooded.

Somewhere in my remarks at the annual meeting I made mention that TCAFS was older than many of its members. November 5, 2015, will mark the 40th anniversary of the first meeting of a group which eventually became the Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society. At that first meeting “over 100 fisheries professionals and students met at Texas A & M University in College Station. That meeting produced 82 original members and a charter that was approved by the parent society on **March 22, 1976**. Dues were set at \$3.00 per year with a special rate of \$2.00 for students. The goals of the Chapter were those set forth in Article I of the AFS Constitution and to encourage the exchange of information by fisheries workers residing in Texas.” I hope that some of our younger members are around in another 40 years!



President-elect's Message

by Dave Buzan

I deeply appreciate the honor of serving our chapter as its president-elect although I question the judgment of the nominating committee in placing my name on the ballot as well as the judgment of those of you who voted for me.

Our chapter, its members, and annual meetings are some of life's great pleasures which I discovered later in my career than I would have wished. I entered TAMU in 1971 to become a game warden but during ichthyology class in the fall 1972, I fell madly in love with everything fish and water. Our meetings, the newsletter, working with our members on chapter business and in our professional lives, allow me to engage with those feelings that first arose over 40 years ago. I cherish each of those opportunities to be with you.

I have several goals for the upcoming meeting which I greatly need your assistance with:

- 250 attendees – Start now. Plan to attend next year's meeting. Start encouraging our fellow professionals, student, and professors in the field to join us.
- \$9,000 income from the silent auction, raffle, and auction – Jake Norman bravely leads the committee to obtain items for this important (and fun) part of our meeting. Join him on the committee and help him at the meeting. Every one of us can donate items and solicit items from our neighborhood sporting goods stores. Let's not put all the responsibility on one or two very courageous volunteers.
- Awards Committee Chair – It would be great if someone would volunteer to take the reins of the Awards Committee from me. The rewards of this job substantially exceed the work required. It is so much fun to to hand someone their award and see their appreciation and joy in our chapter's recognition.

Outstanding Fisheries Worker Awards - 2015

by Dave Buzan, Awards Committee Chair



Each year our chapter recognizes members whose work ethic and contributions to our field and our chapter inspire each of us. Outstanding fishery workers, through their leadership and efforts, show us how we can do more and help us feel part of something worthwhile. The chapter's awards for outstanding effort in fisheries during 2014 are summarized below. Special thanks to all of you who nominated your colleagues and to members who helped select recipients: Charlie Munger, Brian VanZee, Allison Pease, Mark Webb, Dakus Geeslin, and Michele Nations.

Special Recognition – Jimmie Green

Jimmie Green has volunteered many years at Texas Chapter meetings and traveled many miles to help with registration as well as pre-meeting preparations. She has been instrumental in soliciting donations and accommodating Chapter guests in her usually gracious manner. Jimmie's experience and eagerness to help has been a welcomed benefit to Texas Chapter past and present officers and its members.



Special Recognition – John Taylor



John Taylor has been instrumental in developing new ways to review information on TPWD constituents and financial resources. His use of statistical analyses combined with microtargeting techniques has helped TPWD gain crucial knowledge about its constituents. Additionally, John has adapted these statistical techniques to provide real-time financial reporting for all divisions within TPWD.

Special Recognition – Bass Brigade – Texas Brigade



Bass Brigade is a unique, 5-day, educational program designed for high school students about aquatic ecosystems and natural resource management. Youth engage in real world aquatic resource related practices around fisheries, water quality, and conservation, sampling techniques, and analysis. Core program components include life skills such as leadership, team-building, critical thinking, and communication.

Fish Culture - Deborah Wade

Deborah Wade, a biologist with over 25 years of experience with Inland Fisheries hatcheries, has directed the fish health and water quality labs at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center for the past 17 years. She represents the agency and its mission by giving presentations to a wide variety of groups. Her dedication to her job and outstanding experience combined with her helpful nature make her an extremely valued member of the team.



Fisheries Education – Dan Roelke



Dan Roelke has been on the Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences faculty since 1998. He is a mentor for visiting international research scholars from Greece, Sweden, Turkey, and Venezuela, and for the NSF Research and Education Undergraduate Program at Texas A&M University. He was the primary architect of the new undergraduate fisheries curriculum at TAMU that came online in the fall 2014.

Fisheries Management – Marcos de Jesus



Marcos de Jesus was nominated by his co-workers for the Outstanding Fisheries Worker Award in Management because of his many accomplishments that have made fishing better in one form or another. He has developed and nurtured many effective partnerships that have helped achieve specific management goals. He has also worked hard to make fishing better not only for our traditional anglers but also for our urban anglers and those who speak Spanish.

Fisheries Research – Dan Daugherty

Dan Daugherty's research has covered topics like population assessment of Alligator Gar, evaluation of artificial habitat for reservoir fish, and implications of changing reservoir water levels on fish habitat and angler recreational access. This work informed revisions of existing water management/operating plans for the Brazos River basin. The research team also received a prestigious Outstanding Sport Fish Restoration Project Award from the AFS.



Fisheries Research - honorable mention – Tim Grabowski



Tim Grabowski joined the U.S. Geological Survey Texas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research unit at Texas Tech in 2010. He has engaged in research from the coastal waters of the Gulf of Mexico to the Southern Plains of Texas as well as the seas surrounding Iceland. He creates an environment of teamwork among his students and of collaboration with other labs, universities, agencies, and the general public.

Fisheries Student – Jessica East

Jessica East will complete her master's thesis in Spring 2015 on food-web structure along a longitudinal gradient in the Pecos River. She presented this research at the national AFS meeting, the Texas chapter AFS meeting, and the annual meeting of the Desert Fishes Council. She is president of the Association of Natural Resource Scientists at Texas Tech, vice president of the Texas Tech student subunit of AFS, and she has been involved in community outreach, including designing a fish printing activity as part of the "Scales, Tails, and Trails" event in Lubbock.



