

VIRGINIA CHAPTER *of the* AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

President: Steve Reeser
President-Elect: John Odenkirk
Immediate Past President: Mark Hudy

Treasurer: Mike Odom
Secretary: Shelly Miller

FINAL CALL FOR PAPERS

Southern Division Spring Meeting-2005



The Virginia Chapter and Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society invite you to join us in Virginia Beach, VA at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center for the 2005 Southern Division Spring Meeting, 10-13 February 2005.

Submission Procedures for Presentations and Posters: Presentations will be scheduled for 20 minutes (15-min presentation and 5 min for questions), which will be strictly enforced. Media for presentations is Microsoft PowerPoint only. Abstracts should be a 200-word (or less) statement of objectives, principal results and conclusions. All abstracts must be submitted on-line at <http://www.sdafs.org/abstracts/>. **Please follow directions for abstract submission closely, as problems have been encountered.** Do not submit abstracts with apostrophes in title or text.

Abstracts for symposia and contributed presentations, as well as posters are due by **22 December 2004**. If your presentation is part of a symposium be sure to acknowledge on the abstract submission form. For additional information contact Vic DiCenzo, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, 1700 South Main St., Farmville, VA 23901; (434) 392-9645; vic.dicenzo@dgif.virginia.gov.

NOTE: Abstracts will be available online and will not be distributed at the meeting.

Symposia:

- Defining A Catch and Release Research and Education Model (Drs. Gene Wilde and Jon Lucy)
- Striped Bass Management (Dan Wilson, SDAFS Striped Bass technical committee and Dr. Tom Shahady)

- Asian Carp (Anita Kelly, AFS Fish Culture Section)
- Marine/Estuarine Fisheries Science (Tidewater Chapter, AFS)

Hotel and Registration Information:

Room rates are \$55 per night for single and double occupancy, \$65 for triple occupancy and \$75 for quad occupancy. Rooms must be reserved by **14 January 2005** to receive this rate and guarantee availability. Contact the hotel at 757-481-9000 or 800-468-2722 for registration information. State you are with the **American Fisheries Society**. For more information on the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center, visit their website at <http://virginiabeachresort.com>.

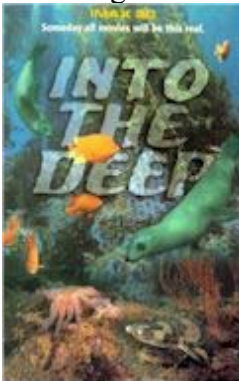


Meeting registration is \$85 for students and professionals prior to 20 January 2005 and \$105 thereafter. Students seeking free accommodations should download the form off the meeting website.

Schedule of Events:

- **Thursday 10 February**-Technical Committee Meetings, “Welcome to Virginia” social, VA Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center
- **Friday 11 February**-Southern Division EXCOM Meeting; Southern Division Business Meeting; Continuing Education Workshops, Student Social at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center
- **Saturday 12 February**-Plenary Session, Symposia and Technical Sessions, Poster Session, Social at the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Museum
- **Sunday 13 February (ending at noon)**-Symposia and Technical Sessions, Poster Session

While at the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Museum, we will be able to view the following IMAX feature, “Into the Deep”:



Descend into the depths of the ocean and see first-hand this wondrous and mysterious place! This film takes you into the unique world of a California kelp forest where the three-dimensional interplay of colorful marine life is reminiscent of a carefully choreographed ballet.

Workshop Descriptions

1) **Employment After Graduation: Perspectives on Jobs in Private, State, and Federal Positions**

Description:

Speakers will discuss fishery-related jobs and job opportunities associated with private, state, or federal agencies.

Instructors: TBA

Sponsor: SDAFS Student Affairs Committee

Cost: FREE

Contact: Stuart Welsh (swelsh@wvu.edu)

Maximum Attendance: Limited to no more than 50 students

Time of Workshop: Friday, Feb. 11; 3-5 p.m.



2) **Otolith Aging Techniques for Catfishes**

Description:

The workshop will provide:

- Provide information on catfish age estimation including the validity of otoliths, comparisons between spine and otolith age estimates, and the effect of reader subjectivity on the accuracy of age estimates.
- Demonstrate techniques to remove otoliths from catfishes.
- Demonstrate and provide hands-on experience processing otoliths and estimating age using otoliths from known-age catfish.
- Discuss needs and future directions of catfish age research.

