



President's message

by Craig Bonds

We held our Chapter's annual meeting February 10-12, 2011, at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center in San Marcos. Attendance was higher than normal as evidenced by 207 registered guests, comprising a diverse mix of professionals and students (N = 38). Seventy-one participated in Thursday's continuing education workshop on side-scan imaging sonar and aquatic habitat mapping instructed by Adam Kaeser and Thom Litts of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. The plenary session consisted of five talks, each adhering to a common theme (Fish Habitat: Contemporary Approaches for Assessment, Conservation, Enhancement, and Restoration). Thirty-one technical presentations and thirteen posters provided quality information transfer opportunities. Podcasts of plenary and technical presentations are available for viewing online (<http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/meetings/11meet/TCAFS2011/index.htm>). The host hotel provided an excellent venue for our meeting. I would like to thank the army of volunteers that helped make the meeting a success. I am especially grateful to Greg Conley and the registration team (Jimmie Green, Patsy Berry, Janet Wisian, and Theresa and Gabrielle Conley), Danny Lewis for single-handedly recording, editing, and publishing the presentation podcasts, Ken Kurzawski for presiding and mentoring me, Dan Daugherty for putting the program together, Dan Bennett and Ben Neely for collecting an awesome assortment of raffle/auction items, Bruce Hysmith for auctioneering, Michelle Nations and Kevin Storey for taking pictures, meeting sponsors (United Phosphorous, Sepro, Water Monitoring Solutions, and HACH), and all the presenters and session moderators. It is a joy for me to witness students receiving such generous scholarships. Dave Terre, Mike Morgan, and Ray Mathews have done a phenomenal job administering student scholarships and funding support. Matt Chumchal and the Awards Committee deserve our appreciation for facilitating the recognition of our peers for outstanding work.

Since our meeting, I've received volunteer requests and have appointed two new committee leaders. Both have been active in the Chapter and their continued willingness to serve is no surprise to me. Dan Bennett will take the reins as Chair of the Continuing Education Committee. Greg Conley must be a TCAFS adrenaline junkie, as he will step down from his Secretary/Treasurer duties and join Ben Neely as Co-Chair of the Publicity/Exhibits Committee. Welcome back on board guys! Serving the Chapter is an honor and a privilege. Many have served over our 36-year history, and those that want to invest in both their professional organization and their own personal growth are always welcome. Even though our committee leader positions are filled for this year, it does not preclude anyone from volunteering their efforts as a committee member. I guarantee you will not regret serving.

As I stated in my remarks at the business meeting in San Marcos, my top priority this year is to update the TCAFS Procedural



Handbook and revise portions of the bylaws to bring these documents to a current, workable status. I will assemble a team to accomplish this. Keep in mind, these documents belong to the entire membership, and no changes will be made without prior notice and member consent.

I look forward to working with newly elected George Guillen (President-Elect) and Robert Mauk (Secretary/Treasurer) to carry out Chapter business on your behalf. If anyone has a question or comment, I can be reached by phone (903-566-1615 X 202) or email (craig.bonds@tpwd.state.tx.us).

President-elect's message

by George Guillen

I would like to thank all the TCAFS members who voted in this last Chapter election. I am extremely honored and excited to be selected as this year's President-elect and look forward to serving the Chapter and working closely with many of you during the next few years. John Clayton also deserves our appreciation for organizing and facilitating the candidate nomination and election process. Unfortunately for me I was not able to attend this year's meeting but based on the feedback I have received it was one of the most highly-attended meetings in the Chapter's history. The Continuing Education program also hit the mark with one of the highest attendance for any course in recent years. We thank Craig Bonds and his support team for putting on an excellent program. Even though it will be tough to top this achievement we hope to continue the proud tradition of providing an annual meeting that is informative, interesting and most of all a great opportunity to visit old friends and colleagues and meet a few new ones. I've have already been discussing some options for next year's meeting with several of the TCAFS officers. Several potential locations are currently being investigated. I can say we will probably bring things down south closer to the coast. One of the themes that have been kicked around is invasive species ecology and management. Given the major issues we are facing statewide in terms of potential threats to our fisheries and freshwater and marine biodiversity is the ever increasing threat of exotic plant and animal introductions.

I look forward to serving the Chapter and its members. I encourage all members to find opportunities to serve the Chapter. I know everyone is extremely busy, but there are opportunities that fit just about everyone's schedule ranging from formal committee membership to volunteering on various projects and at the annual meeting. For our younger members, volunteering your time with the TCAFS is an excellent way of networking and learning about what is going on regionally and in the state. Plus it is an excellent way to give back to an organization known for its excellent service to their membership and profession. The TCAFS is known throughout the country as one of the most active chapters. Please also consider membership and professional certification through the AFS parent society. Also, when possible please spread the word and hopefully recruit some new members. Tell them about all the fun they have been missing out on!

I look forward to serving the Chapter over the next two years. If you wish to volunteer or if you have any questions or suggestions, please send me an email (guillen@uhcl.edu) or call me at 281-283-3950.