Fisheries Student - honorable mention – Erin Bertram



Erin took a broken AHAB unit and rebuilt it herself (from working with a similar machine as an undergraduate). She worked with mussel glochidia. She brought suspected host fish into the lab and raised them, while catching the glochidia as they fell off the fish. Glochidia that developed into juvenile mussels were preserved and DNA sequenced to determine species. Her experiments should lab validate which mussels are capable of using particular fish species as a viable host. Last year she won teaching assistant of the year award as a first year student.

Technical Support – Karim Aziz

For more than 20 years, Karim Aziz supported the cartographic needs of TPWD and other resource agencies on natural resource issues in Texas rivers, streams, and lentic systems. He has made data collection and processing more efficient through the development of electronic data forms and by staying abreast of and incorporating the latest technology.



2015 Student Scholarship Awards

Harry Tennison Scholarship – Erica Knowles

Erica Knowles grew up in Frisco, Texas and is attending West Texas A&M University. She will receive her B.S. in Wildlife Biology in May of 2015. As a freshman, she was selected as a Readership Ambassador for her university. She has been an active member of her student Wildlife Society Chapter, and an active member of the Attebury Honors Program. As part of the Honors Program, she designed a capstone thesis to research Founder's effect of mosquito fish throughout the Texas Panhandle. In addition, she received an undergraduate grant to study population genetics of bull sharks in North America. After graduation, she hopes to continue her education and receive a M.S. in marine biology with particular emphasis on genetic management.



Harry Tennison Scholarship – Kenneth Zachary

Kenneth Zachary was born on a military base in Kirchheimbolanden, Germany in 1991. He has always been fascinated with the environment's beauty and structure ; while other children were playing with video games, Kenneth was fly-fishing and hunting. Kenneth attends Texas A&M University and will graduate Spring 2016 with a bachelor's in Wildlife and Fisheries. Kenneth's career goals are to become a Inland Fisheries Biologist for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Division (TPWD).

Kenneth hopes he can make a difference and ensure that his two sons, Luke and Kenneth Jr. experience the same wonderful outdoor experiences that he has had. Kenneth's two sons and wife, Caitlin are his biggest motivations.



TCAFS Scholarship : M.S. – Matthew Acre

Matt received his Bachelors of Science degree from Texas A&M University where he worked as an undergraduate technician for Dr. Kirk Winemiller. Upon graduation, he joined the United States Peace Corps and served as an ecologist for the Protected Areas of the West African Nation of Cape Verde. After completing his Peace Corps service, gradua he joined the Grabowski lab at Texas Tech University as a Master's student researching larval fish assemblages in transition zones between rivers and reservoirs. Matt recently accepted a PhD position investigating instream flow effects on the state threatened Blue Sucker in the Colorado River of Texas and we should expect to see him around with these results over the coming years.





TCAFS Scholarship : M.S. – Quentin Hall

Quentin Hall is conducting his M.S. research under the direction of Dr. Greg Stunz at the Harte Research Institute's Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation (CSSC). He received dual B.S. degrees in Fisheries Management and Animal Science from the University of Missouri in 2013. Quentin's current research focuses on the impact of reopening Cedar Bayou on juvenile fish populations within the Mesquite Bay region. The CSSC team aims to provide scientific data for sustainable management of marine fisheries and ocean resources to ensure healthy environments

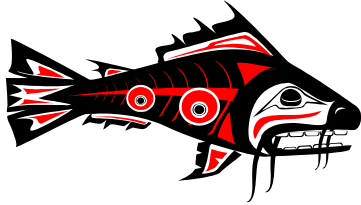
TCAFS Scholarship : M.S. – Danielle Macedo

Danielle Macedo is a Master's student in the Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences program at Texas A&M University. Growing up in Brazil, she discovered her passion for marine biology through snorkeling trips with her father. She completed her undergraduate degrees in biology and genetics at Texas A&M in 2013. During her time as an undergraduate, she participated in two research internships that sparked her interest in the field of molecular ecology. While at the University of Massachusetts-Boston, she studied depth-related population divergence in a deep-sea bivalve, *Deminucula atacellana*, and assisted with projects on intertidal ecology at the Gulf of Maine. Later, she participated in UCLA's Diversity Project, where she identified cryptic species of crabs with DNA barcoding in Bali, Indonesia. Her MSc thesis will examine population structure of the blue crab in the Gulf of Mexico.

TCAFS Scholarship : Ph.D. – Jenny Oakley

Jenny Oakley is an environmental scientist for the Environmental Institute of Houston at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. She obtained her M.S. degree in Biology and Fisheries Ecology and her B.S. in Biology from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in the Marine Biology Interdisciplinary Graduate Program with TAMU under the direction of Dr. Fran Gelwick. Jenny's research interests include fisheries ecology, resource management, and ecosystem dynamics. Jenny has an OUPV "captains" license and enjoys fishing offshore for billfish and other pelagic fishes.





Aaron Urbanczyk receives the Clark Hubbs Student Research Award from Kevin Mayes, Chair of the Clark Hubbs Committee.



2015 Best Presentation and Poster Awards

Twenty-two posters and 34 oral presentations were evaluated by 27 judges at the 2015 meeting. Participants from nine universities including Texas Tech, Texas A&M, Sam Houston State, University of Dallas, University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at Tyler, University of Houston Clear Lake, Texas Christian University, and the Universidad Federal de Santa Catarina (Brazil) made oral and poster presentations. Participation by professional organizations included Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Water Monitoring Solutions, and BioWest.

Professional poster:

“Size-selective predation by Gulf Killifish on endangered Sharpnose Shiner” by G. R. Wilde (primary author), A. C. Urbanczyk, R. Vazquez, C. Coleman, and W. L. Cross with Texas Tech University.

