



# RYBA

## Newsletter of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Year 2001 No. 2  
May Issue

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### READ THIS!

#### Editors' Message

We pre-empt our regularly scheduled programming (President's Message) for this important notice. We are again surveying members to determine your interest in going to an electronic newsletter format. Each newsletter costs \$100-200 to print and mail. We also pay \$125 a year for a non-profit bulk mail permit. Going fully electronic would likely save us about \$700 per year. And then there's this little matter of making things easy on me (and future editors). I believe we should, and can, maintain the printed copy option, but I would like to go electronic if a large percentage of members are willing. Please let me know your choice, ELECTRONIC (e-mail attachment) or HARD COPY (mailed). If you do not receive this question by e-mail, call (612-624-3019) or e-mail

([lm@fw.umn.edu](mailto:lm@fw.umn.edu)) me with a response.

#### President's Message

by Brad Parsons

I recently dusted off a copy of the survey the Chapter paid for to gain some insight into what individuals working in fisheries related fields in Minnesota thought of the AFS in general and the Minnesota Chapter in particular. We paid for this survey to get opinions from people as to what would make them more likely to join the Chapter and become active participants in the Chapter. This survey was completed in 1996, so five years later seems to be a good time to look back on what it said.

About 36% of people interviewed were members of the AFS, but another 36% said they were more likely to join the AFS if they got an invitation. The moral of the story, ASK SOMEONE. Item 7 on our 2001 Action Agenda is to increase Chapter and Parent Society membership, and item 7a asks every member to personally contact two individuals to invite them to join the Chapter. We have over 200 members. If even one out of five of us is successful in recruiting a new member, that would be 40 new people, 40 new perspectives.

The survey indicated that bosses can be especially influential recruiters. Exactly 44% of respondents said they would be more likely to participate in the AFS if their boss encouraged them to be more active. Also, 66% said they would be more likely to attend annual Chapter meetings if their bosses specifically encouraged them

to do so. Attending the annual meeting is a great first step. The survey showed that 41% of those interviewed who had worked in the fisheries field for more than 10 years had not attended a Chapter meeting in the last 10 years. Also, 53% of those who had worked in the fisheries field for less than 10 years said they had not attended a Chapter meeting. The people and their ideas are out there, we just need to ask.

What do we tell these people, how do we sell the Chapter? The survey gives us some insight there as well. Nearly 60% said they would be more likely to actively participate in Chapter activities if the Chapter was more active in educating the public about fisheries issues. Our public education committee, chaired by John Hiebert, has an excellent display that has been used at the state fair, school programs, career days, non-traditional universities, and several other places. I also know of many other members who continually educate the public, not only through their jobs but as AFS members

The survey also showed that 37% of respondents said active participation would be more likely if public agencies were more concerned about the Chapter's participation on issues of public policy, and responded positively to that participation. In recent years, our Chapter has really stepped up on that front. Our participation on the Fish and Wildlife Legislative alliance has been crucial. Just in the last two months we have been deeply involved with several public policy issues. We are heavily working on the Devils Lake/Garrison Diversion situation, led by resolutions committee chair Jeff Weiss. Past

Presidents Mark Hove and Don Pereira worked on DNR Commissioner Garber regarding the yellow perch bag limits issue. Although he did not support the 20 daily/ 30 possession stance we wanted, I think our participation was crucial in getting his support for 20/40 rather than the 20/50 the legislature wanted. We have just recently worked hard on the Pope County, MN, commissioners trying to get them to kill a terribly ill-advised agricultural drainage ditch project that destroys wetlands and severely threatens an excellent fishery in Lake Emily. Although the commissioners have not yet killed the project, the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy was impressed by our stance. They are very interested in our expertise should they file a lawsuit regarding the project. My position as a research scientist within DNR does not technically allow me to get involved with this project, but as an AFS Chapter member I can and we can. We can make a difference in these real-world aquatic habitat issues.

Our influence will only grow as we get larger. Tell your employees and colleagues what we are doing. There is strength in numbers. Let's increase ours.

SEE EDITORIAL BY BILL THORN LATER IN THIS ISSUE – ED.

## Chapter Scholarship Update

Those of you who were able to attend the business meeting at our annual meeting in Fargo in March will remember the lengthy discussion regarding our scholarship program. For those of you who were not, here is a brief history, as I remember it.

Over the past decade or so, our Chapter has done quite well financially. The primary reason for this success has been an excellent raffle at our annual meeting, and **ESPECIALLY** our outstanding continuing education program. Currently, we sit with over \$24,000 in our coffers. We have spent a

considerable amount of money in recent years on very worthy causes - supporting student travel to meetings, underwriting portions of numerous workshops, publications, and causes, and our membership in the Fish and Wildlife Legislative Alliance. But we still had a lot of money.

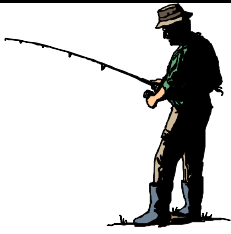
A survey of the membership regarding use of this money found overwhelming support for the Chapter to support a scholarship. At our 2000 annual meeting in St. Cloud, we passed a motion setting aside \$10,000 to endow one \$500 scholarship per year. Then-President Mark Hove, with the help of past-president Bruce Vondracek set out to find the best way to do this. It turned out we could do it rather easily. All we had to do was give the money to the University of Minnesota scholarship fund, and all would be taken care of. The problem with this was then the scholarship would only be available to a U of M student. Mark then found a few foundations that would handle the process for us, so any student in Minnesota would be eligible. The problem with this option is it would have cost us up to \$500 for the service. We discussed another option, that being creating another endowment for the MNSCU system. My problem with this option is that we then would have reduced our coffers below \$5,000, which would not leave us much cushion against a blizzard wipe-out of our annual meeting, or some other unforeseen expense.

