



TIDEWATER CHAPTER

Southern Division - American Fisheries Society

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 1

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY-MARCH 1989

3RD ANNUAL MEETING

The Chapter's annual meeting at Solomons, Maryland was greeted with bright, sunny weather even though it was Friday the 13th. Attendees were welcomed by Dr. Kenneth Tenore of the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory and Dr. Ralph Eshelman, Director of the Calvert Marine Museum, the site of the meeting. The Museum had not been officially opened to the public at the time of our meeting and some construction was underway. The only distraction, other than the exhibits, was an occasional test of the fire alarm system, but the museum was a great place for a meeting. Twenty excellent papers were presented during the two days which provided interesting and new information and made selection of the best papers a considerable task. The best paper award was given to Doran Mason (Chesapeake Biological Laboratory) for "Utilization of acoustic technology in the assessment of pelagic fish stocks in Lake Michigan and the Potomac River Estuary." The best student paper award was given to Karolyn Mueller (University of Delaware) for "The use of stabilized coal ash as oyster cultch."

At the business meeting, after an excellent seafood lunch, attendees were addressed by Paul Brouha, Deputy Director of AFS, and Gene Huntsman, President of the Southern Division. Paul described the Chapter dues rebate plan and Gene elaborated on the upcoming Southern Division meeting in St. Louis. It has been suggested that the Tidewater Chapter and others could help sponsor a marine fisheries paper session. Joe McGurrian, Potomac Chapter representative, addressed the group on formation of a Potomac/Tidewater joint committee concerned with the problems of Chesapeake Bay.

CHAPTER OFFICERS - 1989

The following Chapter members were elected at the business meeting:

President-elect - Ron Southwick, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, 5608 Parkland Ct., Virginia Beach, Virginia 23464 (804)-446-4872.

Secretary-Treasurer - Chris Bonzek, Tidewater Administration Maryland Department of Natural Resources, 580 Taylor Ave., Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301)-974-3784. This is his second term in what may easily become a habit.

North Carolina At-Large Member - Lynn Henry, Division of Marine Fisheries, 108 S. Water St., Elizabeth City, NC 27909 (919)-338-8351

Virginia At-Large Member - Lewis Gillingham, Virginia Marine Resources Commission, 1035 Manchester Ave., Norfolk, Virginia

Maryland At-Large Member - Ron Klauda, Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University, Shadyside, Maryland. 20764 (301)-867-7000. This is Ron's second term.

Eileen Setzler-Hamilton ascended to President at the business meeting, replacing outgoing President John Cooper. Eileen's address is Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Box 38, Solomons, Maryland. 20688 (301)-326-4281.

Other business addressed was changes to the Chapter bylaws and a dues increase. The new version of the bylaws is given in bold type: Section 2. Membership. The membership of the Chapter shall be made up of those persons having an interest in the estuarine and coastal fisheries of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the States of Maryland and North Carolina, and having paid their current Chapter dues. Section 6. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of the Chapter shall consist of the elected officers, the immediate Past-President, the At-Large Members from each state, and the chairperson of each standing committee. Voting shall be limited to the elected positions.

A complete copy of the bylaws can be obtained from the Secretary/Treasurer by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Dues were increased to \$5.00 to cover the cost of the newsletter and help defray the costs associated with the annual meeting.

OFFICER'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

At the annual meeting in Solomons, several members asked about the duties of the Chapter officers. The following is a summary of these duties taken primarily from the AFS Procedures Manual, and revised according to the changes made in offices and committees since January 1988.

Past-President: shall serve as a voting member of the Chapter executive committee; provide advice to the executive committee; and represent the Chapter at the Division or National meeting in the absence of other members of the executive committee.

President: shall assume the lead role in Chapter activities and responsibilities; represent the Chapter at the Division and National meetings; appoint the standing committee chairs (audit, nominating, newsletter editor); introduce speakers at the annual meeting; and conduct the business meeting up to the swearing in of the new President.

President-elect: shall serve as program chair for the annual meeting of the Chapter (and additional meetings, if any). This includes arranging for speakers, local amenities, program topic(s), meeting place and time; introduce speakers at the second session of annual meeting; and preside in the absence of the President at official AFS meetings.

Secretary/Treasurer: shall administer Chapter funds and prepare a financial report for the annual business meeting; provide financial records for the audit committee prior to the business meeting; record minutes of the executive committee and Annual meetings and provide each Excom member with a copy within 30 days after the meeting; maintain an updated membership list; provide for registration materials at the annual meeting; and maintain a current copy of the bylaws.