Instructors: Dave Buckmeier, Pete Sakaris, Jeff Jolley, Elise Irwin

Sponsor: SDAFS Catfish Management Technical Committee

Cost: \$75.00

Contact: Elise Irwin (irwiner@auburn.edu)

Maximum Attendance: Limited to no more than 20

Time of Workshop: Friday, Feb. 11; 9 a.m to 5 p.m. (6 to 8 hours)

3) **Leadership Regardless of Position: You Don't Have to be a Chief to Have Influence: An AFS Leadership Development Workshop**

Description:

Leadership is often associated with titles such as Director, Chief, or Supervisor and clearly, a certain amount of influence accompanies such positions. However, many of the most significant accomplishments of organizations happen because of leadership within the ranks of the organizations. This half-day workshop is designed to demonstrate that the most important attributes of leadership have little to do with one's position in an organization. Participants will learn the most important attributes of leadership and how to develop those attributes to influence their organizations from any position or stage of career. Participants also will learn how to use their strengths to advantage - and how to recognize and deal with their "blind spots." This is an excellent workshop for fisheries professionals at all stages of their careers – including students.

Instructor: Steve McMullin

Sponsor: SDAFS

Cost: \$10.00 per person – Students free
Contact: Steve McMullin (smcmulli@vt.edu)
Maximum Attendance: Limited to no more than 50
Time of Workshop: Friday, Feb. 11; 1-5 p.m.

4) ***Achtheres Striped Bass Parasite Workshop***

Description:

The workshop will provide:

- Background on the parasite (life cycle, infection rates, identification).
- Prevalence in reservoirs (infection patterns, spread of parasite within reservoirs and regions).
- Control and management (stocking rates, fish species).
- Speculation on future patterns and controls

Instructors: Dan Wilson and Tom Shahady

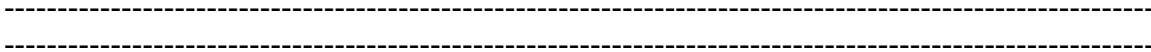
Sponsor: SDAFS Striped Bass Technical Committee

Cost: This is a FREE workshop

Contact: Dan Wilson (dan.wilson@dgif.virginia.gov)

Maximum Attendance: Limited to no more than 25

Time of Workshop: Friday, Feb. 11; 9 a.m to 12 p.m.



**Registration Form
Southern Division AFS meeting
February 10-13, 2005**

Meeting Registration Form

Name: _____

Name Shown on Badge: _____

Name of Guest (if applicable) _____

Affiliation: _____ Student (circle one) Y N

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Meeting Registration:

Early Registration (before January 20, 2005) \$85.00 \$ _____

Regular Registration (January 20 and later) \$105.00 \$ _____

Extra Social Tickets -- Friday night \$20.00 \$ _____

Saturday night \$35.00 \$ _____

Workshops (OPTIONAL): Friday, February 11, 2005

Catfish Ageing 9-5pm \$75.00 \$ _____

Leadership in Regardless of Position 1-5:pm \$10.00 (students free) \$ _____

Parasitic Copepods in Striped Bass 9-noon FREE

Employment After Graduation 3-5pm FREE

TOTAL \$ _____**Student Mentor Lunch** (Saturday, February 12):

(check if you would like to participate and circle interests/profession)

a. Mentor _____ Profession: (academia, state agency, federal agency, private firm, etc.)

b. Student _____ Interest: (grad school, state agency, federal agency, private firm, etc.)

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Cash, checks and money orders made payable to Virginia Chapter AFS (Tax I.D. #52-1754413)

Return completed form and payment to:

**SDAFS Spring Meeting, c/o Mike Odom, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Harrison Lake National
Fish Hatchery, 11110 Kimages Road, Charles City, VA 23030**

Email: Michael_Odom@fws.gov Phone: (804) 829-2421 FAX: (804) 829-6067

Please apply or distribute the scholarship application to worthy candidates and nominate others for the Professional Biologist or Natural Resource Conservationist Awards!!

\$500 Robert D. Ross Graduate Scholarship
in
Fisheries and Related Aquatic Sciences

Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

The Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society invites applications for a \$500 graduate scholarship in fisheries and related aquatic sciences. The scholarship will be awarded at the Chapter's annual meeting in Spring 2005. Criteria for the scholarship are as follows:

1. The applicant must be a graduate student in fisheries, biology, or a related aquatic science program at an accredited Virginia university.
2. The applicant should demonstrate academic excellence at both the undergraduate and graduate levels as well as promise for future contributions to fisheries and aquatic resource conservation.
3. Preference will be given to applicants who wish to pursue a career in fisheries or related aquatic fields and who have demonstrated interest in professional activity in addition to required academic activities.

