

The Newsletter of
the Texas Chapter of
the American Fisheries Society



Volume 22 (4)

Meeting Issue

October 1996

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Kathy Ramos

Once again the annual meeting is behind us and thoughts turn toward the challenges of this next year. I want to take the opportunity to thank all of those who pitched in and made the meeting such a success. Despite the few problems that were not under our control, everyone seemed to have had a great time at both the technical and social functions. Please help John Prentice, our new President-Elect, in planning the next meeting by forwarding your suggestions and comments to him. Those who filled out the surveys passed out during the Business meeting had some really good input that will aid in planning productive and useful meetings in the future. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts. The chapter has grown tremendously in the last few years, both in number and professionalism. I am very proud of the fact that we have received the award for "Best Chapter" in the Southern Division for the last two years. It is in every way a reflection of the involvement of not only the officers and committee chairs but the membership at large. The recognition is nice but the pressure to excel and continue to improve is tremendous. We are being held up as an example to others because of the strides that we have made in fiscal responsibility and professional development. The upcoming MIDYEAR meeting in San Antonio will allow us to showcase our chapter and the diversity of talents possessed by our membership. I encourage everyone to try and attend to help out in the great undertaking and also to attend technical presentations, special symposia and network with other professionals in our division. We have made great strides in exposing students to professionals in a meeting setting. I would like to challenge our student

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PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Webb

As I reflect on my year as President of the Texas Chapter AFS, I'm thrilled at what our membership has accomplished. Our Chapter went on-line as Fred Janssen got our Chapter's home page up and running on the Internet. Our Chapter continued to be proactive with position statements written by Mike Reed on several conservation issues. Other projects are moving ahead as well with the community fishing guide going to press under the guidance of Ray Whitney, Charlie Munger, and Bobby Farquar as editors. The small impoundment management guide is in the final editorial process under the direction of the Pond Management Committee led by Malcolm Johnson. The year culminated with an excellent joint meeting with Oklahoma (congratulations to Kathy Ramos) and with our Chapter receiving the Southern Division's "Most Active Chapter Award" for the second year.

But as I think about what our Chapter has done and what it's doing, I realize that the quality of our Chapter is simply a reflection of the quality of the aquatic resource professionals in Texas. By virtue of being a broad-based organization, the American Fisheries Society gives us all the opportunity to interact as a diverse group of professionals with common goals. It is this ability to draw on the strengths of individuals from all areas of our profession that allows us achieve together what we cannot achieve in smaller groups devoted to a single speciality.



1996 Chapter Business Meeting

1996 TCAFS Business Meeting Minutes - 1996 Annual Meeting held at the Tanglewood Resort, Pottsboro, Texas. Reported by Secretary/Treasurer Dave Terre.

President Mark Webb opened the meeting and introduced current officers and past president Pat Hutson. Mark Webb called for approval of minutes from the previous years (1995) business meeting. A motion was made by Dick Luebke to accept minutes as published in the proceedings. The motion was seconded and was carried by the membership.

Treasurers Report: David Terre gave the treasurers report. Dave Terre reported that the total assets of the TCAFS (as of 8-30-96) was \$29,556.88. The balance of TCAFS checking account was \$3,398 as of this same date. Expenditures of TCAFS from 9-1-95 to 8-31-96 were \$3,247.07. Major expenses included; newsletters (38%), scholarships (31%) and proceedings (18.5%). Total income of TCAFS was \$3,254.53. Major sources of income were memberships/t-shirt and hat sales (56%) and Dividends/interest (39%). Dave Terre introduced Pam Whitney of Merrill Lynch. Ms. Whitney gave a presentation on TCAFS investment accounts and history of our earnings. Mark Webb called for the acceptance of the treasurers report. A motion was made, seconded and was carried by the membership present.

