THE TELEOGRAM

Wisconsin Chapter
American Fisheries Society Newsletter

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Complied by Chapter Members. Edited by Martin P.A. Griffin
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President's Message

Greetings to one and all,

I have to start this message with big hearty congratulations to all our members. I am proud to announce that the Wisconsin Chapter has been named co-recipient of the **2006 AFS "Most Active Chapter" award** *for Chapters with over 100 members. We share the award with the Oregon Chapter. I will have the honor of collecting this award on the Chapters behalf during the 2006 annual meeting in Lake Placid.*

Please don't forget, the Statewide Scholarship. The application deadline is October 1st. If you know of any student that should apply send them to our **website** *where the application form can be downloaded. Any Junior, Senior or Graduate student who is not attending UW Stevens Point can apply for the $700 scholarship.*

Fall is fast approaching and winter will be upon us soon- that's right, preparing for the 2007 Chapter meeting. Things are currently progressing well and I am pleased to announce that the 2007 Chapter Annual Meeting will be held January 9th – 11th in Milwaukee. Stay tuned to the website and email for updates and the call for papers that will be coming out next month. Tom is doing a great job to ensure a fun time in Milwaukee. FYI- all social events are being held at local brewing establishments. If you were a fly on the wall at the last Excomm meeting you may have heard talk about a pub crawl…

Looking toward the future, Steve is working on getting more continuing education classes up and running including minnow identification and a fish kill workshop. If you have ideas for workshops that you feel will benefit our members please contact either myself or Steve. Glenn currently has no resolutions on tap but if you have something in mind please pass it in to him. Since our bylaw changes were accepted earlier this year we can now vote electronically throughout the year versus in the past when we would have to wait until the annual business meeting.

Martye has revamped the website and it is full of lots of interesting information. If you have not spent a little time looking around please do as it will be well worth your time. If you want something posted on the website contact Martye and he will be glad to post whatever it is.

As for my photo, I know the picture is not a fish but deer season is around the corner and that is what is on my mind, thoughts of getting the really big guy that eluded me last year.

Everyone have a fun fall, if you hunt play safe and if you fish catch a big one.

Justine
The Prime Minister

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Editor's Note

Happy Fall!
This time of year is traditionally a time of change, a time to reflect on what has happened over the past year and to look forward to what the New Year might bring. Speaking of changes, I have now added 'webmaster' to my list of titles. I've been able to revamp the **chapter website**, *and in some ways I hope to see the website as and extension of the newsletter- A chance for our members to use the web as the ultimate communication tool. Some of you may be familiar with the term* **web 2.0**. *My goals as webmaster stem from that general idea that the internet should allow our members to be able to collaborate and share information online utilizing interactive tools, as opposed to a static Web page. A perfect example of this is the way we review and ultimately vote on resolutions. Using the ideas behind web 2.0 we could stop using e-mail to share documents and instead collaborate through shared workspaces like* **wikis**, *and ultimately be able to vote and revise and comment online before adopting final resolutions. And that's just one example. Ultimately the website should be a place to allow members to find information more easily, such as experts on a certain topic or to facilitate collaboration and communication between all of our members. The 'net is limitless. So as we enjoy the changing of the seasons, don't forget to put some thought into how the chapter website can work for you. Have a great fall season,*

Martye

[Editor's Note: For those of you interested in this concept and would like further reading. **This article** *is a great place to start]*

Announcements

The Time is Now!

The deadline to apply for the "Statewide" scholarship has been extended to October 1st, 2006. Junior, Senior or Graduate Students who do not attend the UW-Stevens Point is just one of the **application criteria** to be eligible to receive the scholarship. The scholarship is anticipated to be $700 in 2006 and perhaps higher in the future. It will be awarded to a student majoring in a Fisheries Science related program at a Wisconsin based university. Please send your completed **application form** to:

John Nelson
Chair, Scholarship Committee
Wisconsin DNR Box 408 Plymouth, WI 53073-0408

If you have any questions or require more information please contact John Nelson at **John.Nelson@dnr.state.wi.us**

Effort to Update Shoreland Protection Rules Enters New Phase

Wisconsin's efforts to update its 38-year-old statewide shoreland protection standards entered a new phase in summer 2006. Wisconsin DNR staff finished reviewing the 12,000 citizen comments received during and after public hearings in summer 2005 and recently reconvened the citizen advisory committee that had helped design the original proposal.