From the desk of your outgoing Secretary / Treasurer

by Greg Conley

I want to thank the chapter members in their willingness to nominate and elect me for the prestigious job of watching over the Chapter's finances for the past two years. It was an honor to serve the Chapter in this capacity. I never once regretted accepting the nomination and actually had fun organizing the registrations for the past two meetings. This year I was able to be a part of a record-breaking number of registrants, and believe me it was a challenge. I would like to thank the volunteers who assisted me with the registration process over the last two years. I never took this position lightly and always held it in high regard during my tenure. I look forward to serving in my new capacity as Co-chair of the Publicity/Exhibits committee. Thank you and God bless you all.

Awards Committee update

by Matt Chumchal, Awards Committee Chair

Outstanding Fisheries Worker of the Year Awards for 2010 were presented at the annual meeting in San Marcos. These awards are given in several categories including Administration, Culture, Education, Management, Research, Student, Technical Support, and Special Recognition. Members are nominated by their colleagues and selected by the Awards Committee. Below are this year's award winners and a summary of their nomination letter.

Administration – Art Morris



Art Morris has worked for TPWD for almost 30 years. Art has been the outreach specialist for Coastal Fisheries since the mid-1990's on the Texas lower coast. He was involved in the outreach efforts for coastal fisheries as the license management programs for finfish and crabs were developed with those commercial fisheries, respectively. More importantly has been his continued role in the buyback programs that are associated with the license management programs. In addition, the Abandoned Crab Trap Removal Program (ACTRP), Flat-Out-Fishing, and Tarpon Observation Network (TON) all show his initiative and ability to reach out to the public and not only inform them but to empower anglers and conservationists to become involved with conservation efforts.

Culture – Juan Martinez

Juan does everything, from informative tours for visitors to setting new production records, while enabling his staff to be the best they can be. He simply wants to learn and do it all, and pretty much does. He runs his department as a true professional, assisting and motivating as well as anyone I have every worked with.



Education – Fran Gelwick



Dr. Fran Gelwick has been a member of the AFS since 1990, a professor at TAMU since 1995. Fran is committed to ensuring that the learning experiences for her students have a diverse and international perspective, which includes the awareness of current natural resource and management issues in other countries. Through special-problems courses, she has been able to impart experiences of designing experiments, data analysis, learning field and laboratory techniques, and carrying out aquatic assessment studies on private and state property, enabling her students to secure research assistantships and jobs in natural resource conservation and management. She is currently working on an interdisciplinary faculty team funded by the National Science

Foundation for Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology, and, as mentor, thinks of her students as extensions of her family, maintaining relationships with them well past their graduations.

Management – Dan Bennett

Dan Bennett has excelled in initiative and productivity during 2010. He pursued two fisheries management projects involving the characterization of tournament bow-angler effort and harvest of the Trinity River alligator gar population and investigating the use of side-scan-imaging technology for mapping aquatic vegetation. Dan developed and maintained social media communication techniques for his management district and constituents, and prepared a 46-page GIS "how-to" manual for instructing his TPWD peers in mapping and measuring aquatic habitat. Dan presented fisheries management information to multiple professional and public audiences during the past year, including the Angler/Biologist Meeting in Athens, the International Network for Lepisosteious Fish Research and Management in Baton Rouge, and the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Board meeting in San Marcos.



Research – Kristy Kollaus



Kristy Kollaus has excelled as research scientist, particularly in quantifying spatial and temporal patterns of fish communities in karst habitats and but also has worked collaboratively in a number of other fisheries-related projects. She has a demonstrated record of scholarly activity. Ms. Kollaus' work will be a lasting contribution to the management and conservation of endemic, threatened, and sport fishes dependent upon karst spring outflows, especially during an era of increasing groundwater extractions in the Edwards Plateau region. Based on the significance of the work and her productivity in a relatively short period of time, we believe that Ms. Kollaus is deserving of the recognition as Outstanding Fisheries

Worker of the Year Award for Fisheries Research in 2011.

Student – Katie Roach

Katie Roach displays all the attributes of an outstanding fisheries student– academic excellence, creativity and productivity in research, leadership among her peers, and service to the profession. Katie's research on the ecology of large rivers is contributing critical information for both fisheries management and biodiversity conservation in Texas and Latin America. She has already published several papers that illustrate innovative approaches for estimating food-web dynamics in relation to hydrology of large rivers. She has shown strong leadership on campus, including organization of the annual Ecological Integration Symposium at Texas A&M in 2008.



Technical Support – Danny Lewis

Danny provided excellent technical support in the form of researching and implementing new technology, allowing TPWD and TCAFS to share fisheries science information among professionals and the public by recording and posting presentations online for later viewing. Danny exceeded expectations in his technical support service to the TPWD Kills and Spills Team by writing software code to facilitate the online sharing and reporting of fish-kill data. Danny continued his professional

engagement with the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers (OFWIM) and their Data Standards Committee, being nominated for "Member at Large" for the second consecutive year, and giving two oral presentations at the OFWIM Conference in Kentucky covering his technical support work to TPWD Inland Fisheries personnel.

Special Recognition – Craig Bonds

This award is in special recognition for Craig Bonds who has displayed great leadership in the communication and exchange of information with anglers and in the development of a native aquatic plant nursery at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens Texas. Craig's actions benefited the Texas Chapter by increasing our exposure to non-traditional members. He showed leadership in the development of a native aquatic plant nursery that will benefit the fisheries resources of Texas and help develop new collaborations/partnerships with anglers to improve fish habitats. He is highly deserving of this award.