At-Large Member: shall find and report on environmental and fisheries issues that would benefit from Chapter involvement; act as a contact for the membership within the respective states; and contribute information to the newsletter editor concerning activities within the respective states.

Audit Committee Chair: shall audit Chapter financial records and report findings at the annual meeting in person or by written report to the Chapter President.

Nominating Committee Chair: will prepare a slate of officers for the annual meeting containing background information for Executive Committee review; contact potential officers prior to nomination to determine eligibility and willingness to serve (eligibility must be certified prior to nomination).

Newsletter Editor: shall solicit and edit fisheries and environmental material for the Chapter newsletter.

ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Despite reports of environmental damage from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Environmental Protection Agency, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources approved a proposal by Senator Mark Hatfield (R.-Ore.) that would open ANWR to oil exploration. The report from USFWS was summarized in the last newsletter: the unpublished draft report from EPA documents acres of tundra blackened by chemical spills, oil wastes seeping from drilling pads, stacks of leaking chemical drums, overflowing waste disposal pits, and failure to comply with federal regulations governing the handling of hazardous materials by oil industry companies in the Prudhoe Bay area. ANWR lies just east of Prudhoe Bay and is the

breeding ground for one of North America's largest remaining herd of migratory caribou.

WALLOP-BREAUX CAP

A cap of \$100 million for FY 1990 proposed by OMB was not supported by President Bush in a White House memo dated 7 March 1989. The effect of the cap in our area can be seen in the following table.

	FY 1989 actual	FY 1989 apport. \$100 million cap	Decrease of
Maryland	1,795,000	940,000	855,000
North Carolina	2,576,586	1,349,299	1,227,287
Virginia	2,846,361	1,490,574	1,355,787

NEWS FROM THE STATES

Virginia - TAGGED STRIPED BASS - Fisheries biologists from the Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have tagged and released more than 23,000 striped bass into the Mattaponi River, Virginia. The four- to ten-inch fish are offspring of Chesapeake Bay stripers and were reared in federal hatcheries in Virginia and Georgia. The fish were tagged with 1mm binary coded wire tags encoded with: year class; river of origin; spawning hatchery; and agency involved. Recovery of the tags will be accomplished through sampling by the cooperating agencies. The Virginia Institute of Marine Science will monitor the survival rate of the stocked fish determined from efforts of VIMS, USFWS, and the DGIF with cooperation from Virginia Marine Resources Commission. The study is scheduled to run through 1996. -RS

1990 SOUTHEASTERN FISH AND WILDLIFE CONFERENCE - Representatives from the Virginia Game Department extended a special invitation to host the 1990 conference in Virginia. The invitation was presented at the recent meeting of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies hosted by the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department in Hilton Head. The 1990 meeting will be held on 21-24 October at the Richmond Marriott Hotel. Information can be obtained from Charlie Sledd, Conference Chairman, at 804-367-1000. -RS

FISH PASSAGE ON VIRGINIA RIVERS - Several new fish passage projects in Virginia will be in operation in 1989 for anadromous species. Two recently constructed passages are a "fish lift" on the Meherrin River at the Emporia Dam, and a "fish ladder" at Walkers Dam on the Chickahominy River. In addition, two small dams were breached on the James River in Richmond to allow for fish passage. Dr. Greg Garman of Virginia Commonwealth University will do a two year study on the spatial and temporal distribution of anadromous species around the breached dams and three other barriers on the James being considered for future fish passage work. -RS

North Carolina - ROANOKE RIVER FLOW REPORT - The report of the Roanoke River Water Flow Committee has been published as a NOAA Technical memorandum (NMFS-SEFC-216). The report was written to address the impacts of flow regulation of the Roanoke River on wildlife and other uses of the Roanoke River Basin. An excerpt from the report's Executive Summary states: "The construction of six upstream dams in the 1950s and 1960s and the resulting water flow regulation has had an impact on downstream resources and those that use them, particularly during the spring. While water regulation has prevented the magnitude of preimpoundment floods, unnatural, extended flooding during post-impoundment years has negatively influenced the production and harvest of agricultural row crops and timber, impaired the distribution and reproduction of certain wildlife species, especially wild turkey and deer, reduced the survival of striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*) and perhaps other anadromous species, caused water use problems for industry and municipalities, reduced recreational opportunities within the floodplain, and caused damage to roads and bridges." The report may be obtained free of charge from National Marine Fisheries Service, Beaufort Laboratory, Beaufort, NC 28516.-JC

