

TEXAS CHAPTER - AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
Number 1, March, 1976

For the past few years there has been considerable interest in forming a Texas Chapter, AFS. On November 5, 1975 this became a reality when over 100 fisheries workers and students attended a meeting at Texas A&M University. The objectives of the chapter are those as set forth in Article 1 of the AFS Constitution and to encourage the exchange of information by fishery workers residing within the State of Texas.

Ed W. Bonn (TP&WD) was elected President and James T. Davis (Texas A&M) was elected President Elect. Robert E. Stevens (TP&WD) was elected Secretary-Treasurer but resigned when he accepted a job with the National Marine Fisheries Service and moved to Washington, D.C. Terrance R. Leary (TP&WD) has agreed to do that job until our 1976 annual meeting.

A charter was drafted and has been submitted to the parent society for approval. It will be reviewed and acted upon at the society meeting in September. We have no reason to believe that there will be any problem, but this is required by AFS regulations. Anyone desiring a copy of our Bylaws should contact Jim Davis (Agr. Ext. Service, College Station 77843).

Dues were set at \$3.00 per year. A special fee of \$2.00 per year was established for student Membership cards have been designed and issued to 96 paid members. If you have joined and not received yours, contact Terry Leary.

The following members have agreed to serve on the 1976 committees:

Charter Committee

James Davis

Membership Committee

Richard Noble-Chairman

Fred Stevens

Frank Schlicht

David Pritchard

Auditing Committee

Shari Rische-Chairwoman

Neil Carter

Clark Hubbs

Program Committee

James Davis-Chairman (Bylaws Duty)

Billy White

James R. Stevens

Joe Kolb

(A local member will be appointed when location of annual meeting is determined.)

Nominating Committee

Bob Stickney-Chairman

Ed Franklin

Bob Hambric

Larry Campbell

Awards Committee

Lonnie Peters-Chairman

Joe T. Lock

Bobby Gene Whiteside

Many of our committees are already at work. The Awards Committee is considering a program to award two categories for "Outstanding Professional Fisheries Worker in Texas" and the "Outstanding Fishery Student Effort" for the year. The purpose of this program is to recognize those who have done outstanding jobs in Texas. It will be somewhat similar to the C. W. Watson or the American Motors Award, but limited to Texas workers.

This first newsletter is being sent to Chapter members, AFS members and other known fisheries workers in Texas. Undoubtedly someone will be missed. So please pass this along to your co-workers and associates so they too can "get the word." Subsequent mailings will be limited to those who have joined the Texas Chapter.

We hope our chapter will provide a means of professional interaction and communication among fisheries people in Texas. We also hope to present a unified stand on matters of fisheries and society activities. We want and need your ideas and suggestions. Our chapter can only be as good as we make it. So let us know how we can serve you.

Federal Legislation - Probably the most significant fishery legislation in our history has passed both Houses of Congress in two versions of H.R.200. A redraft by a joint committee is expected to be passed and approved by the President this spring. H.R.200, among other provisions, would: Extend U.S. jurisdiction over fisheries to 200 miles; set up eight

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regional councils to manage fisheries in this zone beyond present state jurisdiction; authorize the councils to provide management, licensing, and limited entry plans; provide for a five-state Gulf regional council composed of 15 voting members including the senior executive officer of each of the five Gulf States who is responsible for managing marine fisheries resources and ten appointed by the Secretary of Commerce from lists of five qualified individuals submitted by each Gulf State Governor. Non-voting council members would be regional directors of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Commander of the Coast Guard District, and the executive director of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

The effective date is expected to be after January 1, 1977, though regional councils would be established earlier to commence planning.

WANTED: INFORMATION - Information on Texas fisheries work and workers is needed for this newsletter. Your input would be welcomed. Send any information to the Secretary-Treasurer, address below on membership application.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
TEXAS CHAPTER-AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

I hereby apply for membership in the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and am enclosing a check (payable to Texas Chapter-AFS) for annual dues.

check one:

Regular Membership (\$3.00 dues)

Student Membership (\$2.00 dues) Indicate school: _____

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT:

_____ Name

_____ Mailing Address

_____ (include zip code)

MAIL THIS APPLICATION TO: T. R. LEARY, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Reagan Building, Austin, TX 78701

Leary
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Reagan Bldg.
Austin, TX 78701