Therefore, at this years annual meeting we took a new approach. We rescinded the original motion creating an endowment at the U of M, and voted to award scholarships ourselves with the help of a new ad-hoc committee. The committee will be chaired by past-president Bruce Vondracek, and several people have already volunteered to serve on the committee, including Jay Hatch, Henry Drewes, Mark Hove, Jerry Grant, and Linda Erickson-Eastwood. Obviously, our academic Excom representative, Don Cloutman, and our Students committee chair, Deb Brister, will also serve. There is always room for more. If interested, please contact Bruce or me.

I am charging this committee to: 1) review our previously adopted criteria, 2) suggest changes or enhancements, 3) prepare an application form, 4) conduct outreach so all eligible students are aware of this opportunity, 5) review all received applications, and 6) make recommendations to the Excom for final awards. Charges 1-3 will need to be completed by mid-September. Charges 4-6 must be completed by the end of November, so the Excom can meet in December to decide the winner(s) in time for she/he/them to plan to attend our next annual meeting in January. We obviously have the brainpower and commitment to accomplish this, and I really look forward to the presentations to our inaugural winner(s)!!

To review, the criteria we currently have in place involve a two-tiered approach. Tier I criteria must be met: a) major in fisheries, water resources, aquatic biology, or aquatic environmental science; b) junior or senior undergraduate student; and c) MN Chapter member (remember students, this is free!). Tier II criteria suggest preference for: a) intern experience or other experience in fisheries, water resources, aquatic biology, or aquatic environmental science; b) from a minority group within the profession; c) Minnesota resident; d) AFS Parent Society membership. As I said, the committee will review these present criteria to see if they can be improved.

If you have questions or comments about our scholarship program, please feel free to ask! Just give me a call, or send an e-mail. If I don't have the answer, I will put you in touch with someone on the committee who does have the answer, or we will ask the committee to come up with an answer. Make your feelings known, or better yet volunteer to help with the process. The more viewpoints we can incorporate, the better the final product will be.



## Officer and Excom Reports

### DNR - Joe Ostazeski

#### Bag limits

As my first crack at this I'm going to pass the buck and suggest that anyone wanting a more complete update on the ongoing process in revising the state's sport fish bag limits visit the DNR web page

[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fish\\_and\\_wildlife/baglimits](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fish_and_wildlife/baglimits). The next step will be a meeting of the advisory committee, a sub group of the Roundtable, on May 1 to take into consideration input from the statewide public meetings that have been taking place this past winter. The advisory committee and the DNR will finalize and issue bag limit proposals sometime in May. Any changes will take effect no sooner than May 2002.

The DNR has already proposed to lower the possession bag limit of yellow perch from 50 to 40, while retaining the daily bag limit at 20. This change would become effective Dec 1, 2001. A recent DNR news release announcing the limit changes provides context for this decision ([http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/information\\_center/news\\_releases/mr986327932.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/information_center/news_releases/mr986327932.html)). The leadership of the Minnesota Chapter of American Fisheries Society, on behalf of the Chapter, sent a letter to DNR Commissioner Allen Garber supporting a reduction to a daily/possession bag limit of 20/30.

#### Hiring

Qualifications for the entry-level professional position, Natural Resources Specialist, have changed to require a Bachelor's degree in addition to course work requirements. There will still be a written exam to qualify for a Fisheries Natural Resources

Specialist position. The next exam will be offered on May 7<sup>th</sup> with interviews scheduled to follow on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The DNR has also changed its application and hiring process to one that utilizes a resume-based keyword searchable system called Skill Search. Applicants submit a resume, which is entered into the Skill Search system. The resume will remain active for one year. When there is a vacancy, Skill Search outputs a list of "qualified" applicants. This list and resumes are then forwarded to the hiring supervisor for evaluation, interviewing and hiring. Another way for applicants to apply for a specific vacancy is to submit a cover letter and resume directly to the hiring supervisor. This is called self-nomination.



## Committee Reports

### Issues - by Mark Hove

I have been composing letters with the help of Don Pereira, Gary Botzek of the MN Fish & Wildlife Legislative Alliance, chapter officers, and the Executive Committee encouraging legislators to consider our chapter's opinion on various resource management issues. We have sent a letter to Commissioner Garber and members of Minnesota's Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee and Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee to consider setting the yellow perch bag limit at 20 daily/ 30 bag limit. We have also submitted a letter to these committee members that discuss the potential deleterious increase in fishing pressure that the proposed two fishing line rule might bring. I have been working with Jeff Weiss, Resolution Committee Chair, and

other chapter members on a letter addressing the proposed Garrison Water Diversion proposal in North Dakota. Several of the water diversion proposals under consideration include moving water from the Missouri River (Gulf of Mexico basin) to the Red River of the North (Hudson Bay basin). The proposals include the laudable plan to kill all organisms in the water to be transferred. However, accidents do occur and once organisms have been transferred they could reproduce and disperse themselves in the Hudson Bay basin. The Hudson Bay basin holds important fisheries to Minnesota not to mention our friends in Canada. Please contact me if there is an issue you are interested in the Chapter addressing or if you would like to participate in the Issues Committee.

### Awards - by Melissa Drake

ATTENTION Chapter members! Did you join the Chapter prior to 1976? Or, do you know someone who has been a Chapter member for at least 25 years? If so, please let me know. We want to recognize those individuals that have made a long-term commitment to the Chapter.