NORTH CAROLINA FISHERY WORKERS ASSOCIATION - The 1989 annual meeting of the NCFWA was held on 27-28 February, 1989, at the Duke University Marine Laboratory auditorium. The meeting featured several speakers discussing the issues related to aquaculture in North Carolina and the implications of growth in this industry to other parts of the country. This hard work was followed by a social with an excellent pig-pickin' that, in the small hours, ended in determining specific facts about chickens. You had to be there. The following day's presentations considered nutrient sensitive and outstanding resource waters, how they are classified, and some of the problems that have been found in North Carolina waters, particularly dioxin. Striped bass in North Carolina was also discussed. At the business meeting, some discussion was heard concerning the NCFWA becoming a North Carolina Chapter of AFS. No consensus was reached and the decision has been referred to a committee that will determine the pros and cons.-JC

AMERICAN SHAD AND RIVER HERRING LANDINGS - A study to characterize and describe the ocean fishery on American Shad and river herring on the Atlantic coast is being conducted by Patrick Harris and Roger Rulifson of East Carolina University. Historical landings data and on-site visits to active fisheries will be used to construct the characteristics of the fishery. The information will be used by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to enhance the Interstate Fisheries Management Program.-JC

MARYLAND - 1989 MARYLAND LIME DOSER STUDY - Ron Klauda of Johns Hopkins University was recently awarded a research grant from Living Lakes, Inc. and the Dept. of Natural Resources to continue studies on the

effects of habitat acidification on anadromous fish in Coastal Plain streams. This study will evaluate the efficacy of two lime-slurry doser technologies as an approach to maintaining suitable chemical habitats for survival of the early life stages of yellow perch, blueback herring, and white perch in two streams. The study will also include field and laboratory toxicity experiments designed to measure the sensitivity of these fish species to aluminum-rich, acidic pulses that are stimulated by intense storms in many coastal plain streams. The project team will include Ron Klauda, Dean Baudler, Phil Bonar, and Mike Unger of JHU and International Science and Technology of Reston, Virginia.-RK

STRIPED BASS CONTAMINANT STUDIES - Lenwood Hall of JHU has been awarded a research grant from the USFWS to continue studies on the role of contaminants in the reproductive success of striped bass in Chesapeake Bay. The objectives of the studies are 5D0 to evaluate contaminant and water quality effects on prolarval and yearling survival using in-situ test methods in the Potomac River and Upper Chesapeake Bay, and assess water quality and contaminant conditions in ten major striped bass spawning rivers along the east coast. This research will be conducted jointly with Susan Finger of USFWS's National Fisheries Contaminants Research Center. Steve Bushong, Mike Ziegenfuss, Andy Sullivan, and Mike Unger are part of the project team.-RK

MARYLAND YELLOW PERCH FISHING - Effective on 20 February 1989, new regulations will severely restrict harvest of yellow perch in Maryland tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay. Tidewater stretches of several rivers and streams which include the Choptank, Nanticoke, Miles, Wye, and Chester on the Eastern Shore; and the Patuxent, West, South, Severn, Magothy, and Patapsco on the Western Shore. Sale of yellow perch will be prohibited statewide during February. Elsewhere in tidal waters, the daily creel limit will be five fish with a minimum size of 8.5 inches. There are no creel limits or size restrictions on yellow perch caught in Maryland impoundments or lakes. Poor recruitment trends resulting from overfishing, sediment runoff, and acid rain have led to declining Lower Bay populations.-RK

CHESAPEAKE BAY INSTITUTE - In mid-February 1989, the Johns Hopkins University decided to phase out and close their Chesapeake Bay Institute, an estuarine and oceanographic research facility, effective on 31 December, 1991. University officials said they reluctantly arrived at the decision after determining that it would be too costly to maintain the Institute as a first-rank research enterprise. Dr. James D. Ebert, CBI's Director, concurred with the decision. The future of the physical plant at Shady Side, Maryland, is undecided. An aquatic ecology and fisheries research group from the University's Applied Physics Laboratory is also housed at Shady Side. APL is seeking new quarters for the research group.