Special Recognition – Carl Kittel

As the program director for Rainbow Trout, state-wide, Carl Kittel makes a logistically complicated and difficult task look simple. His ability to make all of the people happy some of the time and some of the people happy all of the time is a testament to how well he does the job. The Rainbow trout program is one of the most popular fisheries programs in Texas, and Carl is in part, responsible for that level of success and customer enthusiasm. Job well done.

Special Recognition – Brian Van Zee

This award is in special recognition for Brian VanZee who has displayed great leadership in public communication and dealing with issues/problems associated with zebra mussels in Texas. Brian has built strong relationships with numerous state, federal and private organizations statewide. His attention to detail and hard work has given us a solid course of direction for dealing with this new invasive species in Texas. He has showed leadership to help prevent their spread across Texas and is highly deserving of this award.



The chapter also gives presentation awards at each annual meeting. Special thanks to all the TCAFS members that served as judges. Presentation award winners for the 2011 meeting will be:

Best Professional Presentation: David Buckmeier (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department), "Population dynamics of alligator gar in the Trinity River, Texas".

Best Professional Poster: Rae Deaton (St. Edwards University), "Preliminary population estimates, microhabitat and gut content analyses of the endangered Clear Creek Gambusia, *Gambusia heterochii*".

Best Student Presentation: Sandra Bibiana Correa (Texas A&M University), "Inferring trophic resource partitioning among Amazonian floodplain Serrasalmid fishes from $\delta^{13}C$ and $\delta^{15}N$ stable isotopes, stomach content and eco-morphological data".

Best Student Poster: Jacob Wadlington (Texas Christian University) “Survey of mercury concentrations in largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), white bass (*Morone chrysops*), and white crappie (*Pomoxis annularis*) from Six Dallas-Fort Worth Area Reservoirs.”

Student Outreach

by Mandy Scott, Student Outreach Chairperson

We had very good participation by students at this year’s annual conference in San Marcos. Overall, more students participated than in the previous year (38 students in 2011 versus 31 in 2010). Students enjoyed a student-professional mixer on the first evening, where one student earned a \$25 gift card for filling up his mixer card with professionals’ signatures. The next day, eight students benefited from a free lunch and more networking at the Student-Mentor Lunch. Many students gave oral and poster presentations. During the meeting students could browse the Jobs Board and talk to Joe Beach about how to get a foot in the door with Texas Parks and Wildlife. There was also information and applications available from Bass Brigade, the aquatic conservation leadership program for high school youth.

An exciting development for Bass Brigade is the growing partnership between the camp and Texas B.A.S.S. Federation. Tim Cook, Charles Harkless, and other Federation leaders helped put on the first Bass Brigade Open tournament last fall, raising over \$2700 for the camp. We hope to make this an annual fundraising event. Thank you to everyone in the B.A.S.S. Federation Nation who supported this event!



Several TX Chapter members volunteered their time to Bass Brigade in July 2010, and helped 24 high school youth to cultivate their interest in the outdoors into a passion for conservation. Thanks you guys—you know who you are! Many thanks are also due to the Texas Chapter for continuing their annual \$300 donation towards the camp! To find out more about Bass Brigade, check out the website at www.texasbrigades.org. This year’s Bass Brigade will be held July 11-15, 2011 at Warren Ranch Lodge near Coleman, TX. If you are interested in helping at camp or with other aspects of Student Outreach, I would love to tell you more. Contact me at mandy.scott@tpwd.state.tx.us or 325-651-5556.

Publicity / Exhibits Committee

by Ben Neely and Dan Bennett, Publicity/Exhibits Committee Co-Chairs

The raffle/auction at the 2011 TCAFS meeting in San Marcos was a huge success thanks to many generous individuals. Highlights of the raffle were a custom fishing rod built and donated by Walker Nelson of Nelson Custom Rods, a rod and reel combo donated by Bass Pro Shops, and a guided bass fishing trip, with lodging, at Choke Canyon donated by Choke Canyon Lodge. Silent auction items included several fish prints donated by Fred Janssen, a stained-glass piece constructed and donated by Gerald Kurten, and a custom fishing rod built by Larry LeBeau. The auction saw a diverse group of items with several notable trips. Guided fishing trips to Lakes Amistad, Tawakoni, and Fork were auctioned as well as hunting trips for geese and pigs.

The two “big-ticket” items this year were a crossbow and a muzzleloader. The crossbow was purchased at cost +10% and brought \$565 in profits. However, the



“feel-good” story of the meeting was the muzzleloader. Four individuals and one company made \$50 donations toward the Clark Hubbs Research Award. These donations were used to purchase a muzzleloader for the raffle. The muzzleloader brought \$520 in ticket sales and that money was put back in the Clark Hubbs Research Award fund. Because of the generosity of the donators and ticket buyers, we were able to turn \$250 into \$530 in just a couple of days.