Also, it's not too soon to start nominating your fellow compatriots for Chapter Awards. The Chapter offers two different awards - the Award of Excellence and Special Recognition Awards. The prestigious Award of Excellence can be given each year to one outstanding individual for their contributions to Minnesota's fisheries. Special Recognition Awards are given to Chapter members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to accomplish the Chapter's goals. There are lots of people out there working hard to make the world a better place for fish - don't let their efforts go unnoticed!

To nominate that special someone for an award or to let us know who has been a member for at least 25 years please contact Melissa Drake at 651-772-7966 or [melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us).

## Resolutions - by Jeff Weiss

Mark Hove and I have been examining the Garrison/Devil's Lake Diversion in North Dakota as an issue of concern to the Minnesota Chapter of the AFS. Many aspects of this project are of great concern to fisheries professionals in Minnesota, Missouri, and Manitoba. This project has been proposed for over 20 years and may very well become a reality in the near future. The State of North Dakota plans to construct an out from Devil's Lake into the Sheyenne River, which is a tributary to the Red River. Plans also call for constructing an inlet from the Missouri River into Devil's Lake. Water levels in Devil's Lake have been rising at the rate of three feet per year and the lake has risen by approximately 20 to 25 feet. This is causing flooding of homes, businesses, and roads.

We are concerned about the transfer of water from Devil's Lake to the Red River Basin. Devil's Lake has been isolated from the Hudson Bay and Missouri River drainages for hundreds of years. The potential interbasin transfer of fishes, fish diseases, and other pathogens poses a threat to the Red River and Lake Winnipeg fisheries. Water quality in Devil's Lake is characterized by high sulphate and dissolved solids and discharge would degrade water quality in the Red River. Flow would increase in the Sheyenne River, which may increase erosion and thus sedimentation in the Red River resulting in potential habitat degradation. There is also concern for the discharge of heavy metals and other pollutants from Devil's Lake.

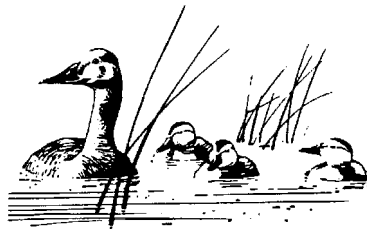
In June 1999, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) stated that none of the three outlet plans reviewed showed a favorable cost:benefit ratio. The COE concluded that an outlet is not the necessary or appropriate solution at this time. According to modeling conducted by the St. Paul district of the COE, Devil's Lake would not overflow until 2017 or 2018 if the current wet cycle continues. Furthermore, the USGS has calculated that the probability of a natural

overflow from Devil's Lake is less than one percent (0.6%).

The Devil's Lake Diversion would be in violation of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 between Canada and the United States. The State of Missouri and the Province of Manitoba have entered a Memorandum of Understanding concerning the transfer of water between the Missouri and Hudson Bay watersheds. The MOU makes it clear that both parties are opposed to the Devil's Lake outlet and the Garrison diversion.

An environmental impact statement (EIS) has not been completed for the project as is required under the National Environmental Policy Act. A revised Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS was published in the Federal Register on December 22, 2000. The COE is examining alternatives to the diversion based on the assumption that lake levels will continue to rise and the overflow of Devil's Lake is imminent. The COE ignores their own predictions that show the lake would not overflow until 2017 and that this is a very low probability event.

We may be contacting the Parent Society concerning a resolution in opposition to the Devil's Lake/Garrison Diversion. This project is international in scope and involves federal and state agencies and the potential expenditure of \$600 million or more. Stay tuned.



Submitted Editorial -  
by Bill Thorn

## CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP EFFORTS: RECRUITMENT OR RETENTION?

Increasing membership has long been an objective of the Minnesota chapter. Over the years, our attempts to recruit students have been almost unanimously accepted by the membership, and seem to be the top priority of many members. However, I propose that our chapter might benefit more from emphasizing retention.

I believe that our academic professionals recruit most members. They teach students that AFS is part of your professional life, and most graduates leave school with AFS as a part of their professional life. However, after employment with MNDNR, many do not change from student to active members and drop AFS membership. Chapter officers frequently discuss the huge pool of potential members in MNDNR, but I have heard very few discussions about retention.

Why do MNDNR employees drop AFS membership? I suggest four reasons:

First of all, dollars. Perhaps the cheap student membership is an inappropriate standard for professional life. Conventional wisdom is that MNDNR should pay for membership. However, membership implies professionalism and **an agency cannot buy professionalism**. Many of us are aware of some proven methods for MNDNR to more actively assist employees. An annual memo encouraging meeting attendance is not good enough; MNDNR fisheries administrators and supervisors should show by example that attendance and membership is important. There must be creative ways to tie financial gain and professional recognition to AFS membership, certification, and activity.

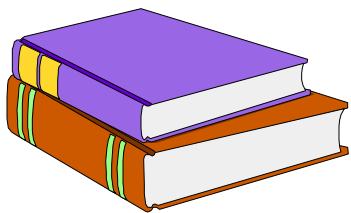
Second, is the "one-way street" syndrome. I wish I had a dollar for every time I heard someone say, "what can AFS do for me." Professional membership is a two-way street where members "give" and "take", not a one-

way street where members only “take.” To paraphrase John Fitzgerald Kennedy: ask not what AFS can do for you, but what you can do for AFS.

Third, MNDNR has to effectively convince their employees that continual learning is an expected part of the job, and that AFS is the largest source of information available to them. The NCD technical committee meetings are examples where the informal networks formed at these meetings are invaluable to the department. Also, make known the many numerous examples where AFS members have “made a difference.”