Professional presentation:

“Use of side-scan sonar to identify and count Alligator Gar: potential for evaluating population density from sonar imagery” by B. P. Fleming (principal author), Dan Daugherty (presenter), and N. G. Smith with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Student poster:

“Basic aspects of immunity in two teleost model organisms, the Fathead Minnow and the Sheepshead Minnow” by L. M. Thornton (, M. C. LeSueur (primary author), and M. K. Jeffries with Texas Christian University.

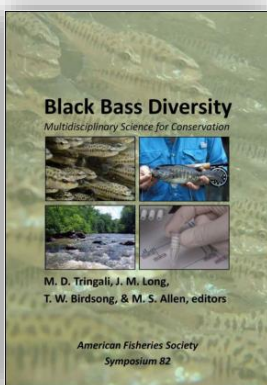
Student presentation:

“The effect of electroshocking on unionid mussel larval release” by D. Symonds (presenter), L. R. Williams, and N. B. Ford with the University of Texas at Tyler.

2015 Student Scholarship award winners



Scholarship Committee Chair Mike Morgan and Endowments Chair Dave Terre, pose with (left to right) Harry Tennyson Scholarship by the Sportsman's Club of Fort Worth winners Kenneth Zachary and Erica Knowles and TCAFS Student Scholarship Award winners Quentin Hall, Matthew Acre and Jenny Oakley. Danielle Macedo was not able to attend the presentation.



Black Bass Diversity: Multidisciplinary Science for Conservation (AFS Symposium 82)

Announcements will be made this spring on the AFS List Serve, Website, and Newsletters when the book becomes available.

In addition to hard copy books, AFS will offer PDF downloads of individual book chapters.

Online: <http://fisheries.org/bookstore>

Presentation Award winners from 2014 meeting at Lake Texoma

Kole Kubicek receives the 2014 Best Student Presentation Award from Dave Buzan, Awards Committee Chair. Kole and his co-author K. Conway's presentation was entitled "Developmental osteology of two species of economically important sciaenids, *Sciaenops ocellatus* and *Cynoscion nebulosus* (Teleostei: Sciaenidae)"



Awards Committee Chair Dave Buzan poses with the 2014 Best Student Poster Award winners, Preston Bean, Jessica Pease, Tim Grabowski, and Alison Pease. Their poster was entitled "Potential hydrologic impacts of urbanization on Guadalupe Bass populations within the Colorado River basin."



Kevin Mayes receives the award for 2014 Best Professional Presentation Award from Awards Committee Chair Dave Buzan for "Fish diversity loss among fragmented and dewatered riverscapes in the central Great Plains." Kevin received the award on behalf of Joshua Perkin, K.B. Gido, K.H. Costigan, M.D. Daniels, T.F. Turner, M.J. Osborne, A.R. Cooper and E.R. Johnson.



Bryan Legare received the 2014 Best Professional Poster Award from Awards Committee Chair Dave Buzan for "Quantifying fish abundance and oyster, *Crassostrea virginica*, habitat within Texas bays and estuaries by coupling acoustic technologies"





Noreen Clough Memorial Scholarship for Females in Fisheries

The Southern Division AFS Black Bass Conservation Committee is seeking contributions to fund a scholarship in honor of the late Noreen Clough who was the first female Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a two-time Conservation Director of B.A.S.S. She had a long and distinguished career dedicated to the conservation and management of fish and wildlife.

The scholarship will go to a female student working toward a career in fisheries conservation and/or management. In the coming months, an application process will be developed and the plan is to award this scholarship at the annual meeting of the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. The Division's Black Bass Conservation Committee will be administering the scholarship and is currently accepting tax-deductible donations in an effort to build an endowment. Send checks payable to:

Black Bass Conservation Committee
% Joey Slaughter
2480 Maner Road SE
Atlanta, GA 30339



For more information, please contact Gene Gilliland at ggilliland@bassmaster.com



The Southern Division
of the American Fisheries Society



Plan now to Attend!



Protecting Rivers and Lakes in the Face of Uncertainty

Third International Conference on Instream Flows

Portland, Oregon – April 28-30, 2015



Learn more about FLOW 2015 and Sponsor, Trade Show and Poster opportunities at www.instreamflowcouncil.org/flow-2015

The Instream Flow Council is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving instream flow programs to protect and restore aquatic resources. <http://www.instreamflowcouncil.org>



Texas Chapter AFS Business Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2015

Tyler, Texas

by Greg Southard, Secretary Treasurer

Call to Order: by TCAFS President Bruce Hysmith at 12:07 pm.

Determination of a quorum: Yes, by Greg Southard.

Approval of minutes: Bruce gave motion for approval of the 2014 Business Meeting minutes by those in attendance. John Taylor seconded the motion and was approved by the quorum.

President's Report: (Bruce Highsmith)

- Bruce thanked President-Elect Kevin Storey for organizing the 2015 annual meeting as well as the Holiday Inn South Broadway staff who assisted to help make the meeting a success.
- Bruce remarked that during the auction the previous evening, major benefactors to the chapter (The Couringtons from the Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation) seemed to enjoy themselves and he felt they'd continue to support the chapter in years to come. Bruce said they were very enthusiastic in bidding on items, especially the framed gar print.
- Bruce mentioned the effect of the current drought in Texas and its impacts on the state, fisheries, and aquatic resources.