All told, the raffle/auction raised \$4,611. This far exceeds last year’s total of \$3,200. Thanks are extended to everyone that donated raffle/auction items, everyone that purchased tickets or items, all of the individuals that acquired or picked up raffle/auction items, Teresa and Gabby Conley for their volunteer work, and Bruce Hysmith, who assured us he would be back next year, for his work as the auctioneer. We look forward to seeing you all next year and hope to have yet another successful raffle/auction.

History Section

by Michele Nations, Historian



“Today is tomorrow’s yesterday.” That’s my favorite saying as the TCAFS historian, so in this article, I’d like you to meet a current member, Dan Bennett. If you attended the Chapter meeting in February, you might have seen him in the room where the posters and vendor booths were located or in the banquet room displaying items up for bid. He was also featured in the April 2010 Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine, What’s in a name? Texas fish have plethora of confusing aliases. I should know because I won the bid on getting an autographed copy of the magazine in the silent bidding.

Dan began exploring the outdoors on his great-grandfather’s dairy farm in southeastern Hopkins County. When he was 12 years old, he could be seen fishing on Lake Fork. But Dan wanted to do more than just bait a hook

- he wanted to study them. He took biology classes in college and graduated with a Masters Degree from Stephen F. Austin in May 2007.

He began work with TPWD at the Jasper Aquatic Habitat Enhancement office in 2007 and then moved into the Tyler District 3C management office in 2008. Currently he is performing some research on bowfishing and better methods of quantifying alligator gar harvests, and, since he is never a person to be bored, he is also outlining a few projects on using side imaging sonar to map submerged aquatic macrophytes, as well as to locate and distinguish alligator gar. Tim Bister, TPWD District 3A supervisor stationed in Marshall, is going to be helping with the side imaging project for macrophytes, which will take place in Lake Tyler and a contract lake owned by Luminant. Most of the alligator gar work is being conducted in the Trinity River.

Thanks, Dan, for all of the hard work you and Ben Neely did on the raffle and auction!



2011 Student Scholarship award winners



Chapter President Ken Kurzawski (right) presents Student Scholarship award to Nathan Furey



Kurzawski (right) presents Student Scholarship award to Niki Ragan (M.S).

Scholarship Committee Chairman Dave Terre (left), and Endowments Committee Chairman Mike Morgan (right), along with John Mohan and Judson Curtis, Harry Tennyson Scholarships by the Sportsman's Club of Fort Worth (Ph.D).



Chapter President Ken Kurzawski (right) presents Student Scholarship award to Mark Thomas (B.S).



Chapter President Ken Kurzawski (right) presents the Clark Hubbs Student Research Award to Carmen G. Montana. Chapter President Ken

Presentation Award winners from 2010 meeting in Athens



Ben Labay (left) receives awards from Chapter president Ken Kurzawski for Best Student Presentation; "Spatial and temporal fish community assessment on major subbasins of the lower Brazos River watershed" and Best Student Poster; "Preliminary species distribution models for freshwater fish species of Texas" from the 2010 meeting in Athens.

Mike Stahl (right) receives award from Chapter president Ken Kurzawski for Best Professional Poster; "A preliminary assessment of oyster reef and shoreline habitat use by estuarine finfish in East Matagorda Bay and Galveston Bay, Texas" from the 2010 meeting in Athens.



TCAFS EXCOM and Committees Meeting Agenda February 12, 2011 San Marcos, Texas by Greg Conley, Secretary Treasurer

Call to Order: by Ken Kurzawski at 11:27 am.

Determination of a quorum: Yes

Approval of minutes: Ken asked for approval of last year's annual meeting minutes (as published in Volume 36(1) of the TCAFS newsletter). John Taylor made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Charlie Munger. Motion was approved.

President's report: (Ken Kurzawski)

- Ken thanked the Past Presidents that attended the breakfast. Past presidents in attendance at the business meeting were: Brian VanZee, Tim Bonner, Art Morris, Debbie Wade, Dave Terre, Fran Gelwick, Gary Garrett, Gene Wilde, Gordon Linam, Charlie Munger, and Mark Webb.
- Ken extended his appreciation to all of the present Chapter committee members for their hard work and also to Craig Bonds for putting together a great meeting.
- Ken stated he did not get the chance to update the Chapter's bylaws.

Secretary Treasurer's report: (Greg Conley)

- The Chapter's cash account balance as of the business meeting was \$22,486.99, but was expected to increase after the deposit of the meeting's income. (Note: The balance as of 2/28/11 was \$28,578.74 after paying a total of \$15,197.05 to Embassy Suites Hotel for the meeting. Total income from the meeting was \$26,191.00 - \$21,580.00 for registration fees, member dues and various donations and \$4,611.00 from auction/raffle.
- There were a total of 206 registrations processed, 4 exhibitors/sponsors, and several volunteers assisting and spouses attending the banquet.