Fourth is acceptance of the information society. Former MNDNR Commissioner Joe Alexander, just before he retired, stated that we now produce a service, in addition to the traditional product. We all know what our traditional product is. The service is knowledge: both to do our jobs better and to share with others.

My take home message is that the chapter could benefit from leaving recruitment to the academic professionals, and work with MNDNR administrators and supervisors to increase member retention.



## Meeting Minutes

### Minnesota Chapter American Fisheries Society Annual Business Meeting March 6, 2001

President Mark Hove brought the meeting to order at 3:45 PM on Wednesday, March 7, 2001. Those present included: Mark Hove, Michael Duval, Gerald Grant, Rod Pierce, Ray Newman, Gary Siesennop, Greg Busacker, David Weitzel, Don Cloutman, Mike McInerney, Harlan Fierstine, Neal Mundahl, Bruce Vondracek, Jay Hatch, Karl Koller,

Cindy Tomcko, Edie Evarts, Keith Reeves, Arnie Ostgarden, Donna Dustin, John Frank, Charles Anderson, Bill Thorn, Larry Kallemeyn, Ginny Snarski, Henry Drewes, Ray Valley, Linda Erickson-Eastwood, Brad Parsons, Paul Radomski, John Hiebert, Mary Negus, Melissa Drake, Jack Wingate, Julie Westerlund, Calub Shavlik, Shannon Fisher, Gerald Albert, Dale Logsdon, Don Pereira, Tim Cross, Andy Edwards, Mike Larson, Tom Groshens, Brian Borkholder, Tom Heinrich, Dennis Topp, Kevin Stauffer, Brad Koenen, Daryl Ellison, Darryl Bathel, Brian Nerbonne, Brian Healy, Jeff Sluiter, and Tim Brastrup.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the 2000 annual business meeting, by Greg Busacker and second by Ira Adelman. The vote passed. One minor correction was made to the minutes. Last year, the chapter was designated the most “active” chapter in the division by the Northcentral Division. The word “active” was mistakenly omitted.

President’s Report: Mark visited with numerous college students and faculty regarding what the AFS, MN Chapter could do for them and about membership in the society. Students were interested in what it would be like to be graduate students. He also found that students were interested in the web site and would potentially visit it. The president did not act on the procedures action item because the procedures chair left the position. The chapter’s position paper was distributed to members. Workshops were held. The president found that visits with farmers were beneficial because it was found that the farmers were interested in and concerned about loading nutrients and pollution to rivers downstream and the ocean and its affect on the fisheries there.

Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer’s report was read. The balance in the CD is \$11,943.95. The business checking account has \$483.04 and the money market account has \$11,019.70. Total disbursements were \$5,299.83 and receipts were \$9,664.35 for a net income of \$4,364.52.

### Committee Reports:

Brian Borkholder – Open:  
No new business.

Julie Westerlund – Awards:  
Julie thanked the paper and poster presenters and evaluators. She would like to know who is a 25-year member because there are 25-year awards. There were no nominations for the Award of Excellence this year and reminds everyone that they can nominate someone any time of the year.

Gerald Grant – Continuing Education. There was a workshop on Geofluviomorphological workshop was well attended and will be help again this year. There will be a field identification course for non-game fish, invertebrates and mussels in late September, 2001, possibly at the Coon Rapids Dam. There will be a possible third workshop on statistics next winter.

Tom Burri – Fund Raising:  
The T-shirt sales and raffle prize drive were successful. Thanks to all in the chapter.

Bruce Vondracek and Don Pereira – FWLA: FWLA is lobbying for several bills introduced in the legislature this year. The lobbyist is trying to make sure the in lieu of lottery tax is being given to the DNR instead of other state agencies. There is a desire to have the lobbyists efforts trackable on the web so interested members can ask specific questions and relay concerns directly to the legislators on those committees. There will be a request for a greater amount of money for the FWLA in the form of a motion.

Jeff Weiss – Resolutions: It looks like there will be an Army Corps of Engineers permit for the dredging in the Mississippi River at Little Falls. There will be a letter to the NRCS to do projects to mitigate the effects of the project. Please notify Jeff if you have any issues that should be discussed by the Excom.

Brian Healy – Membership:  
Brian assumed the duties of this committee following the resignation from the post by Fred Henson. Brian said there were 105 registrants, of which 19 were new members and 7 students.

Melissa Drake –  
Nominations: The election results are

in. Following are the results: Excom Members Open, Pat Brown; Academic, Dan Cloutman; DNR, Joe Ostezeski; and Federal, Ginny Snarski. The President-elect is Brian Borkholder and Secretary-Treasurer is Donna Dustin.

John Hiebert – Public Education: John visited St. Johns and St. Cloud State Universities to discuss the role of AFS and fisheries biology. He set up the display at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference.

Dennis Topp – Rivers, NCD: The workshop on habitat remediation was supported by the chapter and he offered his gratitude for the help.