The advisory committee heard summaries of the public comments on the original proposal to update Chapter NR 115 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, which governs such things as how far houses need to be set back from the water, lot sizes and limits on cutting down trees and other vegetation.

The comments roughly fell into nine main areas with several common themes. The public has indicated:

- Their desire for a concise code that increases flexibility while guaranteeing statewide consistency and increased protections for our natural resources, and
- Strong desire for greater resource protection in the new regulations.
- More importantly, the critical player in carrying out and enforcing the rules – The Association of Wisconsin County Code Administrators— said the rules were too complicated and unworkable.

Announcements *(continued)*

The Wisconsin DNR realize that changes are clearly needed to develop rules that work on the ground and that address other major areas identified in the comments. They believe that the key to finding the proper balance between property owners' desires and the public's rights in Wisconsin waters is an open and participatory process for the revision. For more information and updates on the rule process visit the **shoreland management website**.

Wisconsin's Fish Car

Name your favorite Wisconsin fishing tradition. Whether it is witnessing your kid catch his/her first fish, or the smell of fried fish on Fridays, all of it can be traced back to Badger No. 2. Badger No. 2 is an almost century old fish stocking car that the Mid-Continent Railway Historical Society, Inc. will receive a $475,000 grant to help restore. Now nearly 100 years old, the Badger No. 2 is the last authentic fish car known to exist in the country. While other institutions have recreated fish cars for museum exhibits, the Badger No. 2 is the only original example of a fish car

These days a fleet of modern tank trucks transport millions of fish a year from DNR hatcheries to stock many of Wisconsin's lakes, rivers, streams and the Great Lakes. Hatchery reared fish are carried in cooled, oxygen-aerated, constantly circulated and cleansed water. The science of fish transportation has been so highly developed that virtually all of the fish arrive at stocking points in sound condition.

Things were different over a century ago. Because of transport limitations, fish were generally stocked in areas near the rearing stations. In 1874, the first successful transportation of fish by railcar was achieved when 35,000 shad fry were transported from the east coast to the Sacramento River in California. This marked the beginning of what would be known as the Fish Car Era and by 1881 the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service had commissioned its first specially built "fish car."

Prior to commissioning custom built fish cars of its own, Wisconsin's standard practice was to transport fish fry in milk cans carried in baggage cars. Every 20 to 25 cans were attended by a "messenger", or fisheries specialist, whose duties included aerating the water in each can by hand with a ladle to help insure the survival of fish fry.

Wisconsin bought its first fish car, the Badger No. 1, in 1893. At this time, several states already had fish cars of their own and the federal government had four cars in active service. Making its debut in 1912, the Badger No. 2 was the second official fish car used by the state and featured improved technology which proved considerably better for both the fish fry and crews that cared for them.

Though the Badger No. 2 was introduced at the height of the Fish Car Era, its services became obsolete with the advent of another method of transportation – the automobile. Hatcheries became more spread throughout Wisconsin by the 1930's and the use of trucks for distribution became a more efficient way to cover short distances. The Badger No. 2 was finally decommissioned as a fish car by the state in 1945. MCRHS bought the Badger No. 2 for its collection in 1960.

Since then, the car has been out of service due to its deteriorated condition. Initial preservation and stabilization work was performed in the 1990's and the car is currently in storage awaiting full restoration.

If you would like to read more about Badger No.2 view a **recent article** in the Wisconsin State Journal and a **recent press release** by the Wisconsin DNR.

Communicating Science

New Journal Launched

Sustainability Science provides a platform for building a new academic discipline, sustainability science, which can point the way to a sustainable global society. The first issue will be published in October 2006, Online First articles will appear as of September 2006 - stay tuned!

The new journal Sustainability Science seeks to understand the interactions within and between global, social, and human systems, the complex mechanisms that lead to degradation of these systems, and concomitant risks to human well-being and security. Authors are encouraged to be problem-oriented, proposing visions and methods for protecting and/or restoring these systems and linkages.

More information on this exciting new journal. Preview the first issue here.