Committee Reports:

Awards – (Matt Chumchal)

- Each of the Fisheries Worker of the Year categories received an award this year.
- Award Recipients are as follows – Fisheries Worker of the Year in:
 - **Fisheries Administration** – Art Morris
 - **Fish Culture** – Juan Martinez
 - **Fisheries Management** – Dan Bennett
 - **Fisheries Research** – Kristy Kollaus
 - **Fisheries Student** – Katie Roach
 - **Technical Support** – Danny Lewis
 - **Education** – Fran Gelwick
 - **Special Recognition** – Brian Van Zee
 - **Special Recognition** – Craig Bonds
 - **Special Recognition** – Carl Kittel
- 2011 Best Presentation winners are as follows: (student presentations were very close in score)
 - Best Professional Oral – Dave Buckmeier
 - Best Professional poster – Rae Deaton
 - Best Student Oral – Bibiana Carrera
 - Best Student Poster – Jacob Wadlington

Continuing Education – Open

- There were 71 participants in the workshop this year which was given by Adam Kaeser and Tom Litts of the Georgia DNR.

Editorial – (Dan Daugherty)

- This year there were more Abstracts turned in than there were spots for presentations.
- The annual proceedings have now gone to electronic format only as discussed previously and have been approved by the Parent Society.
- Thanks to Tim Birdsong for his help in accomplishing this task.

Endowments – (Dave Terre)

- Dave is looking for additional members to assist him in this mission critical effort. Considerable effort was made to carve out our new relationship with the Sportsmen's Club of Fort Worth on the delivery of a new scholarship award program. Dave also worked with Merrill Lynch, and the TCAFS EXCOM, to reorganize our investment portfolio to position it for better long term growth in the current market.
- The TCAFS started the year with a balance of \$100,333 in our Scholarship Endowment Account. Income during 2010 was \$23,317 (\$15,000 – Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation; \$2,000 – Sportsmen's Club of Fort Worth; \$6,317-Proceeds from the 2010 meeting and TCAFS Raffle). Debits during 2010 were \$4500 (three student scholarships awarded @ \$1,500 each). The total amount invested in the endowment was \$18,817. The net interest and dividends on our investments during 2010 was \$3,727 giving us an ending balance of \$118,504.
- For 2011, we received an additional \$10,000 donation from the Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation. The Sportsmen's Club of Fort Worth paid two \$1,500 scholarships this year to honor the legacy of one of their past members (Harry Tennison). The TCAFS paid out an additional three \$1,500 student scholarships, plus a \$500 student research grant award given in honor of Clark Hubbs. A total of 6 scholarships or awards (totaling \$8,000) were paid to deserving fisheries students (BS, MS and PhD candidates) using our internal selection processes. This was an all time record for the Texas Chapter. Proceeds from our 2011 meeting auction and raffle will be deposited in

the endowment account as soon as possible.

- Dave Terre thanked all contributors to the student scholarship and research grant awards programs (The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation; the Sportsmen's Club of Fort Worth; Kirk Winemiller and other former students of Clark Hubbs; members of the TPWD Watershed Program Team, and other monetary contributions made by the general membership, TCAFS sponsors, and through the TCAFS raffle/auction. The committee will continue to nurture the relationships we have with current Student Scholarship Program contributors and keep lines of communication open.
- Dave recognized two key individuals (Jimmie and Kirk Green) for their continued help with TCAFS Endowment Committee activities and for their communications with the Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation. He also recognized Ray Matthews for his tireless work on the Clark Hubbs Research Grant Award and Dr. Ray Drenner for his help with the Sportsmen's Club of Fort Worth. Dave also recognized Mike Morgan and the entire Student Scholarship Selection Committee, for all their outstanding work over the past year.

History – (Michele Nations)

- Michele requested that all University professors send in their local student chapter information and photos so she can add it to the history page.
- Still working on current events.
- Working with the University of North Texas to get them Chapter information.

Internet – (John Taylor)

- Discussed the use of new online technology such as Google Docs for Chapter website information.
- Asked for anyone interested in working with the committee to call him.

Issues – (Chris Moret & Niki Ragan)

- No report

Membership – (Dennis Smith)

- 2010 membership was 210 members.
- 2011 membership so far is 210 but will update soon.

Newsletter – (Kevin Storey)

- In 2011, there were 4 issues released and the deadline for the upcoming issue is February 28, 2011 for all committees to send in their reports for submission to the next newsletter.

Nominating – (John Clayton)

- President-elect nominations for 2011 were George Guillen and Dave Buzan. George Guillen was voted as our new President-elect.
- Secretary/Treasurer nominations for 2011 were Hugh Glenewinkel and Robert Mauk. Robert was voted to be our new Secretary/Treasurer.
- Only about 40% (63% online and 37% paper ballot) of the membership voted in the election and John is encouraging all members to vote.

Pond Management – (John Tibbs)

- No report

Publicity/Exhibits – (Dan Bennett & Ben Neely)

- The auction / raffle brought in a profit of \$4,611.00.

Scholarships – (Mike Morgan)

- Mike thanked his committee members for all of their help in evaluating the applicants for student scholarships. Announcements regarding the student scholarship opportunities with TCAFS were mailed out to over 80 locations and only 12 applications were received.
- A total of 3 scholarships were awarded this year by the chapter and the Chapter was given the opportunity to determine the applicants who received the two scholarships provided by the Fort Worth Sportsmen's Club through our Chapter in honor of Harry Tennison.

- Award recipients were Nathan Furey, Niki Ragan, and Mark Thomas. The two that received the Sportsmen's Club awards were Judson Curtis and John Mohan.
- Ray Mathews – gave thanks to all of those who donated to the Clark Hubbs Scholarship fund. Carmen Montana was the student who received the Clark Hubbs award this year.