Newsletter Editors Report: Mark Webb gave the newsletter chairman's report due to the absence of Steve Magnelia. Four newsletters were published during 1996 at a cost of about \$1.00/member/issue. TCAFS is looking to post the newsletter on the net to save printing and mailing costs. Steve Magnelia resigned his post as newsletter chairperson and Charles Munger will take over this position in 1997.

1)Committee Reports

Nominating: President Webb introduced Bobby Whiteside, nominations committee chair. Bobby thanked his co-chair. Three members were nominated for Secretary/Treasurer. They were David Terre, John Moczygamba, and Ray Whitney. Two members were nominated for President Elect. They were John Prentice and Mike Reed. Other nominations were called for from the floor but no other nominations were made. A

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Fall EXCOM Meeting

TCAFS EXCOM REPORT

The TCAFS EXCOM meeting was held on October 22, 1996 at Baylor University in Waco. The following EXCOM members were in attendance: Dave Terre, Mark Webb, Lance Robinson, Fran Gelwick, John Prentice, Fred Janssen and Kathy Ramos.

Committee Reports...

Treasurers Report: Dave Terre reported a balance of \$3,910.76 in the chapters checking account. Total assets of the chapter were \$31,806.37 as of 9-30-96. Dave Terre reported a profit from the annual meeting in the amount of \$289.71; however, a refund check is still expected from Tanglewood Resorts which will boost this figure somewhat. The chapter raised \$1,400.00 during the raffle/auction. The chapters share of this amount was \$1,038.00.

Publicity/Exhibits: Kathy Ramos gave the report for Steve Poarch and Kirk Pratas. Steve Poarch suggested that representatives of this committee be located across all regions of the state to better help collect raffle items and make contacts. He also is working on getting a large item (boat or 4-wheel ATV) to raffle in advance of next years annual meeting. He suggested that hats and T-shirts be sold at the Southern Divisions Midyear meeting. He reported an inventory of 113 caps, 27 towels, 90 can huggies, 22 polo type shirts and 35 T-shirts. Kathy Ramos suggested that we invest in more Guadalupe Bass T-shirts for the Midyear meeting. She will have Steve look into it.

1997 Midyear Meeting (Ad Hoc): Kathy Ramos and Mark Webb gave the report for Dick Luebke. Dick Luebke reported that the Saturday night social will be held off site (cheaper than on site). It will be held at the Lonestar Brewery. He is optimistic about sponsor donations with several "hot prospects" on line. Mark Webb reported that we had roughly 60 abstracts submitted for presentation and special sessions are filled-up about half way. We have received five poster presentations so far.

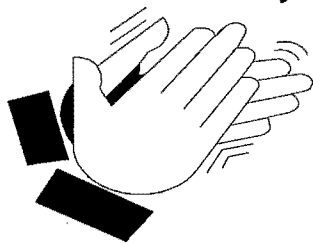
Continuing Education (Ad Hoc): Kathy Ramos reported that fees associated with workshops/seminars to be given at the Midyear meeting will be held to a minimum to encourage good participation. This committee is in need of a new chairperson.

Nominations: Kathy Ramos reported for Bobby Whiteside. This committee is looking for nominations for President-Elect. If anyone wishes to make a nomination, please contact Bobby.

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RAFFLE A WINNER

by Rick Ott



The 1996 Texas Chapter AFS auction and raffle was an enormous success. We exceeded last years earnings of \$1,800.00 by half, generating \$2,400.00 for the student scholarship fund. Many thanks must go

to all of the member(s) from both the Texas and Oklahoma Chapters who solicited (or created) the excellent items and services we were able to offer. Friendly competition between the chapters kept the bidding on auction items fresh. Bruce Highsmith needs to be thanked again for his role as Ringleader for the auction and raffle, and for donations of beverages. It is a tough job, but someone has to do it.