A Wiki of a Different Kind

The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE), a nonprofit research and education group, is seeking contributors and topic editors for an environmental wikipedia. Wikipedias are online encyclopedias that can be edited to increase accuracy and capture the updated news. The Encyclopedia of Earth will target an audience from high-school graduates up to Ph.D. holders and will provide comprehensive and timely web-based information. Subject matter will be written from the ground up, like most wikis, but topic editors, or established experts, will peer-review and approve each article before posting it on the site. Each article will be linked to research on NCSE's Earth Portal, a free online forum of information contributed by scientists, academics, governments, and institutions.

More Information

Notes

Need to Renew Your Membership?

E-mail Tim Simonson at simont@dnr.state.wi.us or you can send in the renewal form located on the last page of this newsletter.

New Regional Fish Supervisors

The Wisconsin DNR recently added 5 new regional fish supervisors to help manage the states valuable fisheries. The new supervisors are: George Boronow (Green Bay), Scott Stewart (Fitchburg), Steve Avelallemant (Rhinelander), Mark Endris (Eau Claire), and Randy Schumacher (Milwaukee). If you would like to contact any of them, please visit dnr.wi.gov, and choose "Contacts" at the top of the page.

Raffle Donations Sought

Steve Gilbert is collecting donation items for the Raffle and is looking for some fun T-shirts to add to his pile of shirts. If you have donation items or shirts please contact Steve via mail at gilbes@dnr.state.wi.us or by phone 715.358.9229.

ExComm Post Open

The term for the Treasurer/Secretary position on the Executive Committee is nearing the end. Interested candidates please contact Pat Schmalz via e-mail at schmap@dnr.state.wi.us or by phone 608.266.8170.

Resolutions Anyone?

Resolutions are being solicited to be presented at the January 2007 annual meeting. If you have a resolution please send it to Glenn Miller at glenn_miller@fws.gov no later than December 10th so that it can be put into final form and published in time for the meeting. Thank you.

The newest *Mainstream* is available on the Division website.

Tech and Science

Fish with Chips

A census project tagging thousands of endangered salmon to chart their individual travels, with profound implications for protection of threatened stocks, will expand its arrays of underwater monitors from British Columbia north along the continental shelf to Alaska and south to California. The system could spread worldwide to monitor traffic and tribulations of the many species that migrate along the shallow coastal highways. **A website allows the public to follow some of these creatures in near real-time**. Tags show tuna are the marine jet set. A tagged bluefin tuna recorded its stunning trans-Pacific migration – three crossings in 600 days, a distance of 40,000 km, greater than Earth's circumference.

More information and the **complete article**.

Fish Check Water Safety in San Francisco

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission says the city has begun using Bluegills to guard against contamination within the water system. San Francisco and New York have become the first cities to use the process. Non-contact sensors are placed into an aquarium which is hooked into the water system. The sensors monitor fish behavior and watch for indicators of toxic conditions. If toxins are suspected, the system triggers an alarm, takes water samples for analysis, and notifies staff 72 hours before the water reaches the public.

More information and the **complete article**.

Controlling Carp Key to Cleaner Water

If early indications are correct, the key element to cleaner water in Lake Wingra could be in keeping the carp at bay. The 345-acre lake in Madison, WI is a favorite among anglers, kayakers, canoeists and swimmers; however, they all have to share the lake with carp, algae, invasive aquatic plants and phosphorus from both goose droppings and tree leaves. Additionally, Lake Wingra also takes in millions of gallons of rain water every storm from neighborhoods and the UW Arboretum, which borders almost two-thirds of the shoreline.

The premise is that the elimination of carp would allow sediments to settle, with the resulting clearer water allowing native aquatic plants to re-establish on the lake bottom farther out from the shoreline, crowding out the invasive aquatics that include purple loosestrife and Eurasian water milfoil. The experiment started a year ago inside a 2 acre fish "exclosure", a postage stamp-sized square of Lake Wingra on the shoreline near Edgewood College.

Within a month, the water started to clear. Today, plants are growing in water 2 feet deeper than before inside the exclosure, as sunlight is able to stream down to the lake bottom, giving new life to plants. The exclosure will be in the lake for three years. When the experiment ends in 2008, researchers will have a clearer picture if carp removal is the key in cleaning up Lake Wingra.

