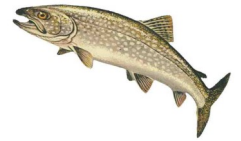




TELEOGRAM



The Newsletter of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Spring/Summer 2019

Laura Schmidt- Editor

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WIAFS 2020 Meeting Announcement

The 2020 Wisconsin AFS meeting will be held from February 4th-February 6th at the Lismore Hotel in downtown Eau Claire.

Please save the date!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE– Dan Dembkowski



Greetings Wisconsin Chapter members!

As I write this, some of our members are likely in the thick of spring population assessments while others (myself included) are anxiously awaiting ice-out to kick off the spring sampling madness. Regardless of where you are or what you are doing, I hope this message finds you doing well. I am honored and excited (and a little intimidated, considering the impressive list of Past-Presidents) to serve this year as President of the Wisconsin Chapter. This year started off with our 47th Annual Meeting in Green Bay. The meeting drew over 200 members that enjoyed 28 oral presentations and 23 posters. Nearly half of the oral presentations and over 75% of the posters were given by students. Given that a key component of our mission is to

promote the development of fisheries professionals, it is great to see such involvement by our student members. If the quality and quantity of their research is any indication, the future of fisheries resources in Wisconsin is in good hands! Speaking of students, we welcomed aboard a new WIAFS student sub-unit at UW-Madison! Our Chapter now has five student sub-units (Northland College, UW-Green Bay, UW-Madison, UW-Stevens Point, and UW-Stout), which gives us one of the largest student bases of any AFS Chapter.

Aside from a successful Annual Meeting and gaining a student sub-unit, another notable accomplishment was that we were awarded the Most Active Large Chapter Award at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Cleveland, OH. This makes us back-to-back recipients of the award (2018 and 2019), and we also received the award in 2008 and 2005. Not only is the continual recognition of our Chapter with this award a testament to the hard work that many of our members have done to make WIAFS stand out, but it also speaks volumes about the level of involvement displayed by our members. Involvement and volunteerism are the engines that make WIAFS run. To those of you that are already involved as Executive Committee members, committee chairs, or committee members, thank you! To those of you that are interested in becoming more involved, consider running for an Executive Committee position or contact me or standing committee chairs to explore opportunities that might be of interest to you. It was great to see the outpouring of interest during the call for volunteers, new committee chairs, and new committee members during the Business Meeting in Green Bay. Our membership is large, our Chapter is busy, and there are always opportunities to become more involved!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED...

Before “signing off” for the spring, I want to thank all of our dedicated members who contributed to a successful 2019 Annual Meeting (especially Lori Tate, Derek Ogle, Dan Isermann, Greg Sass, Steve Gilbert, and Jordan Weeks, among MANY others), members who caught the spirit of volunteerism and took advantage of opportunities to become more involved, and the broader membership for allowing me to serve as President. Have a safe and fun spring sampling season and don’t forget to take a breath and enjoy the resources you work so hard to manage!

Dan Dembkowski, President



Photo by Laura Schmidt

Now Hiring! Awards Committee Chair Needed

Are you interested in improving your own scientific presentation skills, or would you like to help others do so? I have been organizing the judging for our annual AFS best poster and presentation competition for the past ten years. I truly look forward to this event every year and have enjoyed the opportunity to work with the judges, update the scoring criteria and present the annual winners of these prestigious awards. In the interest of continued process improvement, I am looking to mentor a new leader for this position. During the upcoming 2020 meeting, I am hoping to find a volunteer who would consider taking on this responsibility for years to come. If you are interested in learning more about the position, please contact me at benjamin.heussner@wisconsin.gov.

Thank you,

Benjamin Heussner

MEETING MINUTES



**Spring
2019**

EDITORS NOTE: Committee and budget reports in this issue of the newsletter are from the 2019 Winter Business Meeting Wednesday February 20, 2019 in Green Bay.

Call to Order - President Derek Ogle 4:03 pm (96 members present)

Recognition of Executive Committee, past presidents and special guests - President Ogle recognized the past unit presidents and secretary-treasurers and subunit presidents in the audience. Also voiced his thanks to many people for their help on putting together the meeting including but not limited to: Dan Dembkowski, Max Wolter, Steve “Gilly” Gilbert, Lori Tate and Ben Heussner, Tony Rieth, and Dan Isermann.

