

Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
42nd Annual Meeting
January 31, 2004
Tan-Tar-A Lodge, Osage Beach, MO

The meeting was called to order by President Harold Kerns at 3:35 pm. Secretary Lisa Bonneau announced that a quorum was present. Harold asked everyone to sign in. (It was later established from the sign-in sheet that there were 75 in attendance.)

Recognition

Harold recognized the past presidents of the International Society in attendance, Lee Redmond and Joe Dillard and also recognized them as past NCD presidents. Harold recognized Steve Fischer as current NCD president. Harold asked that all past presidents of the MOAFS stand and be recognized as well as current officers and committee chairs, and all attending members of FASS. Harold recognized Steve Eder as the new Fisheries Division Administrator for MDC.

Joe Dillard announced the Resource Tools and Techniques Workshop to be held March 24 and 25 in Jefferson City. He had a flyer for those interested.

Harold announced that cookies were again provided by Bridget Canaday, and everyone thanked her with applause.

Steve Fischer spoke on many points about happenings in the NCD. There is a division incentive plan for joining the Parent Society for half price, and the member who sponsors you will get a half price membership for the year, as well. The division will have a member survey in the summer, and they ask that you please fill it out and send it in. It is time for the strategic plan for the Parent Society so the division will do so as well. If anyone would like to participate they should contact Steve. The Hutton Program is ready for another. Shawn Banks and Jake Allman have participated. If you would like to be a mentor the sign up deadline is March 1st. Brochures are available. You can sign up for the AFS listserv on the AFS website.

Secretary's Report

A copy of the minutes from the 41st annual meeting was posted on the website. All comments for changes and corrections had been received by secretary Lisa Bonneau. Secretary Lisa Bonneau asked for any last comments or corrections. There were none. Duane Chapman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes, and the motion was seconded by Trish Yasger. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Trish Yasger presented the financial report. The general account started with a balance of \$33,602.47. Funds from the account were transferred quarterly to 4 CD's to earn more interest. The profit from the Midwest account was over \$800. Also, Student Support account funds were put into a CD to earn more interest. A motion to accept the

treasurer's report was made by Al Buchanan and seconded by Lee Redmond. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee: Bob DiStefano

Bob announced that there is a lot of opportunity to become an officer and that students can become involved through committee participation. He thanked all those who were candidates this year. Bob announced that the new treasurer is Dave Michaleson and the President Elect is Duane Chapman.

Harold mentioned that there are 140 paid members and wanted to encourage people to let others know about the society and try to get folks involved. It is important to have the numbers for letters and advocacy.

Awards Committee: Charlie Rabeni

There was one Citizens Award given to Becky Denny. Three Letters of Recognition were presented to: Wappapello Lake COE, Debra Mayers, and Mike Roell

Finance and Fundraising: Al Buchanan

The proposed budget is similar to those in the past. Harold Kerns made a motion to approve the budget, and Duane Chapman seconded the motion. The motion passed. The silent auction raised \$600, and \$1200 was raided at the Midwest meeting in large part due to the Tomellari print donations.

IT Committee: John Fantz

Email has been a struggle due to many changes. Please keep John informed if there is a change in your email address.

Environmental Concerns: Duane Chapman

Duane passed around a list to sign up if you want to be updated about advocacy issues and are willing to write a letter. Issues mentioned are as follows:

- *Clean water act is off the table
- *Sand and gravel mining had a good result due to a lot of effort.
 - Donna Menown mentioned that rules are still ongoing. Rules are published in the Mo Register for 90 day comments starting Feb 21st with a hearing Mar 25th. She said to let them know you support the rules.
 - Bob with Ozark Fly Fishers stated not to assume it will go since the opposition in Texas County will write in. We should write in to support the rules.
- *EPA rules on Blending
- *Transgenic fish—for more information see the web site
- *Floodplain legislation—see the report on the web

Harold asked Bill Turner to speak on FERC.

- *we are in year 4 of 6 in re-licensing

*either a settlement agreement is reached or it will go to Washington if Ameren doesn't want to negotiate a deal

*Ameren is to notify stakeholders that they will ignore the stakeholders if they settle with the agencies

*MOAFS will probably need to draft letters to FERC and Ameren

Jim Czarneski stated that Duane provided the focal point for lots of other groups to rally behind us on letter writing for these issues.

Duane Chapman stated that he would like us to be the science for all the other advocacy groups. He would like any ideas/suggestions on how to make it easier.

Bob DiStefano stated that Duane is the only member of the committee, and he needs help since he won't have the time to devote to the committee when he is President.

The Parent Society asks for our advocacy letters to post and wants other chapters to do the same.

MNRC Steering Committee: Andy Austin

All of the sub-committee slots have been filled for '06. Registration for this meeting was 792 and 1001 if added the exhibitors. Andy would like to have any ideas on workshops to benefit fisheries. Also, Andy mentioned that there may be changes in format to get more opportunities for students to participate.