THANKS DONORS

Special thanks goes to all our sponsors and contributors. Our meetings would not be as successful without their contributions and assistance. Please be sure to patronize their businesses whenever you can.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bill Lewis Lures | Pederson Trucking |
| C.C. Lynch | Cabela's |
| Wade Butler | Berkley |
| Pat Hutson | Back Country |
| Brannons Bass Shop | Clown Company |
| The Fishing Store | The Boat Center |
| Into The Outdoors | Shippo Marine |
| The Sportster | Blue Flame Propane |
| Ken Kurzawski | Mallories Propane |
| 360 Communications | Splash Sports |
| The Tool Shed | Joedy Gray |
| Mike Reed | Smoothys Sport Tackle |
| Concho Park | Elm Creek Village |
| Porters Sporting Goods | Jack Long Team Marine |
| Sportsmen Conservationists of Texas | |
| Texas Sea Grant College Program | |
| Texas Aquaculture Association | |
| The Fisherman's Paradise | |
| American Fisheries Society | |
| Taylor's Army Surplus City | |
| Billy's Boat and Bike Corral | |
| Seabournes Guide Service | |
| Dr Pepper Bottling Co. of Texas | |

This article appeared in the Yakima (Washington) Herald-Republic on Friday, November 8th. The article was written by W. Frank Hendrix of the Washington State University Cooperative Extension (<http://www.pan.co.yakima.wa.us/wsuxext/wsuxext2.htm>). What do you think?

STUDIES SHOW GRAZING IMPROVES THE HABITAT

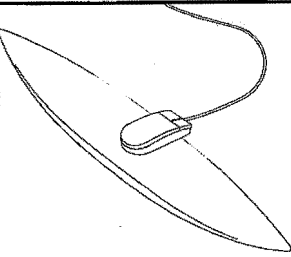
The past month has been an arousing one on the subject area of range management. Oregon's ballot measure 38, which would have virtually eliminated all grazing in the state, was defeated. There have been letters to the editor about cattle in creeks. A tribal group and the forest service have been at odds about salmon habitat and grazing. I hope that everybody involved and the public can take a little rest on the rhetoric and let me give you some facts to work with. This may be an educational moment for the public that read [sic] this column.

1. GRAZING A PLANT DOES NOT "HURT" A PLANT (source; C.W. Cook; Winrock International; 1994). Managed grazing stimulated [sic] a plant into production of more root and leaf area and increases plant vitality. At this time of year, no damage is done to the grass plant by grazing off the top vegetative portion of the plant. It aids in the re-growth in the spring, thus making the plant more valuable for wildlife and domestic animals alike. If a grass plant is not grazed, it actually decreases in vitality and in some cases will kill the plant [sic]. An example of this would be to fence off a portion of an irrigated pasture. In a year you will have a bald spot or the plant species will have changed to weeds.

2. GRAZING DOES NOT INCREASE LAND EROSION OR INCREASE A SILTATION OF STREAMS [sic] (source; C.B. Marlow; Wildlife Management Institute, 1995). This may surprise many, but the scientific information on the subject is that even heavy overgrazing (much more than recommended) had little or no effect on erosion or siltation of surrounding streams. A road for four-wheeler track [sic] does an unbelievable amount of damage, and most of the siltation blamed on grazing and logging is directly induced by these.

3. RIPARIAN AREAS SHOULD BE GRAZED (source: Buckhouse, 1994 & 1995). Riparian areas are defined as the land surrounding streams that tend to stay green longer in the spring and summer. They are different from other property for several reasons. Riparian areas and the rights and control of them are some of the hottest political potatoes in the Western US. Riparian areas are some of the most productive grasslands in the world. They must be managed differently from the nonriparian areas to make sure overgrazing does not occur. Forage species growing in riparian areas tend to be invigorated by short-term grazing because they grow very fast.

4. SALMON PREFER TO SPAWN IN LOCATIONS WHERE RIPARIAN AREAS HAVE BEEN GRAZED (Source: Tibbs, et al., [sic] 1994 & 1995). The only long-term study on this subject was done in Oregon. It shows that salmon swam through study areas that have been nongrazed for many years. Salmon swam past riparian study areas that only allowed wildlife grazing too. All of last year's salmon runs [sic] were located in study areas were [sic]



TCAFS ON THE NET!