#### Current Business:

The endowment/scholarship program was discussed. Even though the measure passed the 2000 membership vote, new information indicated that further discussion was needed and that another proposal was needed. There are three new options: 1) Chapter organize a scholarship for 1 or 2 schools, 2) give \$10,000 to MnSCU or 3) the chapter organize one scholarship for the U of M. Discussion included the reality that that would mean increased workload. Bruce Vondracek indicated that it might not be a significant increase in workload, that there may not be more than 40 applications and that it may take only one to two hours to review them. Some criteria in a first tier might be the requirement for the applicant to be a fisheries aquatic biology student, a chapter member, and an underrepresented group. A second tier might include being a Minnesota resident and a parent society member. Paul Radomski made a motion to send \$10,000 to MnSCU for an endowment using the criteria listed. It was second by Bruce Vondracek. Jay Hatch stated that the return on the principle should be adequate to sustain the endowment. Ira Adelman explained that the recent 5.5% interest is sustaining other endowments currently. Another criteria was suggested that it should be graduate or undergraduate, not both because of the overwhelming competition in favor of the graduate students, potentially. Brad Parsons made a friendly amendment to add only undergraduate. Jack Wingate

asked whether the chapter could spend \$2,000 total annually for two scholarships. A point was made that the chapter could change the criteria at its discretion, according to Bruce Vondracek. Larry Kallemeyn suggested that there be a vote on the motion or start another motion. A vote was held to send \$10,000 to the U of M. The vote failed. A motion was made to send at least one \$500 scholarship to any undergraduate in Minnesota interested in fisheries as a career. Second by Bruce Vondracek. The discussion that followed included a question by Mike Duval as to whether the money would come from interest or principle. There was a friendly amendment for either interest or principle. There will be a committee selected to review applications. A vote on the amendment passed. Ira Adelman suggested that it would be difficult to set up the criteria so the president should appoint a committee to discuss that and establish a process. A motion was made by Larry Kallemeyn to withdraw the scholarship proposal passed in 2000, second by Greg Busacker. A vote passed.

Installation of President Brad Parsons, escorted by Jack Wingate and Don Pereira. Past President Mark Hove was awarded for his hard work and service.

Copies of President Parson's budget were distributed. Brad recognized the work of outgoing Excom members Jay Hatch, Deserae Hendrickson, Chantel Cook, Brian Borkholder, Julie Westerlund and Tim Brastrup.

The meeting in 2002 location and theme will be discussed at the Excom meetings. There was a discussion about possibly doing it jointly or alone.

Brad's Action Agenda. Brad explained each item, its context and details. Action Agenda item #5, the FWLA, was discussed. Bruce Vondracek suggested an increase from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to support the FWLA lobbyist. Don Pereira mentioned that one issue might not be within our interest; that of the bill to

legalize hunting bear with dogs. DNR has stated a need to harvest more bear. It is apparently a social issue; a fair chase issue. Our vote in FWLA can be abstained. The chapter is one of 9 member groups on the FWLA. Paul Radomski made a motion to increase the dues to \$1,250, second by Mark Hove. Discussion included a friendly amendment for \$1,500 dues and in so doing, will make it in multiples of seat votes (1 vote/\$500). A vote passed the motion.

Action Agenda Item #6 included an addition of subpart b.

Greg Busacker made a motion to approve the budget, second by Larry Kallemeyn and a vote passed. A motion was made by Ginny Snarski to approve the action agenda, second by Mark Hove. No discussion. Vote passed.

A welcome was made to Bill Franzin. Bill spoke about a resolution at the NCD about Black Carp. He suggested that it would help to make a resolution to the NCD in order to make a resolution to the parent society.

Other: DNR is trying to make suitable resolution on Yellow Perch bag limits issue. Rule making policy process is that it is on Commissioner Garber's desk to sign and support a 20 daily/30 possession limit. A motion was made by Don Pereira to draft a letter to Commissioner Garber in support of the measure. It was second by Paul Radomski. Little discussion followed and a vote passed the measure.

A motion was made by Jay Hatch to adjourn the meeting. It as second by everyone. The meeting was adjourned at 5:34.

Submitted by Tim Brastrup, Outgoing Secretary-Treasurer MN Chapter, AFS.

**MN AFS Excom Meeting**  
17 April 2001  
Brainerd Public Library

President Brad Parsons called the meeting to order at 11:20 AM. Officers and Excom Members present

were Brad Parsons, Donna Dustin, John Hiebert, Joe Ostazeski, Loren Miller, Brain Borkholder, Mark Hove, Melissa Drake, Virginia Snarski, Don Cloutman, Jeff Weiss

7 voting Excom members present, quorum met.

### Committee reports:

*Issues:* Mark Hove reported that he has drafted a letter to DNR Commissioner Garber urging him to reduce the yellow perch bag limit. Mark is drafting a similar letter to legislators asking them to support 20 daily/40 in possession, (the DNR's new limit) rather than legislation for 20/50. He also sent a letter to legislators arguing against the two fishing lines proposal.

Mark has also been looking into North Dakota's proposed Garrison diversion, which would divert water to the Red River (Hudson Basin) from the Missouri River (Mississippi Basin). North Dakota is also proposing a diversion of Devils Lake to the Red River. Mark has talked to the Canadian consulate and Ray Newman and is drafting a letter in opposition to these projects. The major issues he will address are 1) biota transfer between basins - Eurasian milfoil, zander, whirling disease etc. 2) Water quality issues - nutrient loading, erosion and sediment loading, salinity and pollutants from Devils Lake. Mark is planning to send copies of this letter to many parties as it is an international issue.

Virginia Snarski made a motion to have Mark send this letter which was seconded by Don Cloutman. Discussion: We discussed helping Mark compose the letter and he agreed to e-mail a draft to the Excom. Members will review it and reply with additional suggestions for who should receive copies of the letter. Mark expected that the draft will be done in next week or two. Motion passed unanimously.