More information and the **complete article**.

Underwater Vehicles Help Solve Lake Trout Mystery

An underwater reef in deep water 40 miles off Sheboygan figures to play prominently in future efforts to restore native lake trout to Lake Michigan. **Research using remotely operated underwater vehicles** is finding that lake trout are spawning on this reef and that some eggs survive to hatch. Biologists say that is a hopeful sign following decades of stocking lake trout that have failed to successfully reproduce.

Lake trout were a mainstay of commercial fishing in the early 1900s but had declined in all of the Great Lakes by the 1930s due to factors including invasion by sea lampreys, an invasive fish species that attaches to the sides of a host fish and sucks its body fluids out, overfishing, and possibly contaminants. By the 1950s, lake trout were extinct in Lake Michigan.

Stocked lake trout survived well in Lake Michigan and the other Great Lakes, but with the exception of lake trout in Lake Superior, were not able to reproduce. In Lake Michigan, spawning by stocked lake trout has been documented over the past few decades, and netting surveys in recent years have shown that sexually mature lake trout from several year-classes are abundant in the Mid-Lake Reef area, but there's been no documentation during the past decades that eggs have survived to adulthood to help rebuild naturally reproducing populations.

But now we are starting to unravel that mystery with the help of submersibles. Equipped with a video camera, suction sampler, and electroshocking device designed to stun trout egg predators, the remotely operated vehicles are being used to locate lake trout spawning habitat, recover eggs and days-old fish called "fry," and identify what fish may be preying on lake trout eggs and fry on the reef complex.

More information and the **complete article**.

Upcoming Events

Attention UWSP Alumni

The sixth annual UW Stevens Point Fisheries Society Alumni Banquet will be held Friday evening, October 20th at Shooters in Plover. Lee Kernan will be speaking about his South American fishing trip for Peacock Bass. If you have any questions about the banquet please contact Charlie Roswell at **crosw940@uwsp.edu**.

On that same weekend there will also be an opportunity for alumni to help with a fish survey on the Wisconsin River. If you interested in helping to sample please contact, Joe at **jgerb707@uwsp.edu**.

2007 Wisconsin Chapter AFS Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars. The 36th Annual meeting will be held January 9-11, 2007 in Milwaukee. The location is currently being finalizing, but it looks like it is going to be held at the Hyatt. Please note that all socials are planning to be held at local brewing establishments.

Book Excerpt

Fish on Friday: Feasting, Fasting and the Discovery of the New World

by Brian Fagan is a complex journey through cultural, political, and even culinary history, examining the role of fish in Western European diet through Medieval times to the seventeenth century, exploring how that fish was supplied to European tables, and investigating how North Atlantic fishing fostered European "discovery" of North America.

By the 14th century, meatless fasting days imposed by the Catholic Church — not only limited to Fridays and Lent — accounted for more than half the days of the calendar. While the common people may not have observed all such fasting with the same rigor as various monasteries, such a requirement created an enormous market for preserved fish, even beyond demands stemming from everyday eating and the need for easily transported (and reliably stored) foodstuffs to provision armies and ships' crews. Local freshwater fish supplies quickly proved inadequate and, over the centuries, the supply of fish shifted first to salted herring and, eventually and more satisfactorily, to salted and dried codfish, the latter known as "stockfish", originated by the Norse but later becoming a staple throughout Northern and Western Europe.

"Between 1620 and 1650, the mercantile nations of Europe turned the Atlantic basin into a single huge trading area, where salted fish, slaves, and sugar flowed along distant trade routes with increasing predictability. England played a leading role in this commerce, part of a polygon of trade connections that linked Newfoundland, New England and other American ports, the West Indies, the Wine Islands, and Europe in an intricate lattice. The seed of this crystalline structure was the most ancient tale of all, in the fish required by devout Catholics to fulfill their religious obligations"

