



American Fisheries Society

Arkansas Chapter

2018 Business Meeting Minutes

25 January 2018

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Management Committee (MC): Eric Brinkman (President), Mike Eggleton (President-Elect), Tate Wentz (Past President), Casey Cox (Treasurer), Jessie Green (Secretary).

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS – Eric Brinkman

- Recognition of Past Presidents of ARAFS and SDAFS, and current Management Committee
- Determination of a quorum - 55 members present

SECRETARY'S REPORT – Jessie Green

- 2017 Meeting Minutes went out to the membership for review in the Spring 2017 Lateral Line. No revisions were received, no comments regarding edits.
- **MOTION** to approve – JJ Gladden, Second – Tony Fernando. All in favor; no nays. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Eric Brinkman

- ARAFS provided funding during 2017 to support:
 - OK Chapter for SDAFS in Oklahoma City, OK;
 - Arkansas Stream Heritage Workshop (\$500); and
 - Publication of AFS Paddlefish Book (\$500).
- 2018 meeting attendance = 125, 2017 = 113.

SDAFS 2017 REPORT – Steve Lochmann (for Wes Porak (FL) – SDAFS President and Doug Austen – AFS Executive Director)

Report from Wes Porak

- Southern Division responding to natural disasters (e.g., hurricanes affecting Puerto Rico, Texas, and Florida) by:
 - giving seed money to hold Chapter meetings;
 - waive or pay memberships for a year; and
 - find retiring scientists to donate journals to library of a lab that has lost all print volumes (e.g., University of Texas Marine Science Lab, Florida Community College Ornamental Fish Lab).

Puerto Rico

- Wes Porak, Pat Mazik, Tom Kwak went to Puerto Rico to ensure 2018 SDAFS meeting could still take place there. It's a go;



- Fundraising campaign at the Society level ongoing to get Puerto Rican scientists (students and professionals) to the meeting;
- Day of service opportunity on Thursday of meeting at USFWS San Juan Bay Estuary – in lieu of attending a technical committee meeting;
- SDAFS donated funding to SDAFS 2018 meeting in Puerto Rico to make sure rooms are available to students.

Florida

- SDAFS provided funding to help FL Chapter host 2017 National AFS Meeting
- Other funding assistance included:
 - *Investigation and Monetary Value of Fish* revision
- Subunit assistance:
 - Information for students to secure a free room at SDAFS can be found on the AFS website.
 - *AFS Student Subunit Guidelines* - <https://sd.fisheries.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Student-Subunit-Guidelines.pdf>
- New webmaster and listserv for SDAFS.
- Upcoming meetings:

SDAFS

- 2018 – San Juan, Puerto Rico, 7-11 March
- 2019 – Galveston, Texas, 24-27 January
- 2020 – Little Rock, Arkansas, 20-23 February

AFS – Parent Society

- 2018 – Atlantic City, New Jersey, 19-23 August
- 2019 – Reno, Nevada, 29 September – 3 October
- 2020 – Columbus, Ohio, 30 August – 3 September (AFS 150th Anniversary)

Report from Doug Austen

- Publisher switched from Taylor and Francis to Wiley
- Current lobbying actions:
 - Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization
 - Recovering America's Wildlife Act
- Increase in AFS annual membership dues (\$95 for professionals, \$25 for students, \$ 50 for young professionals). *Reminder: AFS membership separate from ARAFS membership.* Membership now includes access to all five AFS journals.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Casey Cox

- Review of ARAFS Budget Report (attached). *Note: update 2 February 2018 report attached – accounting for 2018 Annual Meeting expenses.*
- **MOTION** to approve – Steve Filipek; Second – Jeff Quinn. All in favor; no nays. Motion passed.



APPOINTED OFFICER REPORTS

NEWSLETTER – Christy Graham

- Problems getting people to send stuff when requested, especially subunits.
- In need of more pictures.
- If anyone has any ideas for newsletter, send to Christy.
- Featured articles have been added.
- Spring newsletter will include report for science fairs. JJ has new judging sheet for newsletter reporting.

WEBMASTER – Ben Thesing

- Put photo contest on website to see how often people used website and to try to get pictures. One submission for Fish Picture Challenge – Paul Port.
- Might set up Dropbox for pictures for this meeting.
- Ginny Adams sent pictures to be uploaded on website.
- Let Ben know if there are any suggestions.
- Have had problems with Wild Apricot communicating with PayPal.
- Past business and MC meeting minutes, newsletters on website

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM COMMITTEE – Mike Eggleton

- Issues with Wild Apricot will get worked out. No one able to Chapter membership dues online. Not sure if Wild Apricot or Paypal.
- Copies of all presentations will be uploaded to website - <https://arkansasafs.wildapricot.org/2018-Meeting-Presentation>.