SDAFS Officer Update: (Craig Bonds)

- Craig Bonds mentioned that the Southern Division AFS has condensed webmaster and newsletter duties to students from Virginia Tech. Zach Martin is the new webmaster and Sasha Doss will be the newsletter editor. Please contact Zach for anything that may be pertinent to post on the SDAFS website. SDAFS newsletters typically are published twice a year in the spring and fall.
- The SDAFS ListServ is up and running again and managed by Dennis Riecke. If there is anything the chapter would like to be sent to SDAFS members such as job announcement(s) or other opportunity, please contact Dennis.
- SDAFS Officers are currently reviewing division procedures and will be completed this spring.
- Craig mentioned upcoming SDAFS meetings with this year's meeting being held in Savannah, Georgia January 29th through February 1st. The 2016 Meeting will be held in Wheeling, West Virginia February 17th-21st. The Oklahoma AFS Chapter has voted and agreed to host the 2017 SDAFS meeting. For more info see <http://sdafs.org/meetings/>.
- Craig encouraged the TCAFS to consider hosting a SDAFS meeting in 2018 or later. Most of the other states in the division have hosted meetings so it is probably time for Texas to do so again.
- New SDAFS officers will be installed at the 2015 SDAFS meeting later this month. Current SDAFS President John Jackson will step down to Past-President and Dennis Riecke will take over as current President-elect. Craig will step down from SDAFS Secretary-Treasurer and Kim Bonvechio will assume those duties.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: (Greg Southard)

- Greg Southard reported the Chapter finances for 2014 (see Appendix A).
 - The chapter started the year with over \$17K in the chapter checking account.
 - Total Income was approximately \$44K consisting of primarily meeting income, dues, interest, and donation from the Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation.

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- Expenses for the year were close to \$39K consisting of expenses for the annual meeting (awards, deposits, supplies and printing, raffle items, and the hotel master bill) and other costs such as our chapter insurance, payment to CPA for chapter tax return, T-shirts, and bank fees.
 - Once the expenses were subtracted from the total balance, the remaining balance was \$23,159.25. We transferred over \$8K to the Endowment account and had close to \$15K left over in the account for this year's activities.
 - Greg reported highlights for 2014:
 - Removal of option to pay for TCAFS annual dues through the AFS website in September 2014. We continued to get notifications of renewals from AFS thru December but told it would be completely off their system for 2015.
 - Proposed changes to the TCAFS Procedures Manual have been drafted and will be reviewed by the new ExCom for approval.
 - Award criteria for Outstanding Fisheries Worker of the Year category to include a "Student" category in addition to the current categories (Administration, Culture, Education, Management, and Research).
 - Outstanding Professional and Student Presentations and Posters at the Annual Meeting: text to help specify student vs. professional, guidelines for judges ranking posters/presentations, how awards (plaques and certificates) are given to primary authors and co-authors, and a section dealing with the \$500.00 travel award for the Outstanding Student Presentation to assist with travel costs to present their talk at the AFS meeting (or one of its Divisional meetings).
 - Implementation of new Annual Meeting registration fee to include annual chapter dues with the normal cost for registration. This action was brought up in 2012, voted on and approved by the chapter at the 2013 meeting, put on hold during the 2014 meeting with the Oklahoma AFS Chapter, and implemented for the 2015 meeting.
 - Greg gave a preliminary report for this year's meeting. There were a total of 164 registrants at the 2015 meeting, comprised of 107 Professional members and 57 Students. There were three non-registrants who paid for 2015 TCAFS dues.

Committee Reports

Awards – (Dave Buzan)

- Dave thanked all those who nominated people for awards, served as judges for this year's meeting, and those who made presentations and posters.
- Dave remarked liking to see what people say about their coworkers as well as to see winners very appreciative for their award and being recognized for their efforts.

Continuing Ed – (Dan Bennett)

- Dan Bennett thanked Debbie Wade for giving her presentation on poster design as part of this year's CE class. Dan also thanked himself (haha!) for giving his CE talk as well.
- Dan stated he will be stepping down from the CE Committee to take over the Nominating Committee as John Clayton is stepping down from that position.
- For potential new members of the CE Committee, Dan described the position for anyone who may be interested. Please email/call him for any questions you may have.

Editorial – (Dan Daugherty and Allison Pease)

- Dan Daugherty thanked all the presenters at this year's meeting, both oral and poster presentations. He reported that a total of 40 oral presentation abstracts were submitted for the 2015 meeting with 34 being

accommodated during the meeting's technical sessions. From that number, half (17) were by students. Authors of the six abstracts not accepted as oral presentations agreed to present the information in poster form.

- There were 22 poster abstracts submitted and 22 were presented with 15 (70%) being by students.
- Dan thanked fellow technical session moderators Chris Mace and Brad Littrell.
- Dan brought about that in recent years, more oral presentation abstracts have been submitted than could be accommodated during the meeting. He asked for any ideas from the quorum to address this issue:
 - Dan suggested the potential for "speed" presentation session allowing 5 minutes with a concise amount of information (preliminary data, research design). Or, alternatively, we could lengthen the meeting.
 - Richard Ott stated during the 2014 meeting with the Oklahoma Chapter AFS, we had some technical presentations on Thursday in addition to CE.
 - Dave Terre said some of this year's talks were a re-hash of the same research methods, which took additional time.
 - Dan asked Dave Buzan how this format could impact awards and the standards of judging presentations.
 - Dan said he had seen this type of style before and the format allowed more people to present, but it was with less detail but allowed for more questions.
 - John Taylor suggested two types of presentations, speed and professional.
 - John Burch suggested giving the students the option to do a speed (non-judged) or regular presentation (judged).
 - Jennifer Butler suggested concurrent sessions.
 - Tom Lang suggested speed presentations could be anticipated research. Tom also suggested adjusting (or cutting) plenary speaker(s) to add more time.
 - Kevin Storey suggested starting early on the 1st day and staying later.
 - Gene Wilde then made the motion to Bruce to appoint an ad-hoc committee to study this issue and John T. seconded the motion.
 - Bruce appointed the following chapter members to serve on this ad-hoc committee to research this issue and come back to the ExCom with suggestions:
 - Dan Daugherty, Allison Pease, Brian Van Zee, Dave Buzan, Gene Wilde, and Mike Morgan
- Allison Pease stated that the 2014 TCAFS Meeting Proceedings were currently in review, and will be ready to submit and on the chapter website in a couple months.

