

## **Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society**

### **41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting**

**January 29<sup>th</sup> 2003**

#### **Tan-Tar-A Lodge, Osage Beach , MO**

The meeting was called to order by President Bob DiStefano at 3:35 pm . Secretary Lisa Bonneau announced that a quorum was present and asked everyone to sign in (the sign in sheet later reflected that there were 81 in attendance).

#### **RECOGNITION:**

Bob recognized Parent Society President Fred Harris. Then Bob recognized past AFS parent society presidents in attendance. President Elect, NCD Steve Fischer was recognized in addition to past NCD presidents, Pam Haverland, Joe Dillard, and Lee Redmond. All past MOAFS presidents were asked to stand. Bob then named all the committee chairs and thanked them for their service. Also, Virgil Moore was recognized and he presented the Sportfish Restoration Award for MDC's Lost Valley Hatchery for Management and Aquatic Education. Tommy Crawford accepted the award. Fred Harris addressed the members on his direction of increasing our relevance in fisheries.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

A copy of the minutes from the 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting had been posted on the MOAFS website and comments for changes and corrections had been received by Secretary Lisa Bonneau. Lisa asked for any last minute comments, corrections, or additions. There were none. Chris Vitello made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 31<sup>st</sup> 2002 meeting be accepted which was seconded by Steve Fischer. The motion passed.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Trish Yasger presented the financial report, and copies were provided. Trish gave a general summary of the accounts. The general account (operating expenses, purchases, reimbursements, etc.) began with a balance of \$29,258.95 and had an ending balance of \$33,602.47. The student support account had a beginning balance of \$35,132.39 and an ending balance of \$37,940.51 after dividends and the tournament. Certificates of Deposit: Share #10 had a beginning balance of \$15,571.51 and a dividend of \$565.26. Matt Winston made a motion to accept the financial report and Harold Kerns seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Steve Fischer made a presentation from NCD. The MO Chapter tied with the Minnesota Chapter for the Most Active Chapter Award. Bob accepted for the Chapter. Steve also mentioned the NCD contest for most chapter members with Parent Society membership will receive \$2500. Also, it was mentioned that there will be a student conclave next year to target undergrads. Steve also made mention of the Hutton Program and had brochures for those interested.

## **Nominating Committee: Mike Roell**

Mike announced that the web site voting went well, and 82 ballots were cast, 94% of which were on the web. He announced Al Buchanan as President-Elect and Lisa Bonneau as Secretary. Congratulations!

Awards Committee: Pam Haverland (Bob submitted the report in here absence)

The Citizen's Award was presented to Jim Davis in recognition of his continuing involvement with stream issues. Jim has been active in public education projects for storm water issues and storm water management in Boone County .

There were 7 Letters of Recognition to present:

\*Duane Chapman was presented a letter of recognition for his efforts as Treasurer for the 2002 Missouri Natural Resources Conference. Duane wrote a computer program and developed spreadsheets for billing, attendance, and room nights. And, the checkbooks were balanced for the first time in 4 years.

\*Vicki Richmond was presented a letter of recognition for her dedication to and stewardship of the Blue River Watershed. Vicki is involved with water quality, community outreach, and education efforts in the watershed and has led a Blue River mitigation project.

\*Matt Matheney was presented a letter of recognition for his dedication and commitment as the Missouri Chapter's newsletter editor. Matt has served as editor for 2 years and created informative, user-friendly electronic versions of the REDD. His efforts were recognized in 2001 by the NCD.

\*Steve Gough was presented a letter of recognition for his efforts to protect Missouri 's streams on the Department of Natural Resources Land Reclamation Commission's gravel mining rules group. Steve represented MOAFS on this group and promoted MOAFS values and good science in a politically charged atmosphere.

\*Mark Zurbrick was presented a letter of recognition for his efforts to protect and enhance the Lake of the Ozarks and lower Osage River by representing MOAFS in the Bagnell Dam Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's re-licensing process. Mark has provided the stakeholder group with a professional, non-agency perspective on aquatic related issues.

\*Chad Smith was presented a letter of recognition for his efforts to educate the public on the issues and plight of the Missouri River . Through Chad's efforts as director of American Rivers in Lincoln, Nebraska, he has educated the public on Missouri River issues: for example the number of comments received (55,000) regarding revision on Missouri River dam operations were overwhelming in support of (54,000) restoration of more natural flows.

\*Leslie Lihou was presented a letter of recognition for her dedication and stewardship of Creve Coeur Creek and Fox Creek in St. Louis County . Leslie has been involved with stream stewardship and organizing people to oppose developments that threaten water quality in Fox Creek. A recent event raised protest and enforcement action to remediate Fox Creek.