Yes, its happened! The Texas Chapter has a homepage up and running. Fred Janssen of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has put together a web page for the Chapter. The website includes the Chapter newsletters, issue statements, links to other sites, E-mail and a host of other interesting information will be available on the page. This will certainly broaden the exposure of the Chapter to other aquatic science professionals throughout the world. Those of you interested in getting the newsletter by email or downloading it off the website, let the editor know so the mailing list and copying of the newsletter can be adjusted. The address for the Chapter website is:

www.io.com/~fjanssen/

Come check your page out.

WEBSTER'S WORDS

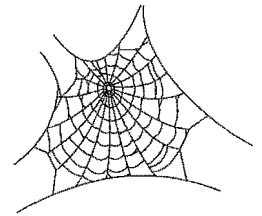
WEB SITE REVIEWS

American Fisheries Society (www.esd.ornl.gov/societies/AFS/)

This web page contains a lot of information about the American Fisheries Society, its mission and activities, and a lot of fisheries related links. The site has sections on annual meeting news, current events, publications, basic society information, links to other AFS sections and chapters, job links, position and policy statements, legislative briefing statements, and a hot list of servers.

Under current events you can find out about both AFS sponsored meetings and meetings of other groups that may have information related to fisheries. The hot list of servers has subsections on Academia with college and university links, Fisheries and Natural Resources with mostly nonprofit organization links, Government with state and federal links, Internet resources and Other Useful Sites. The links here should lead you to the information you want or at least keep you occupied for quite a while.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the parent Society should visit this site. The site is well organized but the main page may load a little slow since there are quite a few option buttons.



All American Anglers (www.texas.com/all.htm)

Texas based web page that includes online magazines, links, and lots of fishing though most of the information is commercially oriented. Some of the commercial links include things like boat information and sales, fishing electronics, fishing vacations, photo galleries, tackle shop links, lake information, and tournament information for TBBU Angler's Choice Tournament Circuit and Southern Bass Tournament Trail.

Texas Sportsguide Magazine - As the name indicates, the magazine features articles about the Texas outdoors with stories on both hunting and fishing.

Bass Adventures - Features articles and information about fishing in Mexico. The magazine includes feature articles about lakes and fishing resorts and guides if you are interested in fishing south of the border.

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Grazing continued from page 3

riparian managed grazing has occurred for many years. This study has been repeated and has shown the same results since 1987.

5. GRAZING HELPS FOREST TREES GROW (source: Buckhouse and Tibbs, 1990-1955 [sic]). Scientific data is clear on this one. Grazing is a great aid in the growth of trees. In one study, trees were an average of 8 feet larger in grazed areas, compared to nongrazed area [sic] in only 15 years. Currently, in Canada, sheep are being used to graze in newly planted areas. Sheep do not eat or damage the baby trees, and the increased growth due to less water competition of the grass and weeds is huge.

6. LOWERING WATER TEMPERATURE AND TREE PLANTING IN RIPARIAN AREAS HAS LITTLE EFFECT ON SURVIVAL OF SALMON (Source: Moore, 1996; Kaczynski, 1996). Recent literature on this subject shows that a very small (1 percent to 2 percent) increase in salmon and steelhead is the only increase when the water temperature is lowereed to any level that is going to be achievable by planting trees and fencing riparian areas. The literature goes on to state that removing fishing nets for 24 hours will have much more of an influence on the number of salmon than planting trees in riparian areas ever will. Using hundreds of thousands of dollars to stick a bunch of willow sticks in the ground and hoping that they become trees is in a [sic] large waste of sticks and money if you look at the actual facts.

The scientific data is solid on these subjects. The results and scientific facts may not be politically correct. Sometimes the facts can get in the way for a while but sooner or later they can't be ignored. The value of grazing in the Western U.S. is in the billions of dollars that taxpayers do not have ot pay unless grazing is stopped.