Determination of a quorum - A quorum was reached as 96 members present at the meeting exceeded the requirement of 1/3rd of the Chapter membership (approx. 75) being present. Thanks to all in attendance for their participation in the business of the chapter.

Review and Approval of Agenda - President Ogle outlined the agenda which had been distributed electronically prior to the meeting and asked for any amendments. As no discussion ensued, the agenda stood as distributed.

Approval of 2018 Business Meeting Minutes - President Ogle asked for comments on the minutes which were published in the Spring 2018 newsletter. As no discussion ensued, the minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

President’s Remarks - President Ogle referenced his opening remarks to the annual meeting which summarized the work of the Chapter in the past year. He also noted that it had been an honor to serve the Society in this capacity, and that his experience had been fun, interesting, and motivating to see all the great work fisheries professionals undertake in Wisconsin. Special thanks to Secretary-Treasurer Lori Tate for all the “reminders”, and to the Past President (Dan Isermann) and President Elect (Dan Dembkowski) for all their hard work.

Treasurer - Yearly report - Secretary/Treasurer Tate summarized the 2018 finances. On 12/31/2018, WIAFS had total worth of \$80,105.62. With a checking account balance of \$10,423.06, the Midwest checking account at \$26,056.59 (check for Midwest registration in the amount of \$21,488.07 received in October 2018), and Vanguard GNMA valued at \$15,326.97. Per 2017 decision, the principal from the BMO CD and from the Short-Term Bond Account, both of which were returning <\$3 a month, were put into the Vanguard Fund managed by the National AFS; the total investment in 2018 was \$0 (base investment amounts were \$10,000 in November 2015 and an additional \$15,000 in July 2017). The investment had a loss in 2018, with an end of year balance of \$28,299 (down from end of 2017 value of \$29,795). Total expenses for 2018 were \$8,647 and total income was \$25,052, for a net gain of \$16,405. National AFS donations (Hutton, Skinner memorial, etc.) were paid out. Motion to approve the treasurer’s report as presented was made and seconded; the motion passed with no dissenting votes.

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Meeting Minutes



Committee Reports - please see detailed annual reports from the committee chairs on the chapter website (wi-afs.org/business-meeting/). Specific discussion or actions taken with respect to committees at this Business meeting are described below:

- **Awards:** New scholarship awarded in 2019; Tim Kroeff Fisheries Scholarship awarded to Robert Sheffer (UWSP). Caroll Norden Scholarship awarded to Stefan Tucker (UWGB). Joan Duffy Travel Award was awarded to Robert Sheffer (UWSP). The Richard Frie Memorial Scholarship was awarded (in April) to Rafael Davila. The Bill Threinen Outstanding Service Award was presented to Tim Kroeff. (Note: The next day, the Best Paper was awarded to Dr. John Lyons, the Best Student Paper was awarded to Ben Martin (UW Madison) and the Best Poster was awarded to Andrew Ransom (UWGB).
- **Scholarship:** Committee will be adding Justin VanDeHey and Allen Lane to the roster to increase the representation and review. More applicants than in many recent years, which is good to see.
- **Membership:** Tony Rieth reports a total membership currently at 237, with 137 regular paid members and 100 student, young professional and retired members. A total of 96 members attended the annual meeting.
- **Raffle:** David Rowe is stepping down as head of Raffle and Revenue Committee. While we seek a new chair for this committee, Joseph Gerbyshak has volunteered to be the local point person for the next annual meeting.