Applications should consist of (1) a letter from the applicant (not to exceed 500 words) describing his/her background in fisheries and related sciences, the significance of his/her research to management/conservation of fisheries and aquatic resources, and career aspirations, (2) official transcripts (not photocopies) from all institutions of higher learning attended, and (3) two letters of recommendation, at least one of which should be from the applicant's major advisor.

Applications, transcripts and letters of recommendation should be sent to:

Mark Hudy
VA-AFS Awards Committee Chair
MSC 7801
225 Burruss Hall
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Application Deadline: January 1

\$500 Robert E. Jenkins Undergraduate Scholarship
in
Fisheries and Related Aquatic Sciences

Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

The Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society invites applications for a \$500 undergraduate scholarship in fisheries and related aquatic sciences. The scholarship will be awarded at the Chapter's annual meeting in Spring 2005. Criteria for the scholarship are as follows:

1. The applicant must have junior or senior class standing at an accredited Virginia college or university.
2. The applicant should be pursuing a 4-year degree and should demonstrate in his/her letter of application a desire to pursue a career in aquatic resource management or conservation, or in a field consistent with these areas.
3. The applicant should demonstrate academic excellence.
4. The scholarship is for one academic year but may be awarded to the same student for up to two years.

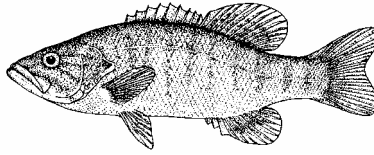
Applications should consist of (1) a letter from the applicant (not to exceed 500 words) describing his/her background, qualifications and interest in fisheries or related aquatic sciences, (2) official transcripts (not photocopies) from all institutions of higher learning attended, and (3) one letter of recommendation from a professor in the applicant's major field of study.

Applications, transcripts and letters of recommendation should be sent to:

Mark Hudy
VA-AFS Awards Committee Chair
MSC 7801
225 Burruss Hall
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

Application Deadline: January 1

VIRGINIA CHAPTER - AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY



**Eugene W. Surber Professional Fisheries Biologist
and
Natural Resource Conservationist/Citizen Awards**

The Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is seeking nominations for the following 2005 awards:

Professional Fisheries Biologist Award: Given to a professional fisheries biologist based on either a number of years of significant contributions to the field of fisheries science or on the basis of a single very significant contribution during the calendar year.

Natural Resource Conservationist Award: Given to a citizen or non-fisheries professional who has demonstrated outstanding protection or enhancement of aquatic resources on their property or who has made significant contributions to the protection of aquatic resources within the state of Virginia.

Please complete this form, attach additional supporting material as desired (within reason) and return to:

Mark Hudy
VA-AFS Awards Committee Chair
MSC 7801
225 Burruss Hall
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: JANUARY 1, 2005

Name of Nominee: _____

Address: _____

Nominated for: Professional Fisheries Biologist Award: _____

Natural Resource Conservationist/Citizen Award _____

Nomination Citation:

Chapter Elections are upon us!

All officers are up for election. Please take a moment to vote by sending Steve Reeser an e-mail at Steve.Reeser@dgif.virginia.gov

Voting deadline is January 15th! Please read the candidate biographies below.

President-elect**Dan Michaelson**

Dan Michaelson would consider it a privilege to serve on the Virginia Chapter AFS ExCom. Dan completed his B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife at the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1993. From there he completed his M.S. at Virginia Tech in 1996 working on predation of stocked striped bass by largemouth bass at Smith Mountain Lake. After grad school, Dan worked with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources for four-and-a-half years as a district fisheries biologist. In 2001 he ended up back in Virginia where he works as a VDGIF fisheries biologist in Farmville.

Dan has been a member of the American Fisheries Society since 1991. He has been a member of the Virginia Tech Chapter where he served as secretary and participated in many committees. He has also been a member of the Kentucky Chapter and is now a member of the Virginia Chapter. Dan has been active in the Nominating Committee and Awards Committee and looks forward to expanding his role in the Society.

If elected, Dan's main goal will be to encourage more involvement of Virginia professionals outside VDGIF in the Chapter.