Adventures in Mexico - This magazine also features fishing in Mexico, but the scope is much greater. There are articles on fresh and saltwater fishing, hunting, diving, birding, and ecotours. Although there is information on the better known Mexican vacation spots, most of the articles are about the lesser known, high quality vacation sites.

Internet Bass Magazine - This magazine includes the Japanese Bass Pages for team Onochan. When I visited, the page was having trouble with images and you had to search for English text. It is interesting to see another viewpoint.

The site is well organized with relatively few graphics so pages will load fast. The magazines do



Presidents Message Continued from Page 1

members to make the effort to gain some practical working experience so that you are more marketable after graduation. Those professionals that are always wondering where all the qualified applicants are, I challenge you to take on a student and act as a mentor. Train the people that may be in that applicant pool by giving them the skills that will allow them to hit the ground running. With that said I would like to see the chapter shift its focus to offering quality continuing education opportunities that will benefit our professional members as well as students. The fisheries profession is very dynamic and it is important to keep up with the latest developments and issues. We are working to assure that these workshops address current topics not only in Texas but across the U.S. as well. As a chapter we have experienced some growing pains and these will probably continue as we try to meet the needs of our diverse membership. I ask that you all get involved in continuing our progress by contacting officers and committee chairs, volunteering to serve on a committee or even writing articles for the newsletter. "When a purpose and a goal stand for the good of the people, it carries a seed of greatness. In its simplicity it has no time for constant limelight, but only to accomplish more and reach farther. In areas of service, doing something to help other people humbles willing workers. They know they only scratch the surface of what there is to do-and unbelievable barriers are set in their way by ignorant people."

Pond Management: Kathy Ramos reported for Malcolm Johnson. The revised pond management guide is on disk and is ready for editing. This revised guide will go through our routine editorial procedures.

Fisheries Worker Directory (Ad Hoc): Lance Robinson reported that 90-100 information sheets have been received thus far. The committee is looking for ways to reach other agencies/universities. Discussion was heard about how to sort/organize this document and how it will be made available to the membership.

Internet Home Page (Ad Hoc): Fred Janssen reported that we now have an internet web page (<http://www.io.com/~fjanssen/index.htm>) and members are encouraged to visit it. Discussion was heard on future directions and use of the TCAFS web site. We also may incur some additional monthly costs to take full advantage of our web page software. These additional costs may be offset by savings in postage (i.e. E-mail stuff to members instead of mailing). More discussion later.

Student Outreach: Fran Gelwick solicited financial support from the chapter to assist students who give presentations at AFS meetings. The EXCOM decided that it would be difficult to finance such efforts now but plans might be made to help in the future.

Urban Fishing (Ad Hoc): This committee at rest as the urban fishing guide has been completed.

Procedures Manual (Ad Hoc): This committee at rest as the procedures manual has been completed.

Endowments: No Report

Issues: No Report

Exotic Species (Ad Hoc): No Report

Stocks at Risk: No Report

Newsletter: No Report

Awards: No Report

Editorial: No Report

Membership: No Report

Old Business...

Potential 1997 annual meeting dates were discussed and four options were presented: 1) 2nd week of September; 2) 3rd week of September; 3) 4th week in January; 4) 1st week in February. The EXCOM felt like a winter meeting may conflict with activities during the 1997 Southern Division Midyear meeting. Other factors discussed included student and coastal fisheries workers participation and whether or not a change in meeting dates would increase their participation. It was decided that these dates would be put into the newsletter and be voted on by the membership.

vote by the membership was taken and David Terre and John Prentice were elected.

Endowments: Alan Forshage, Endowment committee chairperson, gave the endowment committee report. He thanked his fellow committee members. Alan gave a historical account of the TCAFS endowment program which was initiated in 1988. This year we had 8 award applicants. WHAT (Wetland Habitat Alliance of Texas) Scholarship Awards were presented to Chad Thomas and Anna-Claire Fernandez. TCAFS Student Scholarship Awards were presented to Kenneth Ostrand and Dawn Lee Johnson. Alan recommended that we advertize scholarships on the net to help us promote this important program.