Old Business:

- **Approval of the UW Madison as a student subunit of the Wisconsin Chapter of AFS** - President Ogle noted the UW-Madison had started a "fisheries club" at the university in November 2018, had bylaws written and approved by national AFS in December 2018, and were now being asked to be recognized as an official subunit of the Wisconsin Chapter. The chapter executive committee discussed their request and brought a motion to approve the UW-Madison subunit as a recognized subunit of the Wisconsin Chapter. The motion was seconded and approved with no dissenting votes. Ben Martin will serve as the President of the subunit this year and John Magnuson will serve as the advisor to the subunit.
- **Student Subunit Equipment Grants** - The Executive Committee developed a process to distribute to subunits equipment funds that first entered the chapter budget in 2015 but have never been allocated. The process includes a commitment, pending approval by the membership each year, of \$1000 per year for the next four years, one subunit may receive the funds per year and once a subunit has received funds it will not be eligible to receive funds again during the four year cycle, and to receive the funds the subunit must send a written request to the chapter president who will then discuss the request with the rest of the Executive Committee and the Student Affairs Committee. If a majority of the Executive Committee votes to approve the funding request, then the request will be funded. More specific details regarding the application letter are available from the chapter President. UW-Green Bay was awarded \$1000 in 2018 for the purchase of a flow meter.

Old Business:

- **Vote - Reduced Registration Rates for Retired Members** - The Executive Committee followed up on a discussion regarding reduced registration rates for retired members of the chapter that was “tabled” from the 2018 business meeting. Information gathered for our deliberations noted that no AFS chapters in the “Midwest” offered reduced rates for retirees, 3 of 10 TWS chapters in the “Midwest” offered reduced rates for retirees, and our chapter has approximately 10 retired members. Partially from this, the Executive Committee decided not to offer a reduced rate to retirees for this Annual Meeting, but this issue was again raised by members. After further discussion, the Executive Committee brought forward this motion: “The Annual Meeting registration fee for retired members of the Chapter in good standing shall be reduced to the same amount offered to student members if the retired member has served as a Chapter officer or committee chair, or is willing to serve the membership in some capacity at the Annual Meeting (e.g., judge presentations, assist with registration, moderate a session).” After further discussion, the motion was passed without any dissenting votes.
- **Vote - Update to Chapter Bylaws** - The Executive Committee worked to update the Chapter Bylaws. Proposed changes to the bylaws were discussed amongst the Executive Committee and some Chapter Past-Presidents, sent to the national AFS Constitutional Consultant, and distributed to the membership for comments in December 2018 and again in February 2019 and on the webpage for the Annual Business Meeting. Substantive changes to the bylaws include adding the UW-Madison subunit where appropriate, modifying the quorum for the Executive Committee from 4 of 6 members to 3 officers and two subunit presidents, modifying the quorum for the Annual Business Meeting from 1/3rd of members to 50 members, and removing long inactive committees and adding the Student Affairs committee. The Executive Committee motioned that the proposed bylaws be accepted as distributed prior to the meeting with the friendly amendments that “presidents” and “president” be changed to “officers” and “officer” in Article 3.2, all “track change” items be accepted, and all comment boxes be removed. The motion carried with no dissenting votes. Note that since this meeting the bylaws were sent to national AFS which unanimously approved them. The new bylaws are now available on the chapter webpage.
- **President Installation** - Dan Isermann and Steve Gilbert install Dan Dembkowski as president, who gives thanks to Derek Ogle and recognizes him with the Past President’s plaque.

New Business:

- **Voting for Officers** - Only nominee for President-Elect position was Max Wolter; Max accepted nomination and will be 2019 President-Elect. Lori Tate agreed to fulfill current term as Secretary-Treasurer; this position will be up for re-election next year.
- **2019 Budget** - Dan Dembkowski presented his 2019 budget which was very similar to the last year and can be found in this issue. The line item of \$1,000 was carried forward to purchase equipment for the student subunits as described in the Old Business. President Dembkowski proposes continued funding for the Fisheries Bootcamp, with an increase to support the new UW-Madison Subunit. With the amendments inserted into the budget a motion was made and seconded to approve the Budget as amended, the motion passed without dissenting votes.
- **Open Committee Chair Positions** - The following open committee positions were filled: Newsletter - Laura Schmidt, Centrarchid NCD - Zachary Feiner. Thank you to Laura and Zachary for volunteering to serve in these positions. The chairs of the Reservoir NCD and the Raffle and Revenue Committees are still vacant.
- **Time and Place 2020 Annual Meeting** - Next year’s annual chapter meeting will be held in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. More details will be communicated when plans are finalized through the Wisconsin AFS Listserv group.