NOMINATING AND AWARDS COMMITTEE – Tate Wentz

- Outstanding Student Subunits
 - University of Central Arkansas – Jennifer Main
 - Arkansas State University – Brittany McCall
 - University of Arkansas – Jacob Martin
 - Arkansas Tech University – Jennifer Sloan
 - University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff – Joseph Kaiser
- Robert M. Jenkins
 - Bear Creek Bass Club
- Elected Officers
 - President-Elect – Matt Schroeder
 - Secretary – Dustin Lynch

ACTIVITIES AND RAFFLE COMMITTEE – Eli Powers

- Silent Auction = \$1,537; Raffle = \$616; Total = \$2153.00



- Donation request assistance from Sean Saunders, Dylan Hann, Matt Schroeder, and Micha Tindall and individuals that brought their own items.
- Get in touch with Eli if you want to contribute for 2019.
- *Note: Jessie Green is really skilled at winning raffles and reacting like a Price is Right contestant getting selected by Bob Barker.*

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Jim Petersen (for Forrest Payne)

- Committee could use another one or two persons from Chapter.
- Drafted a letter that was forwarded to congressional delegation on Waters of the United States in support of the Parent Society.
 - To be protective of larger rivers then protection of headwaters is necessary.
 - Permitted facilities are better protected by having a specific definition.
- Committee members Jim Peterson and Jessie Green (*on behalf of White River Waterkeeper*) submitted comments on ADEQ's 303(d) and 305(b) Assessment Methodology. No comments were submitted on behalf of Chapter.
- Steve Filipek volunteered to serve on the committee.
- Students on committee as well.
- Jim Wise updated Chapter on Lower Mississippi River Conservation Committee work to improve Water Resources Development Act to open up restoration funding for the lower Mississippi River.
 - Eric Brinkman asked Jim Petersen to work on a letter of support for the Chapter to get LMRCC on the Act.
- Eric Brinkman mentioned Chapter Bylaws require representation from across the state for Environmental Affairs Committee.

EDUCATION LIASION COMMITTEE – JJ Gladden

- Central and West Central judges needed for science fairs.
- Developed science fair reporting sheet - on website so judges can find it and print it off.
- UALR is undergoing major change with their subunit post-Forrest Payne leaving. Will give subunit another year before discussing dissolving.

STATE FISH AD HOC COMMITTEE – Justin Homan

- Not much progress in 2017. Committee couldn't agree on the criteria. Committee voted to go with non-game and sport fish candidates. Out of the 34 members, 20 voted, eight were against having two. Jim Petersen had volunteered to do the non-game criteria.
- Alligator Gar and Yellowcheek Darter suggested by ten-year-old Henry Foster.
 - Ginny Adams mentioned he already has legislators tweeting him about it.
 - **MOTION** to get behind Henry Foster's initiative to select Alligator Gar and Yellowcheek Darter and drop the committee – Justin Stroman; Second – Richard Standage and Maurice Jackson (simultaneously).
 - **DISCUSSION**



- Eric Brinkman doesn't want to dissolve the committee until the charge is fulfilled but supporting Henry Foster would be way of moving forward.
- Jim Petersen - no problem with dropping committee. Steve Filipek in support as well. Mentioned committee arguing for months on metrics.
- Ben Batten mentioned Henry Foster debated two species. Ginny said that his uncle had supported a game and non-game.
- Jeff Quinn mentioned one legislator was giving pushback because they like channel catfish. No one knows who.
- Rich Standage noted Chapter could add to the arguments for both fish to be selected as a game and a non-game species.
- Billy Justus – selection of Alligator Gar could raise public awareness of conservation needs. Should consider longevity of Yellowcheek Darter remaining an extant species.
- Maurice Jackson – get behind kid on Alligator Gar and then follow up with nominating a non-game species.
- Tony Fernando – purpose of AFS Chapter is to support the public.
- Justin Homan – whatever committee decides, Chapter will still have to vote on the fish.
- Jim Wise – suggested inviting Henry to present at 2019 Chapter meeting.
- Ginny Adams, JJ Gladden, Eric Brinkman – Legislative session next year, need to move forward before 2019 meeting. Committee needs something by October 2018.
- **UPDATED MOTION:** Chapter will draft letter in support of Henry Foster's quest to nominate Alligator Gar and Yellowcheek Darter and then dissolve ad hoc committee.
- **VOTE:** Two nays. Motion passed.
- Eric Brinkman - letter in support last charge. Letter will be signed by the president and will be sent to the legislature. Will cc Henry Foster.
- Support of U of A Subunit inviting Henry Foster to come present and posting videos on website.