## **Funding and Finance Committee: Harold Kerns**

The silent auction raised about \$2000. The budget was very similar to the previous year. Money was added for travel for an expert in catfish aging and Midwest start-up funds. Jim Czarneski made a motion to accept the budget, and Trish Yasger seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## **IT Committee: John Fantz**

John asked that everyone keep their email current and to report changes to John.

## **Legislative Concerns Committee: Duane Chapman**

Most of the concerns are listed on the MOAFS website in the newsletter section. Of major concerns are: re-licensing of Bagnell Dam and Sand and Gravel mining. Upcoming issues are the Clean Water Act and aquaculture effluent (MOAFS may be a stakeholder in this issue). Duane asked to keep him advised if something comes up. He also mentioned that MOAFS would have high credibility in these issues.

## **MNRC Steering Committee: Andy Austin**

There were 856 people including 98 students and 50 exhibitors in attendance. Andy thanked Scott Voney, student job fair; Scott Ryan, visuals; James Civello, exhibits; Kevin Richards, social committee; and John Fantz, web master.

## **Newsletter Committee: Bob DiStefano**

Bob wanted to thank Matt for all his hard work on the newsletter. Joe Bonneau will replace Matt along with others who have volunteered to help.

## **Student Support Committee: Travis Moore**

MOAFS sent 4 students to the fisheries meeting in Iowa since there was no Midwest meeting. There were 9 posters at the MNRC. Memberships were awarded for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Winners were Nicolas Lang, 3<sup>rd</sup>; John Switzer, 2<sup>nd</sup>; and Nathan Roberts, 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **UMFASS: Jennifer Guyot**

The group sent 4 members to the meeting in Iowa and 8 to the MNRC. Students traveled to the Lost Valley Hatchery and the WOW Museum in Springfield. Members also participated in Stream Team cleanup, a fishing trip, and bi-weekly meetings with guest speakers. The group has a web site with information and pictures.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

\*Student Scholarship Bass Tournament: Greg Stoner. The tournament will be held at Lake of the Ozarks this year on March 1<sup>st</sup> at Public Beach #2. Hopefully there will be less competition with other

tournaments this year. Greg asks that everyone get 1 donation.

\*Hutton Fishery Program: Shawn Banks. Shawn wanted to encourage everyone to participate and will talk to anyone with questions. He commented that AFS provides the insurance, the student receives the scholarship, and the mentor is responsible for keeping up with email and a formal report. Jim Baker from Hamilton was presented a plaque by Shawn recognizing his participation.

\*Rivers and Streams Technical Committee: Rob Pulliam. Rob mentioned the Symposium on dam removal.

\* Midwest '03: Vince Travnichek. Vince mentioned they were still looking for volunteers. He also asked MOAFS for support for activities directly related to student involvement---to pay students to work A/V at the meeting, mentor/mentee breakfast, etc. He estimated \$4000 for student activities and asked the Chapter for \$1000 or anything they could give.

\*Bagnell Dam: Mark Zurbrick. Mark mentioned that whatever is decided will be in effect for 30 to 50 years. The re-licensing process is 5 and ½ years. AFS is trying to reach bait shops, landowners, etc. Mark is going to be joined by Jim Czarneski.

\* MDNR Land Rec Committee Sand and Gravel Work Group: Mike Roell. Mining for commercial use and since there were no natural resource stakeholders there were no rules. Land Rec allowed written comment and received more than 250 letters in 2 days. They proceeded to convene a group to come up with a list of mining rules. They held 4 meetings with AFS for technical information. They did not reach a consensus but did outline all interests and positions. There will be another meeting March 26<sup>th</sup>. On Jan 27<sup>th</sup> MO Senators submitted a bill to allow miners to take an annual tonnage of 5000 tons which would exempt 75% of operators.

\*Lee Redmond wanted to revisit the Midwest request by Vince. Lee made a motion that the MOAFS provide \$2000 to the Midwest fund to support student activities. Gary Novinger seconded the motion. The motion passed.

\*Trish Yasger mentioned that there were still raffle tickets for sale, but the silent auction is closed. She also had an Envirothon T-shirt to show with the AFS logo.

\*Bob presented Lisa with the Secretary plaque. Bob also thanked special guests Virgil Moore and Fred Harris, and he thanked Mike Roell for his advising, Trish for handling the funds, and Lisa for the letter writing. He also mentioned that folks should not be afraid to accept the challenge next year.

\*Harold presented Bob with his plaque and said congratulations to Lisa and Al and thanks to Pam, Matt, and Rob who are all stepping down. Brian Canaday will take over Rivers and Streams and Joe Bonneau will take over the newsletter. If anyone is interested in awards please let him know.

\*John McPherson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and John Stanovick seconded. The motion passed.