*Resolutions:* Jeff Weiss has also been working on the Garrison Diversion and Devils Lake issue. He reports that both Missouri and Manitoba are

against these projects. Water quality from Devils Lake exceeds the quality standards for the Cheyenne and Red Rivers, so this discharge would effectively add pollutants to the basin. Jeff is putting together a resolution on this. Brad suggested that the North Central Division meeting in December would be the next step for such a resolution. Brad has been contacted by Bill Franzin (NCD President) regarding the Red River Steering Team, which is addressing a predicted water shortage in the Red River Basin by 2050. The Garrison diversion is one option to address this. Other options are more dams in the system. There was discussion of where the Dakota chapter stands on these issues and Mark agreed to contact their new president to find out.

*Awards:* Melissa Drake suggested that each Excom rep should nominate someone for an award - so that there will actually be a selection process - rather than giving the award to the one person nominated! There was agreement that this is a good idea. There have been difficulties keeping up with the 25 year award - Missy will work with Brain Healy to get this figured out.

*Membership* - no report today but Brad has it for the newsletter.

*Nominations:* Shannon Fisher is interested in chairing this committee.

*Long Range Plan:* no report

*Education:* John Hiebert is working on a slide library with Scott Gustafson. They are looking for public domain images and are planning to put them on CD as well as in slide form. They hope to eventually put them on the internet and Mark Hove suggested University of Minnesota site might be available.

The State Fair display needs some modifications such as adding display holders. Rainbow signs has not responded to questions about the sign/display so far. Brad commented that we need something done by State Fair and John felt that will not be a problem.

*Students* - no report

### Ad Hoc Committees:

*Historian:* Brad has been contacted by someone who is interested in being our historian. We discussed what the historian would do. Suggestions were to organize the files, help with 25-year awards, record stories, and add some more history to the procedures manual. Talk to people about their memories of the chapter starting with past presidents since we have a list of who they are.

*Fishing Roundtable:* Mark Hove - nothing new to report

*Fund-raising* - no report

*FWLA Delegate:* Representatives not present but Brad has a summary of bills they are working on. FWLA does support the 3/16 sales tax proposal although they do recognize the difficulty of the committee part, they feel this can be handled with legislation and that it won't necessarily be enacted in its current form. They are opposed to the 20 daily/50 possession bill for yellow perch. Mark Hove would like to see more FWLA information, such as current legislative topics on the web page. Brad will ask Don & Bruce to forward information to Wansuk (webmaster).

*Continuing Ed:* Brad reporting for Gerry Grant - everything is set for the stream workshop in June, there are still a few openings but it will likely fill up soon. The September workshop is on track (fish, mussel, and invertebrate identification). The WI AFS chapter is offering a fish ID course in June in La Crosse, on the Mississippi river. They have invited a MN chapter member to attend. Loren will put an announcement in the newsletter.

*Newsletter:* Loren Miller - the publishing schedule is May, September, November, and January. Loren is willing to stay on as editor for now. Please get items in soon for the May issue. Printing and mailing costs are averaging about \$120 each issue for 200 copies. Loren has been

folding and mailing them by hand and may have to pay and additional \$70 to have this done by the printer some months if too busy. Past editors spent about \$180 with different printers. We discussed the pros and cons of publishing the newsletter electronically: Do enough people have web access? Could/should we put it on the web and send e-mail announcements out instead of mailing? If we do smaller mailings (<200) we would not be eligible for bulk mail, but it does cost \$100/yr for the bulk permit and election ballots would still have to be mailed. There was consensus to resurvey the membership to see if an electronic newsletter would be acceptable to enough members that it would be cost effective.

*Treasurer's report:* As of April 17 2001 the balance in the Certificate of Deposit was \$12,370.60, the balance in the Money Market Checking Account was \$12,001.53, and the balance in the Business Checking Account was \$366.90. Brian Borkholder brought up the issue of money market funds as a better place for our money. These funds would pay more than the CD, and the money is accessible. Donna will check on the current CD to see what would we lose by pulling money out of the CD now. There was discussion of the safety of money market funds and Brian said that they are insured by a money market insurer and they are very safe. Janus and T. Rowe Price allow non profits to set up these funds.

Mark Hove made a motion to have Brian and Donna evaluate the chapter's finances and act to reallocate them to chapter's benefit. The motion was seconded by Don Cloutman. Discussion - Brad said that if the money market fund is as safe as a CD and will earn more we should look into it. He also wondered if there would be any problems with our tax exempt status and Brian said there is. Loren suggested that if such a change is made that it must be clear that this is a safe investment, and that we are not putting the chapter money into the stock market. Brian reiterated that we would increase our interest return plus

we have access to the money. Motion passed unanimously.

*Annual meeting report:* From former Secretary Treasurer Tim Brastrup - The annual meeting in Fargo generated total receipts of \$8,016.32 (\$2,700.32 from the fund raiser, and \$5,300 from Registrations). Expenses totaled \$4,871.26 (\$1,410.19 from the fund raiser, \$3,431.27 for the meeting facility, \$29.80 for supplies). Net profit for the 2001 meeting was \$3,145.06.

### **Tech Committees**

*Walleye* - Todd Kolander cannot attend this year's walleye technical committee meeting.