2020 SDAFS MEETING COMMITTEE – Ben Batten

- **Committee Members:** Ben Batten (Co-Chair), Tate Wentz (Co-Chair), Steve Lochmann (Program Chair), Ginny Adams (Social Chair), Charlie Gagen (Hospitality Chair), Chris Racey (Communications Chair), Mike Eggleton (Budget/Finance Chair)
- Dates – 20-23 February 2020; Location – Marriott hotel, downtown Little Rock.
- Catfish Technical meeting will be hosting Catfish 2020 two days before SDAFS.
- There are other subcommittee roles to be filled. Sign-up sheets made available following meeting. Over the next few months, the local arrangements committee will be meeting on-site at the Marriott to begin more detailed planning of the meeting.



- **Old Business** – Chapter giving \$5,000 as seed money (Chapter voted to approve seed money at 2017 Business Meeting, MC voted on amount during Fall EXOM meeting).
- Annual Chapter meeting is recommended to be combined with SDAFS meeting and hold separate business meeting for Chapter.

SUBUNIT REPORTS

- Reminder: Chapter will reimburse subunit presidents for travel, lodging, and meals.

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS – Jennifer Main

- Past year's events: 5 Science Nights, Earth Day on Campus, Arkansas State Science Fair, Invasive Species Fish Fry, Joe Hogan fishing derby, Girl Power in STEM at UCA.
- Sold stickers as fundraiser (\$100).
- Upcoming events: Science Day, Earth Day, Girl Power in STEM, Science Fair.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF – Joe Kaiser

- Volunteer opportunities: assist AGFC multiple times, several kids fishing derby, assisting Delta Rivers Nature Center with cleaning fish tanks and at Boo on the Bayou.
- Trying to get more undergraduates involved. Went to undergrad orientation fair.
- Catfish cleaning - 1 lb. of fish cleaned for \$1. USAS partnership with subunit to grow catfish.
- Working with Jacob Martin to plan joint subunit outings – float trips and such.
- Helping with science fairs during spring.
- Provided \$500 donation to Chapter for 2018 meeting.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS – Jacob Martin

- Rebuilding year. Once Jacob got there this year there were only two members, both from Dan Magoulick's lab. Reached out to other labs that work on fish genetics. Now have 8-10 members.
- All graduate students. No fish and wildlife degree track at U of A. Will try to improve at the next campus fair.
- Attending ecology-based clubs and events on campus.
- Fish Friday Seminar - Bill and Edie Matthews gave a day of talks.
- Will host a technique workshop this semester to give experience with fish sampling for those that don't have it.
- Trying to organize something with subunits for joint events and activities.

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY – Tyler Savage

- 35 active members.
- Last year's events and fundraisers:
 - Annual Beast Feast – raised \$1,300;
 - Petit Jean work day - set gates and clean up boat ramps;
 - Joint work day with AGFC - crappie habitat project;



- Spring field day – electrofishing with freshmen;
 - Earth Day tree give away with trees donated by Arkansas Wildlife Federation;
 - Visited local schools and educated students on native fish;
 - Bear Cat Hollow Restoration Project;
 - Bow Jam at Holla Bend Wildlife Refuge;
 - Annual t-shirt sales (\$200); and
 - November trash pick-up.
- Last summer 4 or 5 members interned with AGFC, 2 with MODC, ten technicians at ATU.
- Upcoming events:
 - Stream education and restoration with AGFC; and
 - Outreach to local high school students with U.S. Forest Service.

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – Eric Brinkman (for Brittany McCall)

- Rich Grippo stepped down as subunit sponsor, Brook Fluker replaced.
- AFS subunit separated from Wildlife Society and now they are their own entity on campus.
- Started with ten members and steadily growing.
- Activities Fall 2017 included:
 - Three club meetings to organize fundraising;
 - Tulane University to organize and prep for transfer of University of Louisiana Monroe's fish collection to ASU; will help with cataloging process;
 - Co-hosted event with Upper Delta Region Biodiversity Scholarship program with rod and reel fishing workshop, communicated reasons for permits, fish licenses, and different fishing techniques.
 - Working with AGFC to do habitat restoration and stocking of ASU pavilion pond.

OLD BUSINESS

- See **2020 SDAFS MEETING COMMITTEE** Report for discussion of 2020 Seed money.