Awards: Awards committee chair, Gene Wilde, gave the awards committee report and thanked his fellow committee members for their hard work. The Outstanding Student Presentation Award was given to Robert Weller for the paper entitled Spawning Behavior and Seasonal Variations in Home Range Size and Habitat Preference of Flathead Catfish in a West Texas Reservoir. The Outstanding Professional Presentation Award was given to R.D. Doyle for a paper entitled Establishing Native Macrophytes for Fish Habitat in North Texas Reservoirs. Outstanding Fisheries Worker Awards were given to: Gene McCarty (Administration), Billy Higginbotham (Education), Gary Garrett (Management), Ivonne Blandon (Research), Jimmy Gonzales (Technical Support), and Eric Young (Technical Support - Honorable Mention). The Special Recognition in Fisheries Work Award was given to the Reeves County Water Improvement Board.

Issues: Mike Reed gave a report for the issues committee. During 1996 the chapter drafted a resolution in opposition to Red River Chloride Project. They also sought legislative action.

Editorial: Joe Fries gave the gave the editorial committee report. Three hundred and seventy five proceedings were printed. Joe reported that manuscripts have not been submitted for publication in our proceedings for two consecutive years.

Pond Management: Mark webb gave the report for the pond management committee. The small impoundment management guide has been revised, edited and condensed and is ready for printing (pending editorial review). Jim Davis, with the Texas A&M Agricultural

Extension has agreed to print it for the chapter. Jim mentioned that the guide was condensed from 60 pages to 30 pages. Information on sampling fish populations by rod and reel were included in the new version. A cover page for this document is still in preparation.

Membership: Debbie Wade gave the membership committee report. Debbie reported that the chapter now has 255 regular and 52 student members. Members were reminded to pick up last years proceedings to save the chapter mailing costs.

Publicity/Exhibits: Rick Ott gave a report on this years raffle/auction. One hundred and thirty announcements were sent to recruit vendors to our annual meeting. Five vendors attended our meeting (A-1 Refrigeration, Lynch Associates, Hydrolabs, Merrill Lynch, and Sea Grant Program. Rick thanked the membership for getting lots of raffle/auction items. The raffle format will vary slightly from last year; there will be silent auctions on some items.

Stocks at Risk: No Report

Student Outreach: Fran Gelwick gave the student outreach committee report. Plans are being made for a student workshop at the 1997 Southern Division Midyear meeting. Fran reported a poor student turnout at student/professional mixer due to some scheduling conflicts.

1997 Midyear Meeting (Ad Hoc): Dick Luebke gave a status report on the ad hoc committee for the 1997 Southern Division Midyear meeting. The Texas Chapter will co-host the meeting with the Oklahoma Chapter. The meeting will take place at the Gunter Hotel in San Antonio beginning on Feb. 13th and ending on Feb. 16th. October 18th is the deadline for submission of titles and abstracts. The Texas chapter is taking care of fall mail-outs advertizing the meeting. Dick encouraged strong participation and involvement of the chapter. He also encouraged student participation at the meeting.

Continuing Education (Ad Hoc): Loraine Fries spoke on behalf of the continuing education committee. At last years annual meeting we held our first continuing education workshop on GIS technologies. This year we will sponsor a workshop about the Internet. Chris Cummings of TPWD will be the instructor.

Exotic Species (Ad Hoc): Stewart Jacks gave the exotic species committee report. Efforts were made to contact with Bob Pitman of the Fish and Wildlife Service and Jody Gray of TPWD regarding exotic species that could be problematic in Texas. A list of such species is being compiled.