Endowments – (Dave Terre)

- Work summary:
 - The Endowments committee continued to nurture relationships with our major contributors, including the Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation and the Sportsmen's Club of Fort Worth.
 - Last year we had the pleasure of having Greg Courington, PBHFF Board Member, attend our annual banquet. This year, Larry, Greg and both their wives attended.
 - We continued our relationship with the San Antonio River Authority to provide an exclusive seasonal, summertime job opportunity for a BS-Level student member in summer 2014. Willow Howard, a TCAFS undergraduate student member, got the job. This new program was named after Mike Gonzales, a former TCAFS member. Mike passed away in 2012 and was a friend to many of us. Mike also supported the first AFS Hutton student in Texas.
 - We also continued the administrations of memorial funds for TCAFS members Gary Powell and Dennis Smith who passed away during 2013. Proceeds were deposited in the endowment account and we wrote thank you letters to all contributors
- Fiscal notes:

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- The TCAFS started the year with a balance of \$211,995 in our Scholarship Endowment Account.
 - Donations received in 2014 totaled \$20,947
 - \$17,500 – Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation (September 2014)
 - \$3,000 – Sportsmen’s Club of Fort Worth – Pass-through grant (January 2014)
 - \$447 – Dennis Smith Memorial
 - During 2014, the TCAFS delivered seven scholarships to deserving fisheries students (total = 6 at \$1,500 each + 1 at \$500 = \$9,500).
 - The total amount of cash we invested in our endowment during 2013 was \$20,082. The realized gain (earnings) on our investments totaled \$10,129 (3.3%). Total Fees were \$2,865.
 - Our ending balance for 2014 was \$239,340 (12/31/2014).
 - **Other topics:**
 - Dave thanked all contributors to the student scholarship program (The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation; the Sportsmen’s Club of Fort Worth; Randy Rushin; and the TCAFS membership for their generous donations at the raffle/auction).
 - The Endowments Committee will continue to nurture the relationships we have with current Student Scholarship Program contributors and keep lines of communication open.
 - Dave thanked Kevin Mayes for helping on the Endowments Committee this year and for this leadership on the Clark Hubbs Research Grant Award.
 - Dave recognized 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 also recognized Mike Morgan and the entire Student Scholarship Selection Committee, for all their outstanding work over the past year.

History – (Michele Nations)

- Michele remarked of the passing of TPWD A.E. Wood Fish Hatchery Manager Robert Schmid on July 29, 2014.
- Michele also stated the recent retirements of Gary Saul and Paul Hammerschmidt.
- Michele would like to add a webpage with memorial section of notable fisheries scientists in Texas such as Clark Hubbs and others such as Bruce with his long tenure in the fisheries of the Texoma region. (Ken Kurzawski asked if Bruce could remember back that far, haha!!!).

Internet – (John Taylor and Danny Lewis)

- Danny Lewis stated podcasts of the presentations from the 2014 TCAFS Meeting are available on the chapter website. This year’s meeting will be available soon.
- Danny said on April 11, 2014 the TCAFS website was converted to WordPress. The advantage of the new platform will allow page views to be enumerated such as the home page, meeting page, manuals, etc.
- John stated one of the advantages of WordPress is that you can modify a webpage w/o having to use HTML coding. If interested, John and Danny can show you how to do this.
- Gene Wilde suggested doing advertising on the chapter webpage to generate additional funds for TCAFS. Gene made a motion to Bruce to appoint a committee to investigate this issue, but a counter-motion by Debbie Wade was made to table this discussion until the next ExCom Meeting. The counter-motion was seconded by Charlie Munger and passed by those in attendance.

Issues – (Niki Ragan)

- Niki was not present so Mark Webb mentioned that some issues had been brought about and passed the discussion to Gene Wilde.
- Gene stated baitfish introductions and their impact on the Brazos and Red Rivers and wanted to study the issue to make a recommendation to the TCAFS for some sort of resolution next year.

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- Gene then brought up the issue of recreational vehicles (RV) being outlawed in all river channels except the Canadian and Red Rivers. He stated recent work providing evidence of seeing impacts and fish killed in these systems due to RV use. Would like to consider a resolution to include the possible ban of RVs in all Texas river channels.

Membership – (Debbie Wade)

- No report.

Newsletter Editor – (Kevin Story)

- Kevin reported there were three newsletters published this past year but would like to have four this year as usual. He said he would entertain all submissions and always need content for the newsletters, so TCAFS members please participate!
- Kevin stated new procedures with membership (i.e., AFS is no longer an option for dues, and chapter dues part of meeting registration) should improve the process, notifications, etc.
- Kevin will set a deadline for newsletter submissions in the next couple of weeks.
- Dave Terre mentioned a lot of TPWD biologists write news media reports and the possibility of including some of those in the newsletters.

Nominating – (John Clayton)

- John stated he will be stepping down as chair of the Nominating Committee, having served a total of six years. Dan Daugherty will be taking over the position.
- John made a request for chapter members to participate and be willing to serve on the ExCom.
- The 2015 TCAFS Election results were then announced. A total of 84 chapter members voted (68 online and 16 paper ballots).
- The 2015 President-Elect will be David Buzan.
- The 2015-2016 Secretary-Position will be held by Michael Homer.

Pond Management – (Greg Binion)

- Greg could not attend the meeting.
- Michael Homer had correspondence from Greg stating he wanted to thank Michelle Nations for making the TCAFS pond manual available through social media.

Publicity/Exhibits – (Jenny Oakley and Jake Norman)

- Jake mentioned he will be taking over the Publicity/Exhibits Committee Chair from Jenny who will be stepping down and very busy pursuing her Ph.D. Jake requested help from the chapter as a co-chair of this committee which is very important to generate money for student scholarships.
- Jake stated that artwork seems to generate a lot of money during the auction so will be trying to get more for next year.

Scholarships – (Mike Morgan)

- Mike stated a total of 38 applications for scholarships this year (the highest ever as 24 was the previous record).
- Mike thinks social media seemed to help in getting the word out to students about the opportunity and thanked Michele Nations for her work with social media.
- Mike thanked all who served on the Scholarship Awards Committee.