Newsletter: Harold Kerns

Joe Bonneau is no longer able to put time in as editor. The duties have been passed to Leanna Zweig.

Rivers and Streams Committee: Brian Canaday

Rob Pullium is the chair for the committee in the NCD. The committee is looking for more help. There are 2 issues for the committee: sand and gravel mining—thanks to all those who have been involved, and the streamguide—all chapters are complete and it will be 'e-published' since it is cheaper and easier to update.

Student Support Committee: Travis Moore

Most activity was at the Midwest. There were 170 in attendance for the student social. There were 30 pairs of students and mentors. FASS students participated as workers. Shawn Banks participated as a paper/poster judge. Travis also wanted to say thank you for the financial support for the student lounge for information exchange.

FASS: Greg Snellen

FASS had 2 stream cleanups and 2 fishing trips the past year. The group also hosted a fish fry fundraiser and a field trip to Montauc State Park. The group is currently working on a monitoring project on Bob DiStefano's pond.

Harold mentioned that we have had trouble in the past keeping up with students in the unit, so Bob DiStefano has offered to be the liaison for the group.

Disabled Anglers Committee: Mary Palmer

The committee gave money to Shawn Banks to provide a disabled fish cleaning station. Funds were provided to Pam in the KC region to purchase equipment. Mary said that you can advertise the equipment or use with nursing homes, etc. It is a good way to get folks out fishing.

Guest:

Dave Murphy, Director, Conservation Federation of Missouri came by to speak about the School for Natural Resources at Mizzou. The operating budget for Mizzou is down so they are encouraging people to participate in the School for Natural Resources Alliance. They are having a drawing for a gun to support the program with a pledge of \$100 for each ticket. The director for the School for Natural Resources has set up a fund to accept the money.

Kevin Richards asked if our budget would allow us to support the fund for \$500 and if so made a motion to pledge \$500 which Al Buchanan seconded. Harold said we have money in the general fund and opened the topic for discussion. We usually have \$1000 budgeted for this kind of support but have only used \$300 so far. John wanted to know why use the general fund and Trish mentioned that we budget \$1000 in the general fund for student support to hold the funds in the student trust fund. Jake asked if we anticipated anymore expenditures, and Harold replied that we didn't and still had \$700. Charlie mentioned that fisheries is only part of the School and that we might be able to put up a challenge to the other societies, and Harold agreed. Kevin (with guidance from Gary Novinger) made a friendly amendment to his original motion to up the pledge to \$1000 to challenge the other societies, and Gary seconded. There was a second friendly amendment made by Jason Vokun that if the gun is won by AFS that the proceeds from a new fundraiser go to the Student Support Trust Fund, and this amendment was seconded by Cindy DiStefano. The motion passed.

Old Business

Vince Travnichek gave an update on the Midwest. He wanted to thank the Chapter for its support. There were 920 attendees. He mentioned that Bass Pro also helped out.

Harold thanked Vince for all his effort.

Harold mentioned that Jake Allman will be in charge of the 2005 fishing tournament which will be held on Smithville Lake. Last year Lake Ozark had to be canceled, and there will be no tournament this year. Students will also help out with the tournament in 2005.

New Business

We received a letter from AFS to host the 2008 National meeting. If we want to host this

meeting we need to get together this summer.

The continuing education committee chair is vacant and needs a replacement since we are looking at participating in the Southeast in 2005 in St. Louis.

MOAFS logo change. Harold wanted to take a straw vote for changing the logo to reflect Missouri. The vote passed. Jake made a motion to submit designs to Al by March 1 to then be sent to a vote by the membership with an option for no change. The motion was seconded by Trish. The motion passed.

Brian Canaday mentioned the Mo River Conference hosted by MDC May 23-26.

Vince Travnichek brought up the possibility of getting out of the quad society agreement in order to meet with other states. Jim stated that the reason behind the quad societies was so that all groups would be able to communicate and share ideas. Harold mentioned that Iowa wanted a joint meeting but MDC wouldn't support it. Lynn asked if we could work with another state in conjunction with this meeting. Travis mentioned that Soil and water wanted to move the meeting to Springfield. Andy mentioned that they have been approached by Springfield, but the city doesn't have anything large enough to accommodate the conference. He added that there is continuity with Tan-Tar-A and he will try to incorporate more to help fit the needs for fisheries. Harold mentioned that it should be brought up as an issue at the quad society meeting.

Harold said it had been a pleasure to serve and presented a certificate of appreciation to Trish for her service.

Harold presented the gavel to Al Buchanan. Al's first act as president was to present a plaque to Harold to recognize his service. Al then mentioned that he needed volunteers to fill the continuing ed and legislative concerns committees. The raffle is at 6 pm.

There was a motion to adjourn made by Trish and seconded by Cindy. The motion passed.