Bob Greenlee

Bob Greenlee is a fisheries biologist with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF), based in the Department's Williamsburg office. Bob's work focuses on tidal river fisheries management. Bob earned a Masters degree in biology (aquatic ecology) from Virginia Commonwealth University, and has been a biologist for VDGIF since 1996. Bob has been an active member of the Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society since 1992, he has served as Treasurer, and served on multiple Chapter Committees. Bob has also been active in the Southern Division, having served on the Southern Division Pollution Committee and serving on the recently formed Ictalurid Committee.

If elected, Bob will be another lame duck biding his time until the end of his term when he can pick up his plaque and turn the reigns of power over to a more active and engaged president such as Dan Michaelson.

Secretary**Robert Humston**

Robert Humston is in his first year as an assistant professor at the Virginia Military Institute, where he teaches courses in ecology and evolution in the Biology Department. His research focuses on spatial dynamics and dispersal ecology of fish populations. Robert received a Bachelor's degree in Biology and English from Bowdoin College in 1994, and later a PhD in Marine Biology and Fisheries from the University of Miami / R.S.M.A.S. He has held post-

doctoral appointments at R.S.M.A.S. and Penn State, and adjunct professorships at Penn State and Washington and Lee University.

Robert has been a member of AFS since 1994 and was the first recipient of the Florida Chapter Roger Rottman Memorial Scholarship. During graduate school in Florida he was very appreciative of the chapter's efforts to support students and encourage their participation in chapter activities. Now that he is settled in Lexington, he is eager to become more active in the Virginia Chapter and contribute his time and effort in kind.

Steve Owens

Steve Owens is a fisheries biologist with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries out of the Fredericksburg Regional Office where he services the northern Virginia area. He has worked in Region V since 2002 on a variety of resources including small impoundments, rivers, and most recently the exotic northern snakehead. Steve earned his Bachelor's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1993 and his Master's degree from Tennessee Technological University in 1998. He has also worked as a district fisheries biologist for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in Albany, Georgia and as a Marine Scientist at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, Virginia. Steve is a certified fisheries professional and has been a member of AFS since 1993 and a Virginia Chapter member since returning to the state in 2002.

Treasurer

George Devlin

George is employed by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) as an aquatic biologist in the West Central Regional Office in Roanoke. He received his B.S. (1996) in Fisheries Science from Virginia Tech and his M.S. (1998) in Biology (Fisheries Management) from Tennessee Tech. George began his professional career with VDEQ in 1998. In addition to conducting biological monitoring in a 12 county region, George investigates fish kills and other pollution impacts, assists with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) studies to determine stressors to biological communities, coordinates water quality data transfer with fisheries biologists and students, and assists local schools and citizens through environmental outreach projects.

George has been a member of the AFS parent society since 1994 and the Virginia Chapter since 1999. He currently chairs the Environmental Concerns committee of the Virginia Chapter and is a member of the parent society's Water Quality Section. George also serves on the Trout and Warmwater Stream Committees in the Southern Division. George was co-chair of the Virginia Tech Chapter's Aquaculture Committee (1995-1996) and served as the Secretary-Treasurer with the Fisheries Student Association at Tennessee Tech (1997-1998).

John Kauffman

John Kauffman is a token candidate for Treasurer and encourages you to vote for George Devlin. John is Regional Fisheries Manager for Region 5. He started as a DGIF district biologist covering 25 counties in 1971, which is before many of you were born. John was a founding member of the Potomac and Virginia AFS Chapters and served as treasurer for the Potomac Chapter. John was also a founding member of the AFS So. Div. warmwater streams and the instream flow committees. When you have been here that long, you have to be a founding member of at least something! John is active in instream flow issues and authored publications on size limit evaluations, lake management and instream flow issues. He graduated from

Humboldt University with a Bachelor's in Fisheries and a Master's in Biology. John has been a member of AFS since Transaction Vol. 95 and a certified Fisheries Scientist since 1985. He has served as mail ballot chair for several division and national AFS elections and is currently on the AFS Certification Review Board.

VA-AFS Officer contact information:

President: Steve Reeser, Steve.Reeser@dgif.virginia.gov
, 540-248-9360

President-elect: John Odenkirk, John.Odenkirk@dgif.virginia.gov, 540-899-4169

Treasurer: Mike Odom, amshad@erols.com, 804-829-5322

Secretary: Shelly Miller, Shelly.Miller@dgif.virginia.gov, 804-367-0909

Immediate Past President: Mark Hudy, hudymx@jmu.edu, 540-568-2704

If you received this newsletter by snail mail and would like to receive it electronically, please contact Shelly Miller with your e-mail address. Thanks!