Student Outreach – (Mandy Scott)

- Eight students showed up for the mentor lunch and a total of 38 students registered for the conference.
- The Texas Bass Brigades is going strong and under new partnership with the Texas Bass Federation.
- Cadets ages 13 – 17 are allowed to apply for the next brigade to be held on July 11-16, 2011 at the Warren Ranch in Coleman County.

Old Business:

1. Revision/updating of bylaws.
 - The bylaws and procedural manual need to be updated. Other considerations are how we want to present this material (web only?) and how to update the other materials in the manual.
2. Financial support to divisional/ annual meetings.
 - Last year the Chapter assisted Fred Jansen with his expenses to attend the SDAFS meeting. Other professional meetings have searched out financial support and approached the Chapter for assistance. There were no comments by the membership on this issue.

Installation of New President: Craig Bonds was installed as new president.

Craig gave his appreciation and thanks to the outgoing officers for their hard work and support for the 2011 meeting. Craig also presented Ken with the Past President's plaque and also an appreciation plaque to Greg Conley for his service as the outgoing Secretary/Treasurer.

Craig's Goals:

1. To fill the two empty committee chairs (Continuing Education and Publicity/Exhibits). (Note: Since the meeting Craig has filled both vacancies. Dan Bennett will chair Continuing Education and Greg Conley will Co-chair Publicity/Exhibits.
2. Craig committed to update the Chapter Bylaws.
3. Craig will work with John Taylor to make the 2011 EXCOM meetings available in electronic format.
4. The next EXCOM meeting is scheduled for sometime in April 2011.

New Business: No new business.

Adjourn:

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Flotsam & Jetsam – fish stories from around the world

➤ **The State of the Gulf: America's sea**

In case you did not get to see the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department documentary on Texas PBS stations in February, you can now watch it online at <http://www.texasthestateofwater.org/>.

➤ **Census of marine life**

The first Census of Marine Life, a 10-year international effort undertaken to assess the diversity, distribution, and abundance of marine life was completed in late 2010. This undertaking involved 2,700 scientists from over 80 nations who spent 9,000 days at sea and conducted 540 expeditions at a cost of US\$ 650 million. The census has yielded more than 2,600 scientific publications, identified over 6,000 potential new species, and produced in excess of 28 million distribution records.



This is the most comprehensive inventory of known marine life ever completed and cataloged.

"An immense dream, this has been a moon shot for marine biology," says Census co-founder Jesse Ausubel of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. "The bottom line is we have found more amazing beauty and diversity than we ever expected or we had even imagined." <http://www.coml.org/>

You can download the 64-page report entitled "First census of marine life 2010: Highlights of a decade of discovery" in pdf format. This reports describes the Census research projects and organizational structure along with some of the scientific highlights of 10 years of exploration.

<http://www.coml.org/pressreleases/census2010/PDF/Highlights-2010-Report-Low-Res.pdf>

➤ **Solar-powered catamaran**

Tûranor PlanetSolar is a 101-ft futuristic multi-hull yacht designed by the New Zealand company LOMOcean Design that was launched on March 31, 2010. This solar-powered boat, the biggest ever built, was constructed in Kiel, Germany by Knierim Yachbau. The solar panels cover an area of 5,780 ft², consist of 825 modules and are equipped with 38,000 individual photovoltaic cells. Energy is stored in six blocks containing 12 batteries each (648 cells using maintenance-free lithium ion technology by GAIA from Nordhausen in Germany). Each of these blocks weighs about one-seventh of traditional lead batteries. Four electric motors, two per drive shaft, have a maximum output of 120 kW and an efficiency of 90%. They drive two counter-rotating carbon propellers with a diameter approaching 2 meters.



The ship started the process of circumnavigating the globe on September 27, 2010 from Monaco under the control of a crew of six at an average speed of 7.5 knots (8.6 mph). Its top speed is 14 knots (16 mph). Tûranor PlanetSolar can accommodate up to 40 people during promotional trips planned at each port of call. This vessel is exclusively powered by solar energy and plans to be the first boat to circumnavigate the world using this power source. Initiators of the project plan to focus public awareness on the importance of renewable energies and to demonstrate the feasibility of transporting people and goods by sea in an environmentally-friendly way. The boat is registered in Switzerland and was financed by a German entrepreneur to the tune of € 12.5 million (US \$17.1 million).

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IcbFWo00jM4&feature=related>

➤ **Frankenfish**

Frankenfish was a 2004 horror movie about genetically engineered fish in the bayou based on the discovery of snakeheads in Crofton Pond, Maryland. Nowadays the term has been applied to genetically engineered (GE) Atlantic salmon developed by AquaBounty Technologies of Waltham, Massachusetts. AquaAdvantage® salmon are sterile female fish that include a gene from Chinook salmon which enables the fish to produce growth hormone all year long thereby attaining marketable size in half the time of conventional salmon. The fish do not reach a larger ultimate size, they just get to market size faster. Company biologists inserted a "gene construct" from an ocean pout which keeps the growth hormone constantly active. Conventional salmon produce this hormone naturally though not all the time.