Fisheries Worker Directory (Ad Hoc): Lance Robinson spoke on the Texas Fisheries Worker Directory, which is currently being compiled by the chapter. The data base for this document has been built. Lance encouraged the membership to distribute information forms so that all Texas Fisheries workers could be listed. Forms have already been distributed to TCAFS members. They should be completed and mailed in as soon as possible.

Internet Home Page (Ad Hoc): Mark Webb gave a report on the construction of a TCAFS web page on the internet. Fred Janssen has been in charge of this committee. Progress was being made and we should have a home page soon. These efforts will provide us with a means of exchanging information with our members, other chapters, and the public.

Urban Fishing (Ad Hoc): Ray Whitney reported that The urban fishing guide has been completed and is available.

Procedures Manual (Ad Hoc): No Report

2)Old Business

Earl Chilton attended the 1996 National AFS meeting. He reported on several items that may be of interest to chapter members. Some of these items included; proposed changes to the AFS professional certification process, updates on AFS position/policy statements involving diversity, fish hatcheries, and human use of fish resources.

Loraine Fries initiated discussion concerning AFS 2000 and wanted to know how the chapter could financially support this effort. Discussion eventually led to the conclusion that this years EXCOM should investigate this further and come up with options for raising monies for this important program.

Mark Webb called for any additional old business. No additional old business was brought to the floor.

3)Installation of New President

Mark Webb thanked the chapter for the opportunity to be President. He thanked fellow EXCOM members for their hard work and support. He turned the gavel

(ski fin) over to Kathy Ramos. Kathy Ramos presented Mark Webb with his past Presidents plaque.

Kathy thanked Mark for his hard work as president. She also thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She also thanked Bruce Hysmith, John Moczygemba, Ronnie Ballard and Lynn Sloan for local arrangements for our 1996 meeting. Kathy also thanked Debbie Wade for all her efforts surrounding the meeting and registration.

Kathy mentioned that she would like to develop a time line/schedule for future president elects to help them keep on track with future meeting arrangements. She also encouraged the membership to become involved with chapter activities and committees. She asked all members to complete the TCAFS survey form so that we can know how to better serve our membership.

4)New Business

Discussion was heard on moving the annual meeting date to coincide with the start of the calendar year or to coincide with this years Southern Division Midyear Meeting in San Antonio. Pros and cons were heard on both sides of the issue. Clark Hubbs made a motion that the EXCOM select four dates, advertize them in the newsletter and bring the issue to a vote by the membership at large. Jim Davis seconded the motion and it was carried by the membership.

Gary Valentine made a motion that a plaque be given to the WHAT Scholarship Board in appreciation for the scholarship monies they have donated. This plaque would be presented at a WHAT board meeting by a representative of the chapter. Bobby Whiteside seconded the motion and it was carried by the membership.

Billy Higginbotham wanted to update the current list of private water fisheries consultants and have it distributed with the pond management guide. Discussion was heard on whether or not this document needed to be all inclusive and whether or not this document would be a duplication of effort (i.e. something like it that is already out there). It was decided that the pond management committee would investigate the topic and come up with recommendations. Billy wanted to keep the list simple (possibly one page). No formal motion was made but the pond management committee would keep the chapter posted on its progress via EXCOM minutes.

Kathy Ramos called for a motion to adjourn. Clark Hubbs made the motion and Dick Luebke seconded it. The 1996 TCAFS business meeting was adjourned.



PROPOSED CHANGE OF ANNUAL MEETING DATE



YOUR VOTE IS NEEDED

During the Business meeting at Tanglewood the membership discussed a possible change of the annual meeting date to accommodate attendance by more of our members. After much discussion Clark Hubbs moved that the ExCom propose four different dates and allow the membership at large to vote via the newsletter. At the ExCom meeting held in Waco on 10/22 it was determined that the following four weeks be proposed as possible meeting times:

Second week of September
Third week of September
Fourth week of January
First week of February
Other _____

Changing the meeting date was proposed to try and allow our members from the Coastal area to attend, boost attendance by students and to align with the calendar year that is now observed for membership dues.