Adjourn 5:08 p.m.

Budget Report



<u>Expense Budget Review - 2018</u>					
	Expense		<u>Budgeted 2018</u>	<u>2018 Actual</u>	<u>2019 Proposed Budget</u>
State MTG	Chapter Meeting		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,500
	Raffle expenses - State Meeting		\$ 650	\$ 656	\$ 650
Awards, Donations	Hutton Program	AFS	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
	Skinner Memorial	AFS	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -
	EOS	AFS	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -
	Student Subunit Fundraising Match		\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,250
	Norden Student Scholarship		\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
	Duffy Award		\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 1,000
	Awards, Plaques, Best Papers		\$ 400	\$ 75	\$ 100
	Frie Scholarship Funding		\$ 500	\$ 485	\$ 400
	Fenske Scholarship		\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 500
	Student Subunit AFS membership		\$ 160	\$ 75	\$ 250
	President travel		\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 250
	Fisheries Bootcamp		\$ 1,600	\$ 820	\$ 2,000
Miscellaneous Fees	Continuing education		\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
	T-Shirts		\$ 1,350	\$ -	\$ 1,000
	Equipment Purchase for Subunits		\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,350
	National Chapter Insurance		\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 1,000
	Web Fees		\$ 150	\$ 410	\$ 1,000
	PO Box		\$ 80	\$ 76	\$ 150
	Discretionary		\$ 150	\$ 100	\$ 82
	Executive Committee AFS Membership		\$ 320	\$ 100	\$ 150
	Web Upgrade		\$ 3,000	\$ 350	\$ 320
	Event sponsorship		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
One-Time Expenses	Puerto Rico Relief Fund		\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
	EXPENSE TOTAL		\$ 21,860	\$ 8,647	\$ 29,382
				<u>2018 Actual</u>	<u>2019 Anticipated</u>
Income					
Annual Meeting registration				\$ 21,000	\$ 15,000
Membership dues & AFS Mem. Rebates				\$ 1,660	\$ 1,500
Continuing education				\$ -	\$ -
T-shirt sales				\$ -	\$ -
State Meeting Raffle Income				\$ 1,848	\$ 1,500
National AFS Investment Interest				\$ 107	\$ 100
GNMA Investment Interest				\$ 438	\$ 450
INCOME TOTAL				\$ 25,052	\$ 1,000
					\$ 19,550
INVESTMENTS					
VanGuard (Parent Society)				\$ 26,559.00	
GNMA				\$ 15,640.98	
INVESTMENTS TOTAL				\$ 42,199.98	

Scholarships and Awards



Left: Stefan Tucker, UWGB, was awarded the Carroll Norden Scholarship.

Right: Rafael Davila was awarded the Richard Frie Memorial Scholarship in April.



Scholarships and Awards



Robert Sheffer, UWSP, was awarded the Tim Kroeff Fisheries Scholarship and the Joan Duffy Travel Award.



Tim Kroeff was awarded the Bill Threinen Outstanding Service Award.



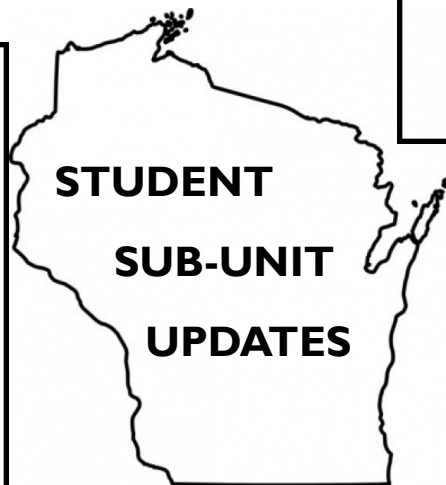
Northland College - The Northland College Subunit has been productive this academic year. Our members helped the WDNR seine salmon at Big Rock in the Fall. This was a great opportunity to get members of the subunit hands on experience working with large salmon. Furthermore, we had Mike Seider, of the USFWS, give a presentation on pop-up satellite archival tags being used to survey lake trout in Lake Superior. Members from our subunit also helped with sturgeon spearing at Lake Winnebago. Lastly, a group of our members will attend the WIAFS annual meeting. We hope to do many more activities over the course of the winter.