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is reviewing Aqua Bounty Technologies' application for approval of "AquaAdvantage" genetically engineered salmon although current FDA regulations require modified foods to be labeled as such only if the food is substantially different from the conventional version. The agency has already



said that the modified salmon is essentially the same as the Atlantic salmon. The company plans to market AquaAdvantage salmon eggs to land-based salmon hatcheries that will provide high-quality facility management and control.

Critics express concern if the fish are sold for food they may contain potential human allergies and they may have a negative affect on natural fish populations if they escape.

<http://www.aquabounty.com/PressRoom/#1>

<http://www.fda.gov/AdvisoryCommittees/CommitteesMeetingMaterials/VeterinaryMedicineAdvisoryCommittee/ucm222635.htm>

➤ **Bownessie sightings on the increase**

Lake Windermere in the English Lake District is the largest natural lake in England. It is a ribbon lake 10.5 miles long with a depth of 220 ft and a surface area of 3,641 acres. It is also home to “Bownessie”, a 50-foot long “English Loch Ness Monster”. In mid-February two kayakers observed “an animal the size of three cars” speed past them on the lake. They claimed it was moving at about 10 mph and each hump moved in a rippling motion. After 20 seconds it “plunged out of sight”. The shaken pair did have the foresight to take a picture with a camera phone before they beat a hasty retreat to the shore!



Dr. Ian Winfield, a lake ecologist from the Univeristy of Lancaster runs echo sounding surveys every month and has never found anything. He expressed skepticism and said "It's possible that it's a catfish from Eastern Europe, and people are misjudging the size, but there is no known fish as large as the descriptions we're hearing that could be living in Windermere". Skeptism or not, this is the eighth sighting in the last 5 years.

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/3418428/Loch-Ness-Monster-lookalike-spotted-in-Lake-Windermere.html?OTC-RSS&ATTR=News>

Freebies for the busy fisheries professional!

➤ **On the path to the paperless office**

One way to get closer to the panacea of a paperless office is to disable our ability to print documents. We have heard about this theoretical office for years and now the World Wildlife Fund has made a stab at making it real. They have created a new file format *.wwf which enables you to save documents in a format similar to *pdf but the option to print is disabled. Software for Windows and Mac is available. <http://www.saveaswwf.com/en/>



➤ **There's probably a shortcut for that!**

If you want to speed up your computing you might consider becoming familiar with keyboard shortcuts that will make incessant mouse-clicking seem painfully inefficient. There are some shortcuts such as Copy, Paste, and Cut that are universal across Windows applications but most programs have their own unique combinations. Ready to dig deeper?

- Internet Explorer: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows7/Internet-Explorer-keyboard-shortcuts>
- Firefox: <http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/Keyboard%20shortcuts>
- Chrome: <http://www.google.com/support/chrome/bin/static.py?page=guide.cs&guide=25799&topic=28650>
- Word 2010: <http://office2010.microsoft.com/en-us/word-help/keyboard-shortcuts-for-microsoft-word-HP010370109.aspx>
- Excel 2010: <http://office2010.microsoft.com/en-us/excel-help/keyboard-shortcuts-in-excel-2010->

HP010342494.aspx

- Outlook 2010: <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/outlook-help/keyboard-shortcuts-for-microsoft-outlook-2010-HP010354403.aspx>
- Thunderbird: <http://support.mozillamessaging.com/en-US/kb/Keyboard+shortcuts>
- Windows Media Player 12: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows7/Windows-Media-Player-keyboard-shortcuts>
- Adobe Photoshop CS5: http://help.adobe.com/en_US/photoshop/cs/using/WSD578BD7D-07BC-46f6-AAC2-6E491E8AD818a.html

➔ Recover deleted files

Oops you permanently delete a file so it's no longer in your Recycle bin, or your system crashes and your drive won't respond. What to do now? Reach for some recovery software or pay someone big bucks to do it for you. Recuva (<http://www.piriform.com/recuva/features>) is free to try but the author accepts donations to sponsor further development. I have used this application to recover data from a hard drive that was no longer accessible, so I give it an enthusiastic "thumbs up". Alternatively you could try Easeus Data Recovery Wizard Free Edition (<http://www.easeus.com/datarecoverywizard/free-data-recovery-software.htm>) which will let you recover 1 GB of data free of charge. If you need higher capacity they offer their commercial product Data Recovery Wizard (<http://www.easeus.com/datarecoverywizard/>). It offers one free file recovery with its demo version before you have to pay the retail price.

➔ Delete it once and for all

Every once in a while we hear stories about problems associated with disposing of hard drives in computer systems. So you want to dispose of your computer and you would like to make sure everything on your hard drive is removed. Don't fall into the trap of believing you can format your drive and thwart identity thieves. The data still recoverable if you have the right software and you want to get to it badly enough (See previous item). The most reliable methods of clearing all of this information away generally involve booting your system into an alternate operating environment and performing some kind of erasure. One of the more reputable is Darik's Boot And Nuke (DBAN), an open-source program that runs on a self-contained boot disk that securely wipes hard disks of most computers (<http://www.dban.org/>). You download an iso file which needs to be 'burned' to CD-R or DVD-R media. This creates a bootable CD or DVD which is used to access your hard drive and clean it off.