### **Old Business:**

*Scholarship:* Brad summarized the annual meeting discussion of scholarship issue. This discussion centered on criteria and it turns out that criteria had been discussed by the Excom in 2000, but it does not appear that they were passed. Criteria discussed at that meeting consisted of a 2 tiered system: Tier I (required to qualify) 1. undergrad applicant would have a major in fisheries, water resources, aquatic biology, etc. 2. applicant will be a junior or senior 3. applicant will be a chapter member. Tier II (used to rank applicants): Preference for intern or other relevant experience, minority member, member of parent society, Minnesota resident. There was no list of what we might want on the application - i.e. essays, transcripts, etc. The committee on scholarships should meet and sort out these issues by summer so we can award at least one at this year's annual meeting. Membership on this committee is open to anyone. The Excom will have to approve and may amend any criteria that the committee comes up with. The Excom will vote on recipients. Mark Hove suggested that Bruce Vondracek be in charge of this committee as he has experience with scholarships. Virginia wondered how the scholarship will be advertised and the group agreed that the committee should also plan for advertising. As the academic representative, Don asked if we have a

list of schools with fisheries related programs. He will check web sites to see where programs are being offered. Mark will send him a list that he has to start with and asked that the web address links be added to our web site when they are compiled. Brad will contact Bruce and charge the Scholarship Committee with answering the questions outlined.

### **New Business:**

*New Member Update:* Brad brought up the agreement from the annual meeting to hold a raffle for new members of the parent society, where 1 out of 10 will win their parent society dues back. We discussed whether those who had already paid dues at the time of the meeting should be eligible and the consensus was that they should not. Few Excom members have made contacts with chapter members about joining the parent society.

*Australian Biologist* - Bill Thorn has an Australian biologist visiting Minnesota in June. Bill has asked if the chapter could present him with some kind of MN related gift (this may be reciprocal for something the Australians did for him on a recent visit). Brian Borkholder was assigned to present the Aussie with this gift as he is President-elect and near Duluth, which is a planned stop on the tour. Missy suggested that Bill should write up a summary of this visit for the newsletter and the group agreed. Brad will look into getting a Minnesota fish t-shirt for the gift.

*2002 Annual Meeting* President-elect Borkholder is leaning toward Duluth for the location and has had requests for a Minnesota only meeting. The DNR training session is at the end of February and we agreed that early January would work best for the AFS Chapter Meeting. Brian will try for January 15-17. The Aquarium in Duluth is willing to have a social there (waiving the \$900 fee) but we have to use Bellisio's for food, which is fairly expensive. The social will be sponsored by Fond du Lac, and one break will be sponsored by the 1854 Authority. The Excom agreed that the Inn at Lake Superior looks best for the

meeting. Room rates would be \$56 government / \$69 corporate with a full hot breakfast included, along with an evening campfire on the beach. Loren suggested we might have a session focusing on tribal biologists/issues and others endorsed that idea. Brian was commended for the progress he is making on the meeting.

*Pope County Ditch 29:* Brad Parsons has drafted a letter to the Pope County Commissioners asking for an unbiased Environmental Impact Statement for this project. He points out that an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) does not address the fact that new tile/drainage will almost certainly be added to the ditch after it is built, therefore the EAW underestimates potential sediment and nutrient loading. He also analyzed the economic value of the Lake Emily fishery, which would be directly impacted by the new ditch and discussed the impact of ditches on flooding and nutrient loading downstream of the immediate watershed. A movement was made by Virginia Snarski and seconded by Brian Borkholder to endorse Brad's letter to the Commissioners and it passed unanimously.

Don Cloutman moved and Virginia Snarski seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Submitted by  
Donna Dustin  
MN Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

## Upcoming Events

### Esocids Tech Committee

The summer meeting will be held July 9th (afternoon) through July 11th (12:00) at the Kemp Natural Resources Station on Lake Tomahawk (Woodruff, Wisconsin). This beautiful setting in Northern Wisconsin promises to set the stage for an informative, excellent meeting, and a great time! Contact Paul Cunningham for more information.

CunniP@mail01.dnr.state.wi.us

**63rd. MIDWEST FISH AND WILDLIFE CONFERENCE**  
Marriott Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa  
DECEMBER 9-12, 2001  
[www.state.ia.us/midwest2001](http://www.state.ia.us/midwest2001)

Sponsors: Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Iowa State University

Conference theme: TRANSITIONS  
IN THE CONSERVATION  
LANDSCAPE

This is the FIRST CALL FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS AND POSTERS. In continuation of the Conference's strong tradition of high-quality professional presentations, the Conference Program Committee invites submissions of papers and posters based on research and management experiences relevant to the region.

Abstracts of 200 words or less must be submitted electronically as indicated on the "Abstract Submission" form at this website. We expect the form to be available by June 1. Do not send printed abstracts or attached email files. Abstracts must be received by July 15.

**MFWC Symposium "Approaches to Understanding and Restoring Habitat in Lotic Systems".-- call for papers**

The Rivers and Streams Technical Committee of the NCD-AFS is sponsoring a symposium for resource managers involved in understanding habitat's function within the stream ecosystem. Resource managers in the NCD routinely collect habitat data for many purposes including: as a component of biological assessment or use designation, to identify factors limiting fish populations/production, to identify areas in need of habitat improvement, and to assess effectiveness of habitat improvement projects or management policies. The value of habitat data for these purposes depends on the reliability of collected data and how data are interpreted. The symposium will begin with an overview of how jurisdictions in the AFS north-central division evaluate habitat and restoration techniques currently

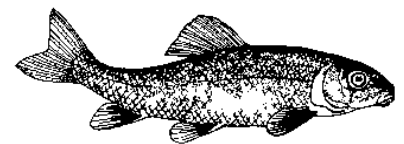
implemented on the ground. Subsequent papers will address how habitat information is used to make management decisions (e.g., stream classification and habitat indices), guide practice implementation, and evaluate the effectiveness of management efforts (i.e., monitoring). Case studies will demonstrate how habitat information guides practice implementation and evaluation of practice effectiveness.