Student Outreach – (Mike Homer)

- Mike thanked all student members and faculty for participating and acknowledged the Texas A&M and Texas Tech University Chapter AFS subunits.

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- Mike thanked all those who participated in the student-mentor lunch which was comprised of 29 students and 28 mentors.
 - Mike thanked Kevin Storey, Greg Southard, Patsy Berry, Jimmie Green, and Michele Nations for their assistance.
 - He stated he will be changing roles in the chapter this year and stepping down as chair of the Student Outreach Committee, so anyone who may want to participate in the committee to please contact him for more information.

Student Subunit Chapter Reports – (TAMU-AFS)

- Haily Woelfel (TAMU-AFS President) attended the meeting but had to leave early to travel out of state. TAMU-AFS advisor Dr. Fran Gelwick was in attendance and mentioned a planned fundraiser (fish fry) to be held February 20th. Last year's fish fry helped to pay for 10 students to the 2015 meeting. A total of 28 students are currently in the TAMU-AFS subunit.
- Aaron Urbanczyk (Texas Tech AFS President) remarked the startup of the subunit last year with the election of officers and one fundraiser. Aaron thanked Gene Wilde and Allison Pease for their assistance as being advisors to the subunit.

Old Business (Bruce Highsmith):

- Bruce asked if there was any old business to discuss but no one brought about any issues to talk about.

Installation of new TCAFS Officers

- Bruce presented the official TCAFS skeg as a symbol of the passing of chapter leadership to Kevin Storey.
- Kevin presented Bruce with an AFS President's Plaque and thanked him for the great work he had done as President and took over the position.
- Kevin presented Greg with the AFS Secretary-Treasurer Plaque and thanked him for a job well done.

New Business (Kevin Storey):

- Kevin asked the quorum if there was any new business to be discussed.
- Tom Lang stated there will be an Angling Participation Symposium as part of the AFS general meeting to be held in 2016 in Kansas City. They are raising funds to support the symposium and Tom made a motion for discussion for a \$2,500 donation from the TCAFS. Ken Kurzawski seconded the motion and a lengthy discussion developed:
 - Michele Nations stated she thought it was a good idea.
 - Charlie Munger said we had donated \$1,500 to the Catfish Symposium held several years ago, so why had the request increased to \$2,500.
 - Dave Terre stated that the chapter members needed to know more details about the symposium before making a decision.
 - Craig Bonds suggested the potential to split the costs between 2015 and 2016.
 - Mike Morgan asked what other entities, chapters, etc. were being approached for sponsorship to which Tom Lang said all AFS chapters.
 - Craig B. then made the motion to donate \$500 and anything over that amount the ExCom would have to decide. Mark Webb seconded the motion and the motion was passed by a clear majority of the quorum.
- Kevin then asked if there was any additional New Business to discuss, which there was none made by those in attendance.

Adjourn: Kevin Storey then made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by Charlie Munger. The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 pm.

Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
2015 Financial Statement

Starting Balance		\$17,765.98
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Income		
2014 Interest		\$1.94
2014 Meeting Income		\$37,145.71
TCAFS Collected Dues/AFS Rebate		\$1,185.60
Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation*	(*17,500 Donated)	\$6,000.00
	Total Income	\$44,333.25
	Balance	\$62,099.23
<hr/>		
Expenses		
Awards		
Scholarships		\$6,500.00
Plaques		\$709.00
Student Travel Award		
	Total Awards	\$7,209.00
Annual Meetings		
Tanglewood (2014)		\$25,320.40
Holiday Inn (2015) – Deposit		\$500.00
Supplies and Printing		\$1,330.17
Raffle Items		\$1,580.14
Tanglewood (2014) – Plenary Speaker		\$160.00
	Total Annual Meeting	\$28,890.71
Other		
Chapter Insurance (AFS)		\$150.00
Dennis Smith Memorial		\$102.00
CPA for Taxes (\$1,350.00 plus \$9.12 shipping costs)		\$1,359.12
T-shirts (100) for 2015 Meeting		\$1,220.15
Bank and Check Fees		\$9.00
	Total Other	\$2,840.27
	Total Expenses	\$38,939.98
	Income – Expenses	\$23,159.25
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Money Transferred		
TCAFS Endowment Fund		\$8,195.03
	Balance	\$14,964.22
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Then and Now

By Michele Nations, TCAFS Historian

The TCAFS will be celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2016. We're going to spend this year looking back in a project I'm calling "Then and Now." Our first look back will be through the eyes of Dick Luebke, who gave the following presentation back in January of 2001, as the Chapter celebrated its 25th anniversary. Due to the length of Dick's presentation, it will be divided into two articles. The following article covers the period of 1975 – 1989, with the conclusion to be presented in the next newsletter.

TCAFS PRESENTATION – PART 1 by Dick Luebke - 1/22/2001

I'd like to spend a little time talking about the chapter itself, from its formation back in 1975 through the present, especially visiting some of our milestone accomplishments.

I assume the reason Gordon (Linam) asked me to make this presentation is that I'm one of the charter members of the chapter and further, because I've been reasonably active in the chapter throughout its history, having served both on several committees and as an officer. Therefore, Gordon probably assumes I have crystal clear memory of every detail from the past 25 years. Poor Gordon. Little does he know that after nearly 30 years in the fisheries profession, I'm lucky if I can remember my way home at night. But I'll give it my best shot.

So for those of you who haven't seen your 30th birthday yet, please bear with me as I take us on a little waltz down Texas Chapter memory lane.

Before I get into some of the chapter particulars, let me first digress for a minute and recall a few other details about 1975. You know how us old people are; we love to reminisce about the good old days.

How many of you remember who the President of the United States was in 1975? Gerald Ford, the man whose prowess on the golf course inspired such current Texas Chapter golf greats as Clell Guest and Roger McCabe. How about Vice President? Nelson Rockefeller, the man whose family wealth inspired such Texas Chapter financial giants as . . . ; well, never mind, nobody in the fisheries profession makes that kind of money.