Alternatively if you are a bit better prepared you can install applications that run in Windows to allow you to securely delete files when you no longer need them. Eraser (<http://eraser.heidi.ie/>) is one such program. Install this baby and you can scrub what you no longer need. You can permanently delete files or entire directories to keep prying eyes away from your sensitive data. You can even use it to delete an external USB drive connected to your system so in theory you can prepare a drive for donation by this means. Just add your drive to a drive enclosure, connect it up and hose it down! The Windows optimization utility Glary Utilities (<http://www.glarysoft.com/products/utilities/glary-utilities/download/>) also includes File Shredder and File Undelete utilities. I'm not sure if one counteracts the other!

If neither of these methods are reliable enough for you, you can rip the case apart with a sledgehammer and a chisel. If you decide to go that route, there are incredibly strong magnets in older drives that are worth salvaging.

• PADI mobile app



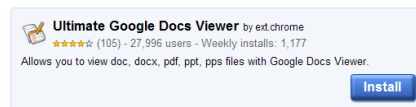
Finally a tip for the divers in our midst! PADI has released a free mobile app, PADI Dive Shop Locator, that lets you find PADI Dive Centers and Dive Resorts all over the world. Search by city, postal or zip code or country to get a Google map showing the locations of PADI dive shops. Click on the link and you'll get contact information. It's available for iOS devices and Android OS-based phones or tablets. Apple users can download it through the Apple App Store.

<http://www.padi.com/scuba/padi-mobile/>

➤ Google Docs viewer

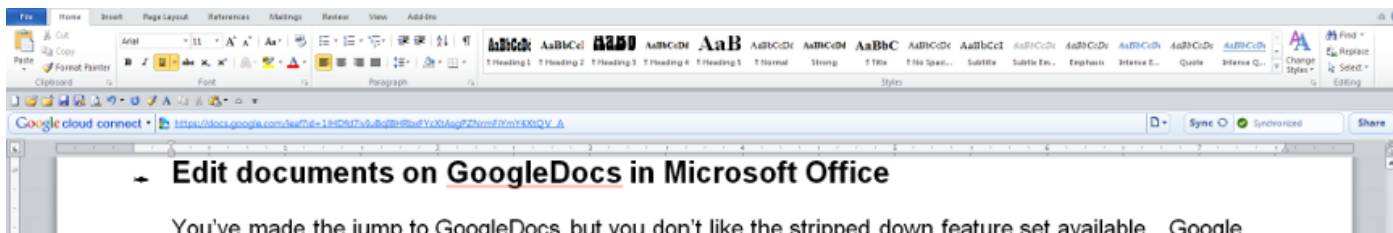
In our wired world it's common to come across files of various formats available for download from websites. Having to wait to download these files before you can look at them can be a pain. Wouldn't it be great to be able to view some of these common file formats directly from your browser? There are extensions available for Google Chrome (<https://chrome.google.com/extensions/detail/edqbhipncfdgceklcoelhmnkcfdfjcl#>) and Mozilla Firefox (<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-us/firefox/addon/google-docs-viewer-pdf-doc-doc/>) that will load the Google Docs Viewer to make your life easier. In Chrome you can just click on the link but in Firefox you need to right click the link and select "Open Link in Google Docs Viewer".

If you decide you like what you see you can then save the files to your hard drive. Supported formats include the following; Adobe PDF (.PDF), Microsoft Word (.DOC and .DOCX), Microsoft Excel (.XLS and .XLSX), Microsoft PowerPoint (PPT, .PPTX), Apple Pages (.PAGES), Adobe Illustrator (.AI), Adobe Photoshop (.PSD), Autodesk AutoCad (.DXF), Scalable Vector Graphics (.SVG), PostScript (.EPS, .PS), TrueType (.TTF), XML Paper Specification (.XPS), TIFF (.TIF, .TIFF). If you receive e-mails with attachments of these file types in a Gmail account, the Google Docs Viewer will open them natively; just look for the "View" link. Don't be surprised if some of the more complicated formatting gets scrambled in the viewer. After all don't forget, it's free!



➤ Edit documents on GoogleDocs in Microsoft Office

You've made the jump to GoogleDocs but you don't like the stripped down feature set available with the online apps. Google now offers a plug-in for Microsoft Office (2003, 2007, and 2010) that lets you edit documents stored on GoogleDocs in Microsoft Office. You can now access you files from anywhere, automatically back them up and share and simultaneously edit them with colleagues. All you need to begin is a copy of Microsoft Office and a Google account. Watch the video and download the Google Cloud Connect plug-in at: http://tools.google.com/dlpage/cloudconnect#utm_campaign=launch&utm_source=en-na-us-gdb-GCC-Appspierence_02242011&utm_medium=blog



Join the Texas Chapter

If you are interested in joining or renewing your membership to the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, you can get membership materials at our web site, www.sdafs.org/tcafs/index.htm or by contacting Dennis Smith, Dundee State Fish Hatchery, Rt. 1 Box 123A, Electra, TX 76360, (940) 586-1203, dennis.Smith@tpwd.state.tx.us.

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