Please review these proposed dates and contact Kathy Ramos. You may vote by

**e-mail (tylerhat@ballistic.com),
fax (903-592-6769) or
telephone (903-592-7570).**

**The DEADLINE to vote is 5:00 PM,
DECEMBER 16.**

TFFC OPEN

The Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center opened its doors to the public on November 20th. This facility has been in the planning and construction phase for years and now will have a chance to show what it has. The center features stream, pond, and reservoir galleries, a casting pond and anglers pavilion, a theater and dive tank, the Texas Angler's Hall of Fame and Fisheries Management Gallery, and a hatchery that is planned to be operational by 1998. If you are ever in the Athens area, take the time to stop by and check it out. y

**FIFTH ANNUAL SOUTHERN DIVISION
MIDYEAR MEETING
SHERATON GUNTER-SAN ANTONIO, TX
FEBRUARY 13-16, 1997
Co-hosted by the Oklahoma and Texas Chapter
AFS
Final Call for Contributed Papers
DUE DATE OCTOBER 18, 1996**

Individuals desiring to present research and management results and/or progress of ongoing work should submit abstracts to Mark Webb, Program Committee, TPWD Inland Fisheries, 1004 E. 26th St, Bryan, TX 77803, (409-822-5067; Fax 409-823-5860; E-mail bryanif@mail.myriad.net.

Abstracts, either for posters or presentations should be submitted on diskette (Word perfect or ASCII) as well as a hardcopy. Please state whether the abstract is for a poster or a presentation. Abstracts should include (in the following order), the papers title, author(s) name(s) and address(es) (including phone, fax and e-mail), and text. The text should be no more than 200 words. State objective, principal results, and conclusions. If the principal contact person for correspondence regarding the abstract is someone other than the presenter, please specify.

Special sessions are being planned on Intensive Management in Small Impoundments, Instream Flow and Sand and Gravel Mining. There are plans for a Student Professional Development Session and a GPS/GIS Workshop.

VOTE

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL
TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY**

for the 1996 calendar year for the 1997 calendar year

Name _____

Address _____

Work phone _____ Home phone _____

FAX _____

Primary Field of Interest _____

Affiliation _____

Check the two that apply:

Regular Membership (\$8/yr)

Student Membership (\$5/yr)

(full-time students only)

AFS Member

Non-AFS Member

Send dues to:

**David Terre
P.O. Box 947
San Marcos, TX 78666**

If you have an interest in serving on a committee, check one (or more) of the following:

Awards

Editorial

Endowments

Stocks at Risk

Issues

Membership

Nominating

Pond Management

Publicity/Exhibits

Newsletter

Exotic Species

Procedures Manual

Urban Fishing

Student Outreach

Fisheries Workers Directory

Fisheries Data Directory

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT..... Kathy Ramos

PRESIDENT-ELECT..... John Prentice

PAST-PRESIDENT..... Mark Webb

SECRETARY-TREASURER..... Dave Terre

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

AWARDS..... Gene Wilde

EDITORIAL..... Joe Fries

ENDOWMENTS..... Allen Forshage

ISSUES..... Mike Reed

MEMBERSHIP..... Debbie Wade

NOMINATING..... Bobby Whiteside

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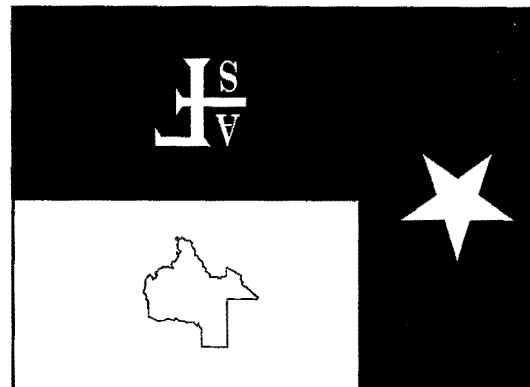
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