Newspaper headlines in 1975 indicated we were just about completely out of Vietnam, Watergate conspirators were convicted, and the Federal government was bailing out New York City from financial ruin.

The best movie of the year was "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest."

A loaf of bread cost \$0.28

First class postage was \$0.10

A gallon of gas cost \$0.57

The average cost of a new vehicle was \$3,800

The average annual income was less than \$10,000, interestingly enough the exact same figure for fisheries workers today.

Enough digression. Our real Texas Chapter journey starts on November 5, 1975, at Rudder Tower on the campus of Texas A&M University in College Station. I remember the day like it was only 25 years ago. It was either cloudy or clear and either unseasonably warm or brutally cold. The weather wasn't important. What was important was that on that November day over 100 fisheries workers and students from across Texas met to

form the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Apparently there had been considerable interest in forming the chapter for several years prior to that and, thanks to the help of then President of the Texas A&M Chapter, Mike Van Den Avyle, the only thing that was really needed, a meeting place, was graciously provided.

The original objectives of the chapter were essentially those outlined in Article 1 of the parent society Constitution and in addition we added another one – “to encourage the exchange of information by fishery workers within Texas.”

Though the official chapter charter couldn't be approved by the parent society until their annual meeting in September of 1976, for all practical purposes the Texas Chapter was born on November 5, 1975.

To inject a little chronological perspective here, let me point out that on that particular date, both your current chapter President, Charlie Munger, and President-Elect, Gordon Linam, were only 14 years old. So I guess you could say that as the Texas Chapter was entering its infancy, they were entering puberty. Or, looking at it from a little different angle, as they were starting to grow hair, some of the older charter members like Ed Bonn and Clark Hubbs were starting to lose theirs.

Anyway, that first meeting on November 5 yielded paid up dues of \$3 (\$2 for students) from 51 people. And by the end of 1975 an additional 32 people had paid up, bringing the total number of charter members to 83.

The early days were a little bumpy for the Texas Chapter. Even though by the end of 1976 the membership had increased to over 130 members, less than 50 people attended the second annual meeting that year at Lake Brownwood. And even though various committees had been formed, they were plagued by attrition and inactivity. For example, even though an Awards Committee had been established back in 1975, no awards were given in 1976 because nobody was nominated.

Fortunately for the Texas Chapter, 1977 saw the annual meeting of the SEAFWA being held in San Antonio and the chapter wisely decided to hold their third annual meeting in conjunction with that larger event. It appears this was a good choice because it seemed to “jump start” the chapter and got some significant elements started.

For example, that year the first Texas Chapter awards were given in 4 separate categories including Fish Culture, Fisheries Management, Fisheries Administration, and Fisheries Research. Since then over 80 similar awards have been given to honor those Texas Chapter members making significant contributions to the fisheries profession. And, if you don't think these awards are one of the most important things our chapter can do for its members, all I can think is you must never have gotten one, because you can't help but swell up with pride when your peers single you out for such special recognition.

By the way, back in 1977, the Texas Chapter treasury contained about \$529.

The next year, 1978, saw the Texas Chapter publish its first annual proceedings, containing 6 peer-reviewed papers, an accomplishment which has been perpetuated and improved every year since then. In fact, in a weekly AFS diary, then Executive Director, Carl Sullivan wrote “The whole chapter can be proud of the effort.” There is an issue of sanctioning by the parent society relative to our annual proceedings that I'll get into a little later.

In 1978, the chapter treasury had increased to \$772 and the membership was \$105.

The year 1979 saw the formation of the Farm Pond Management Committee. And this is an interesting story in itself. The annual chapter meetings provided a mechanism to allow realization that at that time every different fishery agency (e.g., TPWD, FWS, SCS, Extension Service, etc.) gave different guidance to farmers and ranchers regarding how best to manage their farm ponds, and we further realized this was not good for the profession, as it chipped away at everyone's credibility. So the Farm Pond Management Committee was formed to develop one set of guidelines everyone could agree to so all factions of the Texas Chapter could

provide a unified front in this arena. Needless to say, this was a daunting task, but after considerable hard work by the committee members, the first chapter guidelines entitled “Stocking and Management Recommendations for Texas Farm Ponds” was printed in 1980 for distribution. There is no telling how many thousands of copies of this publication have been handed out over the years.

In 1980 the chapter dues were modestly increased from \$3 regular and \$2 student to \$5 regular and \$4 student. That’s very interesting, since that same year the treasurer’s report indicated the chapter was spending about \$5.24 for each member, and I don’t think the chapter was doing much beyond dues collection to raise money at that time. Because our expenditures exceeded our income, the treasury in 1980 dropped to about \$571.

So about 1981 or thereabouts, the chapter decided we had better start doing things to hustle some money, and as near as I can tell that was the beginning of formal contribution solicitation. In fact an Advertisement Committee was formed with a goal of raising \$750 for that year. Meanwhile membership stood at about 145 people.

As near as I can determine, 1982 was the first year official Texas Chapter stationery was ordered. Now there’s a milestone you can all get excited about.

But 1982 is also famous for a first regarding the annual meeting program. Every annual meeting prior to 1982 contained pretty much the same 3 elements – a social (usually a fish fry; go figure), a business meeting, and technical paper presentations. But beginning in 1982, we got crazy and added our first-ever panel discussion, and it was entitled “Using Exotic Species of Fish in Texas.” Since then panel discussions have been a regular feature of many of our annual meetings. The treasury in 1982 stood at a little less than \$1,000.

The year 1982 is also the first year work began on compiling a Texas Fishery Workers Directory.

In 1983 the Texas Chapter really did something special in terms of increasing the amount of information exchanged when we held our annual meeting jointly with the Oklahoma Chapter up at Lake Texoma. In fact, we did a repeat performance because of its great success again in 1990.