The story of these fish supplies and how they fared against over-exploitation and climate change, and of the evolving technologies to catch and preserve the different fishes is complicated, encompassing activities in many lands over several centuries. Not the least fascinating — and surprisingly obscure — part of the tale involves the development of various types of seagoing vessels suited to best harvest the fish, especially in the stormy North Atlantic. The quest for fish led men to the waters off Ireland and Iceland and, perhaps, even further west. Fagan concludes that merchants of Bristol, England, in the decade preceding Columbus's 1492 trans-Atlantic voyage launched expeditions in the North Atlantic to search for the fabled island of Hy Brasil. The documentary history for what these expeditions actually accomplished is at best murky, but it seems reasonable to suppose that they extended at least to the rich fishing grounds on the banks off the eastern coast of North America and perhaps to Newfoundland itself or beyond. If so, information from these voyages almost certainly lay behind John Cabot's 1497 "discovery" of the North American mainland and maybe even Columbus's 1492 voyage.

Conferences and Seminars

2007 Wisconsin Lakes Convention

The Wisconsin Lakes Convention will be held on April 26-28, 2007. The Wisconsin Lakes Partnership is searching for lake organization members and leaders, resource professionals, researchers, students, teachers, business leaders and others to submit proposals for educational presentations, field trips and hands-on workshops for the 29th annual Wisconsin Lakes Convention. The event, held at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay, will center on the theme of *Agents of Change: We make a difference.* Our lakes need citizens to step forward as agents of change as pollution, global warming, invasive species and other tribulations take their toll. The convention will focus on ways citizens can be a force for positive changes that will result in clean, healthy lakes.

We are looking for sessions about:

- What works on the local level/sharing experiences
- Current research, lake science
- Water law and public policy
- Lake wildlife and fisheries, aquatic plants
- How to get involved in public policy
- Invasive species
- Lake organizations and their management
- Other lake topics

Please consider submitting a proposal. All presenters receive free registration for the day(s) they speak. For more information or to submit a proposal, visit: http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/ and click on Conventions. The submission deadline is Friday, October 20. For questions, contact Mary Pardee at 715.346.4978 or mpardee@uwsp.edu.

4th North American Reservoir Symposium

The Reservoir Committee of the American Fisheries Society's Southern Division invites abstracts for contributed oral and poster presentations for the 4th North American Reservoir Symposium: *Balancing Fisheries Management and Water Uses for Impounded River Systems.* The symposium will be held June 6-9, 2007 in Atlanta, Georgia and will address the challenges of managing reservoir fisheries in the context of competing water uses. Within this scope, topics for contributed papers and posters include:

- Balancing fisheries issues with basin-wide water uses
- Aquatic habitat
- Human dimensions; and
- Catch and release and use of regulations.

Due to limited space in the program, poster submissions are encouraged. Both contributed oral and poster abstracts should be submitted electronically to Dr. Mike S. Allen at msal@ufl.edu by October 16, 2006. An e-mail confirmation of the abstract submission will be sent upon receipt. Formal acceptance to the symposium will be sent by December 1, 2006.

When submitting the abstract, please indicate the topic above that best fits the presentation and indicate your format preference as: Oral presentation only; Poster presentation only; or Oral presentation preferred, but poster presentation acceptable. Oral presentations will be limited to 20 minutes with a 15-minute presentation and 5 minutes for speaker introduction and questions.

Additional information about the meeting can be found at the Southern Division AFS website.

Officers and Committees

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martin.griffin@dnr.state.wi.us

JOIN NOW!

Active membership in the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will provide many opportunities to advance your growth as a fisheries professional and allow you a greater voice in shaping the future of Wisconsin fisheries. The quarterly newsletter and the ability to network with other fisheries and aquatic resource professionals from government, academia, fish culture and the private sector will keep you abreast of all the latest techniques and issues.

You do not have to join the parent society to be a Wisconsin Chapter member and the annual $10.00 membership fee is an unbelievable bargain.

Please send complete form and a check for $10.00 payable to AFS Wisconsin Chapter:

American Fisheries Society, Wisconsin Chapter
PO Box 908
Madison, WI 53701

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Do you want a copy of our newsletter (now available on our website) mailed to you? [Circle one] **Yes** **No**

Student? [Circle one] **Yes** **No**

Are you a member of AFS (parent society)? [Circle one] **Yes** **No**

Occupation and employer (optional):

Congratulations and welcome aboard!

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