Authors should submit title, presenter information, and abstract by JUNE 29. Please contact Joel ([jcross@dnrmail.state.il.us](mailto:jcross@dnrmail.state.il.us)) or Ann ([ahogan@dnrmail.state.il.us](mailto:ahogan@dnrmail.state.il.us)) for more information on submitting abstracts.

## Of Interest

Continuing Education Courses: The AFS Continuing Education Classes are being given on Sunday, August 19th, 2001 from 8 AM to 5PM at the Crowne Plaza Pheonix during the AFS 131st Annual Meeting. Don't miss this opportunity to attend! Please note the River Morphology class is 1.5 days and is on Sat. Aug. 18th. Registration is available through the annual meeting registration form in FISHERIES magazine, or on the web <http://www.fisheries.org/annual2001/ce.htm>.

Renew your membership online at <http://www.fisheries.org/Membership.shtml>



## On the Underside

**Contributed by Charles Anderson**

1. Frankly, Scallop, I Don't Give a Clam. (seen on Cape Cod)

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p>2. Wrinkled Was Not One of the Things I Wanted to Be When I Grew Up.</p> <p>3. Procrastinate Now.</p> <p>4. Rehab Is for Quitters.</p> <p>5. My Dog Can Lick Anyone.</p> <p>6. I Have a Degree in Liberal Arts - Do You Want Fries With That?</p> <p>7. Party - My Crib - Two A.M. (on an infant T-shirt)</p> <p>8. Finally 21, and Legally Able to Do Everything I've Been Doing Since 15.</p> <p>9. ALL MEN ARE IDIOTS, AND I MARRIED THEIR KING.</p> <p>10. West Virginia: One Million People, and 15 last names.</p> | <p>11. FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION. It comes bundled with the software.</p> <p>12. I'M OUT OF ESTROGEN AND I'VE GOT A GUN.</p> <p>13. A hangover is the wrath of grapes.</p> <p>14. They call it PMS because MadCow Disease was already taken.</p> <p>15. He who dies with the most toys is nonetheless dead.</p> <p>16. Time's fun when you're having flies.....Kermit the Frog.</p> <p>17. POLICE STATION TOILET STOLEN ... Cops have nothing to go on.</p> <p>18. FOR SALE: Iraqi rifle. Never fired. Dropped once.</p> | <p>19. Heck is where people go who don't believe in Gosh.</p> <p>20. A picture is worth a thousand words, but it uses up a thousand times the memory.</p> <p>21. The Meek shall inherit the earth....after we're through with it.</p> <p>22. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.</p> <p>23. Ham &amp; Eggs - A day's work for a chicken; A lifetime commitment for a pig.</p> <p>24. WELCOME TO KENTUCKY - Set your watch back 20 years.</p> <p>25. The trouble with life is there's no background music</p> |
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**Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society membership**

We encourage membership in the Parent Society of the American Fisheries Society ([www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org)). If you join the Parent Society, they will bill your MN AFS dues automatically and send the money to us. If you do not join the Parent Society, or have not paid your state chapter dues through AFS, please submit your dues with the information below. We also offer free membership to students but they will need electronic access to obtain newsletters (no mailed copy).

\_\_\_\_\_ \$7.00 annual membership (make check payable to MN AFS)

\_\_\_\_\_ Free membership for students (electronic newsletter only)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to : Donna Dustin - Secretary-Treasurer  
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
 14583 County Highway 19  
 Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

**2000-2001 Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society****Chapter Officers**

President	Brad Parsons	brad.parsons@dnr.state.mn.us	320.634.4573; fax 320.634.4576
President-elect	Brian Borkholder	brianborkholder@fdlrez.com	218.879.3919
Past President	Mark Hove	Mark.Hove@fw.umn.edu	612.624.3019; fax 612.625.5299
Secretary-Treasurer	Donna Dustin	donna.dustin@dnr.state.mn.us	218-847-1579; fax 218-847-1588

**Excom Members**

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Open	Pat Brown	wbrown@paulbunyan.net	218-679-3959

**Committee Chairs***Standing Committees*

Awards	Melissa Drake	melissa.drake@dnr.state.mn.us	651-772-7966
Issues	Mark Hove	Mark.Hove@fw.umn.edu	612-624-3019
Long Range Planning	Henry VanOffelen	henry.vanoffelen@dnr.state.mn.us	218-847-1579
Membership	Brian Healy	bhealy@fs.fed.us	218-335-8685
Nominations	Open		
Public Education	John Hiebert	john.hiebert@dnr.state.mn.us	763-675-3301
Resolutions	Jeff Weiss	jeffrey.weiss@dnr.state.mn.us	507-467-2442
Students	Deb Brister	djb@fw.umn.edu	612-625-3183

*Special or Ad Hoc Committees*

Fishing Round Table Delegate	Mark Hove	Mark.Hove@fw.umn.edu	612.624.3019
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	Henry VanOffelen	henry.vanoffelen@dnr.state.mn.us	218.847.1579
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Historian	<i>open</i>	-----	-----
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	Jerry Grant	gerold.grant@dnr.state.mn.us	218.828.2665
Procedure Manual	<i>open</i>		
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<i>NCD Tech Committees</i>			
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Centrarchid	Rod Peirce	rod.pierce@dnr.state.mn.us	218-327-4452
Walleye	Todd Kolander	todd.kolander@dnr.state.mn.us	507-362-4223

**Internet:** Minnesota Chapter, [www.fw.umn.edu/mnafs](http://www.fw.umn.edu/mnafs); North Central Division, [www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs](http://www.fw.umn.edu/ncdafs); American Fisheries Society, [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org). All past issues of *RYBA* can be found at the Chapter website.

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