Also in 1983, work began by the Farm Pond Management Committee to prepare a sister publication to the original farm pond stocking and management recommendations tentatively entitled “Assessment Techniques for Small Ponds.”

The chapter treasury continued to steadily grow as dues pretty much covered routine expenses, and our contributions and display income was frosting on the cake, not to mention it was earning interest. Our treasury stood at about \$1,500.

Our first annual meeting held at a coastal site, Port Aransas, came in 1984. This was not by chance. Chapter participation by saltwater folks had always been relatively low, and then Chapter President Gary Matlock was making a concerted effort to turn that tide, if you’ll forgive the pun. Subsequently, 3 other annual meetings have been held in coastal sites, in 1991 (Galveston), 1993 (Port Aransas) and 1999 (Corpus Christi).

1984 was another big year when it comes to revenue generation and establishment of precedents. As near as I can determine, that was the first year we had our now-famous fundraising features at the social, the infamous Texas Chapter auctions and raffles, thanks to Ed Hegen. This allowed Bruce Hysmith to realize his true calling as an auctioneer and clearly set the stage for such classics as “Bait-a-Hole.” Who among us could possibly forget “Bait-a-Hole” and the money it generated for the chapter coffers?

By 1985 our membership had climbed to about 180, and our treasury was sitting at about \$2,000. A new ad hoc committee on Urban Fisheries was created. That year also saw the first hard-copy printing of the Texas Fisheries Workers Directory and the completion and printing of the Farm Pond Committee’s second publication entitled “Assessment and Corrective Management for Fish Populations in Small Impoundments.”

1985 also saw the Texas Chapter elect its first woman President, Maury Ferguson. Since then we have had 4 women Presidents: Barbara Gregg (1993), Loraine Fries (1994), and Kathy Ramos (1998). So, when it comes to having women as Presidents, both the parent society and the United States of America are clearly playing catch-up to the Texas Chapter.

In 1986, the Farm Pond Committee revised and printed their original publication “Stocking and Management Recommendations for Texas Farm Ponds.”

Remember I earlier mentioned a little thing about the sanctioning of our Chapter Proceedings by the parent society. Well, the parent society considered our annual proceedings as gray literature, uncitable in AFS journals. Well, in 1986 we decided to do something about that, so we embarked on an arduous journey to do whatever it took to change our proceedings status. Folks like Gary Carmichael and myself enjoyed lengthy correspondence and discussion with Bob Kendall, the AFS Commanding Editor, demonstrating to his satisfaction that we were serious about getting our proceedings officially sanctioned by the parent society. Kendall provided us with a list of requirements, and we systematically took care of each item.

By 1987 our treasury was growing big enough that the membership was entertaining new ideas of what to do with all the money. We routinely made nominal contributions to Division and parent society requests, but we wanted to put the money to work here in Texas. 1987 is the first year I could find formal mention of establishing a Texas Chapter scholarship fund.

What the heck. If your treasury has more money than you know what to do with, why not raise the dues? Apparently that’s what we did sometime around 1987, this time to the current levels of \$8 regular and \$5 for students.

By the end of the 1980’s our chapter membership was sitting around 200 and our treasury was sitting at about \$3,000.

(In the next newsletter, we’ll see what the Chapter accomplished in the 1990’s as Dick concludes his reflections on the past.)

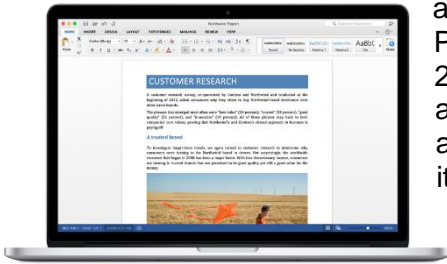




Freebies for the busy fisheries professional!

❖ Office, Office everywhere

If you are a Mac user you can download the new Office for Mac Preview as long as you have the latest version of Mac OS X, Yosemite (10.10). The official version is slated for release in the second half of 2015 ahead of Office 2016 for Windows. The new version will include Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, and Outlook. The current Office for Mac dates back to 2011. The new interface is designed to take advantage of Mac features such as retina display and full-screen view support. The preview can be installed alongside Office for Mac 2011 and every build will expire roughly 60 days after it is posted. The last preview build will continue to function for a month after the official launch date of Office 2016 for Mac.



<http://products.office.com/en-US/mac/mac-preview>

❖ OneNote becomes universal

Microsoft's note-taker has become the ultimate cross-platform application. There are versions for Windows 7, Windows 8.x, Windows Phone, Mac, iPad, iPhone, Android, Amazon devices all of which are free. Content in OneNote is shared across all of your devices linked to your account. Web content can be copied from a browser such as Chrome to OneNote using Clipper (<https://www.onenote.com/Clipper/OneNote>). An image of the web page is uploaded to your OneNote account and any text it contains is searchable in OneNote. A hyperlink to the original document is also included. In Microsoft Internet Explorer, right-clicking on a website reveals a menu that includes a "Send to OneNote" shortcut. Users of Windows Phones can install an application called Office Lens which lets you use your phone's



camera to capture images much like a portable scanner and these are uploaded to OneNote.



This can be used to save copies of documents, receipts, business cards or anything else you would like to keep for reference. Office Lens can also convert images to PDF, Word and PowerPoint files as well. If you are away from your devices and you need to get to your OneNote content, you can access it through any browser at OneNote Online by logging into

your account at <http://www.onenote.com/>

❖ Google Earth kicks it up a notch

Google Earth has become an indispensable tool in our GPS-centric world. We have become accustomed to looking at the earth from an aerial perspective. Google recently made Google Earth Pro for PC or Mac free, a dramatic drop from its former annual cost of \$399/year. With the Pro version you can measure distance, area, and radius of features in maps. High-resolution screenshots can be printed and movies can be made and exported of simulated flyovers along routes of interest.



<https://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html>

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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