Below: Northland College students and alumni pose for a photo.



UW - GB - The UW-Green Bay student subunit has been busy participating in many activities this year. Meetings have featured guest speakers from the WDNR as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allowing students to network with fisheries professionals. There has also been active participation from our members at many conferences, including the annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, giving talks and presenting posters. Members have also been eager to get into the field volunteering in multiple areas of work from small stream sampling and monitoring to work with adult lake sturgeon and chinook salmon. We have also had members represent the subunit at the Besadny Anadromous Fisheries Facility open house in Kewaunee. With many volunteering opportunities, we have also added more activities that are fun to our meetings such as fish trivia night and a movie/documentary night. Our subunit continues to pursue a balance of educating our members with fun activities as well as meeting professionals in the fisheries field.

UW - Stout - Over the past year, the UW-Stout subunit has been working on growing interest for our subunit. We currently have 16 members of which about half are active in AFS activities such as surveys. In addition to educating members on creek surveys, we have been introducing equipment types to our members including large and small seine nets, hoop nets, and fyke nets. I would like to thank our guest speakers from last year for their time and commitment to help educate our subunit on a variety of topics - Joseph Gerbyshak - DNR Fisheries Biologist, Kasey Yallaly - DNR Fisheries Biologist, and Jay Walker - Great Lakes Aquarium Director of Operations. As a subunit, we will continue our efforts and look forward to opportunities to come!



UWSP - The UWSP subunit is having a great year! Our weekly meetings are well attended by students and we would like to thank all our guest speakers so far for imparting their knowledge on us. Many fish were sampled during our annual Little Plover River survey and Wisconsin River survey. Currently, we are looking at purchasing a tool set and possibly a new fyke net or two. We look forward to the spring field season and helping the Wisconsin DNR with spring sturgeon sampling and our weekly meetings.

2019 AFS Photo Fishing Contest Info and Rules

Contest details and rules are as follows:

Who can participate?: All WI AFS members. Note: You must have **paid your dues** for that year to submit entries.

How long does the contest run?: The contest will be **open year round** and will start after the AFS Chapter meeting in Green Bay and officially end at the WI AFS Meeting in 2020.

What fish qualify?: Any fish caught legally (within an open season, not in refuges) with hook and line methods and from **public waters of Wisconsin** will be eligible for entry. This includes WI portions of Lake Michigan and Superior and border rivers such as the Mississippi, St. Croix, St. Louis, and Menomonee in stretches where they border WI. Any species of fish can be entered (point system discussed below).

How do I enter a fish?: **All submissions must consist of a photograph of the angler and the fish** (“fish selfies” are acceptable). For very small fish, a second close-up photo that does not include the angler is suggested for species verification. **Each submitted fish must include a measured length** (down to the half or tenth inch OR mm) and the location of catch (this can be as simple as “Vilas County Lake” if you don’t want to give up a honey-hole). This will predominantly be an honor system, but a photograph of the fish on a measuring board may be submitted if the angler chooses and these photos may be used in tie-breaker situations. The contest administrator reserves the right to call B.S. or the right to convene a panel of B.S. experts to review submissions.

ALL SUBMISSIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO: wafsfishing@gmail.com

Scoring: ANY species of fish can be submitted. The angler possessing the largest specimen of any species will be awarded a minimum of 1 point. The angler who holds the largest specimen for the following high-profile species will receive 3 points: Largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, walleye, muskellunge, northern pike, black crappie, bluegill, yellow perch, channel catfish. We will award 2 points each for the largest inland and Great Lakes (+ tributaries) catch for brown trout, rainbow trout, and brook trout. Once a bigger specimen is caught by another angler, the points for that species transfer to the new angler. Identifiable hybrids including tiger musky, tiger trout, saugeye, and splake will count as a unique species (panfish or minnow hybrids will not). In the case of a legitimate tie, points will be awarded to both anglers for that species. The angler with the most points at the end of the contest will be declared the winner.

Awards will be presented at the annual meeting.

Good luck!



Photo by Joanna Griffin