2013 PROFIT – Eric Brinkman

- Chapter previously voted to approve educational and continuing education workshops for members and AFS certification and recertification reimbursement (50%) for 2016 and 2017. \$250 have been reimbursed so far.
- MC needs reauthorization if this is to continue.
- **MOTION** to continue funding for one more year – Jeff Quinn. Second – Paul Port. All in favor, no nays. Motion passed.
 - If obtaining Fisheries Professional Certification during 2018, submit receipt to MC for reimbursement.



- Educational workshops so far have included: side scan sonar workshop, two aquatic plant workshops, mussel identification workshop – all of which have been mostly free. Population dynamics and GIS are workshops remaining on list from previous survey.
- Billy Justus - mussel ID workshop well attended and could be done again.
- Goal discussed by Tate Wentz and Eric Brinkman: have Past-President host interim workshop during spring/summer and then one in conjunction with Chapter meeting.
- Eric Brinkman will send Chapter list in ranking order. If anyone has any additions or anything they don't see as a priority anymore.
 - Darrell Bowman suggested redoing poll every two years.
- Steve Lochmann asked if MC is keeping track of how the surplus funds from 2013 are being drawn down. Eric Brinkman replied funds hadn't been designated in the overall budget.
- Mike Eggleton suggested more specificity in population dynamics question on poll. Other options include: how to use mark, R workshop.
- Jessie Green suggested doing more for subunits or providing better incentives to get students to meeting by (e.g., better awards for presentations, travel reimbursements)
- Ginny Adams suggested increasing travel, as that would lighten the burden on students and serve as a larger incentive.
- **If students have presentation to give at SDAFS or AFS and would like to request funding through the Chapter, MC will consider those at any time.**
- Eric Brinkman noted request to provide \$500 in travel to some other meeting, and no one used it. Ginny Adams responded issue sometimes subunits not aware of all the opportunities offered by the Chapter.
- Since 2016, word has gotten out that AR has a surplus of funds from 2013, therefore more requests from other chapters for event funding. MC set a rule of thumb for no more than \$2,000 for other meeting requests and not providing more than \$500 per request.
- Nothing to make other chapters reciprocate but done in good faith they will for 2020 SDAFS.

INCOMING OFFICERS – Tate Wentz

- Dustin Lynch, 2018-2020 Secretary
- Matt Schroeder, President-Elect
- Mike Eggleton, President

NEW BUSINESS – Mike Eggleton

- Presentation of awards to Tate Wentz, Jessie Green
- MC appointed an ad hoc committee for the Stream Heritage Partnership ad-hoc committee. Tate has volunteered to be Chair
- Steve Filipek – Trump administration proposing to rollback offshore drilling regulations. Requested Environmental Affairs Committee work to draft letter and Chapter support.
- **MOTION** for Chapter to donate \$200 to cover 1 Puerto Rico Chapter member's registration to SDAFS 2018 in Puerto Rico – Ben Batten. Second - Steve Lochmann.



- **DISCUSSION**
 - Eric Brinkman reminded Chapter that MC provided \$1,500 donation to meeting, earmarked for any purpose.
 - Ben Batten responded this was about their people, so different deal.
- All in favor, no nays. Motion passed.
- Steve Lochmann will send Casey Cox contact information for where to send check.
- Micah Tindall announced International Snakehead Symposium, 17-19 July 2018, Alexandria VA. Suggestion for information to go on Chapter website.
- JJ Gladden announced that AGFC has current internship posted on website.
- Ginny Adams requested planning future meetings in February, because it makes it difficult to get students prepped with only one week back to school when Chapter holds meeting in January; Wednesday-Friday meeting format is optimal – Bowman reiterated.
 - Mike Eggleton explained the problems with hosting a joint meeting and everything fell through.
 - Many other meeting conflicts discussed, suggested polling for scheduling conflicts.
- Ginny Adams proposed MC consider naming student awards after founding members of Chapter.
- Billy Justus suggested recognizing new members at the start of annual meeting, especially young professionals.
 - Rich Standage recommended adding a new member flag to name badges.
 - Billy wants some biography information; Mike Eggleton suggested we include a quick bio in newsletter.
- **Recommended future meeting registration include option for indicating whether attendance at socials is intended for better headcount on food.**
- TN very interested in a future joint meeting.
- Cody Salzmann suggested having business meeting at the front or in the middle of meeting for future consideration. Would be better attended, could do two full days of talks.
 - Mike Eggleton said it takes a little more planning to schedule presenters that want to be considered for an award vs. not.
- Matt Schroeder suggested 2019 meeting be centrally located to save money. Asked if the cost of TN meeting was costly.
 - Mike replied it would have been affordable.
 - Darrell Bowman seconded idea of centrally located meeting for 2019.
- **MOTION** to adjourn – Eric Brinkman. Second – Justin Stroman.