FISHNOTES

"Proceedings of the Missouri River Symposium - The Missouri River, The Resources, Their Uses and Values" has been published by the North Central Division of AFS as Special Publication No. 8 and is available for \$7 from Vaughn L. Paragamian, Dept. of Natural Resources, Manchester Trout Hatchery, RR 2 Box 269, Manchester, Iowa 52507

The World Fisheries Congress, an international conference planned for 1991 in Athens, Greece, now has 31 co-sponsoring organizations. Negotiations on the proposed Memorandum of Agreement outlining responsibilities for hosting the Congress were begun in December by Tapan Banerjee, Shirley Whitted, and Suzanne Mayer with Mr. Manassis, First Secretary of the Greek Embassy.

The forceps illustrated below were difficult to find until I inquired through the Early Life History Section newsletter. Over 20 responses were received and also the names of two companies that supply these forceps. They are: Fine Science Tools (USA) Inc., 1500 Industrial Way, No. 1, Belmont, CA 94002 (product no. 26029-10, 18/8 stainless, \$8.95 each); and BioQuip Products, P.O. Box No. 61, Santa Monica, CA 90406 (product no. 4748, spring steel, \$2.25 each/\$24.75 dozen).



Carl Sullivan, Executive Director of AFS, is recovering from a tumor operation (25 Jan.) and postoperative infection. He has received hundreds of cards and letters, one of which came from participants at our annual meeting in Solomons. He is in high spirits and expects to return to work at the end of March. Sully addressed the spring Excom meeting in Corpus Christi by telephone.

The spring Excom meeting of AFS was held on 9-12 March at the Corpus Christi Marriott in very far south Texas. Coming from the cold rain and ice of North Carolina, the bright and warm Texas sunshine was a great treat. More so to those who came from Alaska and the mid-west. Here are some short items of interest: we had a tour of the Ben F. Vaughn Jr. Hatchery and Research Center which is currently raising redfish (red drum), some of which came from

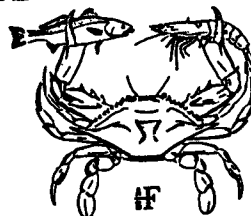
North Carolina. Culture of snook and tarpon is in the works. The facility was built by a cooperative effort between the Gulf Coast Conservation Association, Central Power and Light, Fish America, and Texas Parks and Wildlife. The tour was organized by Bill Rutledge. Our first day's meeting was held in the Port Aransas Marine Science Institute (Univ. of Texas) and featured a presentation on public relations and awareness by Sharon Wallace of Central Power and Light. Sharon showed how their methods to reach the public would easily transfer to some of what AFS is trying to do. We followed this with an "idea-forming" exercise conducted by a facilitator, in this case Dave Mackett of NMFS. The days' efforts were followed by an excellent (worth going to Texas for) meal of real fajitas cooked over mesquite. This was not from Taco Bell. After dining, we listened to interesting local fishermen/speakers who described the fisheries and problems of the Port Aransas area and the Gulf States in general. Other presentations during the meeting included Project Wild, an educational program, by Joanna Lackey (Project Wild Steering Committee). All of the states except three and all Canadian provinces participate in this program that brings teachers and students together with wildlife to show how we are all related to each others actions in the environment.

At the Excom meeting, there was some talk of creating an "estuarine" section or subcommittee of the Southern Division to encompass the interests of the Tidewater Chapter members. This was, in part, to redefine the boundaries of the "North Carolina" Chapter into a statewide Chapter. No mention was made of the interests of members in Maryland or Virginia. It was not apparent that a similar approach would be taken toward the Potomac Chapter, which has a similar geographic structure. No action was taken in any form on this idea but it may not go away.

T-shirts featuring a blue crab, croaker, and sea trout commemorating the 3rd annual meeting are available from John Cooper. The price is \$8 each or \$15 for two. The proceeds will be used to finance Chapter activities. The shirts are aqua with lavender print-looks good on the beach.

NOTE - Your address label on this newsletter shows the latest year for which you have paid dues. If it says 88, then this will be the last newsletter you will receive until Chris Bonzek receives your 1989 dues. No other notice will be sent to you. Dues are now \$5.

TIDEWATER CHAPTER



3rd Annual Meeting Solomons, Maryland
January 12-14, 1989

TIDEWATER CHAPTER, AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

I would like to become a member of the Tidewater Chapter of AFS.
Enclosed are my 1989 dues of \$5.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AFFILIATION: _____ TELEPHONE _____

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY? _____

Mail this form and \$5 to: Chris Bonzek, Secretary/Treasurer
Tidewater Chapter, AFS
580 Taylor Ave. C-2
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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