



## President's Message

First, I would like to say "Thanks for a great two years of leadership" to Marcel Reichert for his service as President of the SC-AFS Chapter during 2006 and 2007. Also, recognition goes to Carrie Hendrix who served as secretary/treasurer for the past two years. At the 2008 annual meeting, Anna Toline was elected as the new president-elect and Elizabeth Osier as secretary/treasurer.

We are in the process of organizing the Fall workshop. "Aquatic Invasive Species" will be the subject of the workshop this year. We are enlisting several speakers who are knowledgeable on this subject and will discuss approaches to invasive species control and present case studies. We plan to have a breakout session with each speaker to discuss emerging issues. The workshop will be held October 2 from 9:30 to 3:30 at the Clemson Sandhill Research and Education Center in Columbia, SC. Announcements and registration forms have been emailed to the membership and posted to our website. Please register in a timely manner so that we can plan accordingly for lunch. It is not too early to begin thinking about the 2009 workshop. It would be a tremendous help to know the interest of the membership in subjects for the workshop. We are counting on your input!

In consultation with SCFWA we have selected a date and location for our 2009 annual meeting. It is February 12 (Thursday) and 13 (Friday) at the Clemson University Outdoor Lab in Clemson SC. Look for information in this newsletter and check our website for details. An announcement and registration form will be emailed to the membership sometime in the Fall. We will contact many of you to help us in organizing the meeting. Please let us know if you are available.

In February of this year, the SC-AFS annual meeting was held at Santee State Park. Thanks to all who volunteered their time in organizing the meeting and to all who participated in this year's meeting. The 2008 meeting was organized jointly with SCFWA and was well attended by members of both organizations. There were 120 fisheries professionals and students at the meeting. Our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a chapter was celebrated and attended by several charter members, including officers. Dr. Reggie Harrell, first SC-AFS president; Dr. John Mark Dean, first president-elect; and Dr. Jim Bulak, first secretary/treasurer were each recognized with plaques at the business meeting.

Chris McDonough has volunteered to take the lead on the Awards Committee. Chris will be soliciting nominations from you for the 2008 Conservationist of the Year Award. This award is presented at the annual meeting. The nomination form is attached to this newsletter and can be mailed to [McDonoughC@dnr.sc.gov](mailto:McDonoughC@dnr.sc.gov). Marcel Reichert has volunteered to take the lead on the Nominating Committee and would appreciate your input during this next year.

Our thanks go to Tim Snoots, as always, for his efforts in keeping our website up-to-date. Please give us your thoughts about the website and any suggestions for improvement. Also, let us know if you have any information or announcements to add to the website ([www.scafs.org](http://www.scafs.org)).

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Workshop in October and the annual meeting in Clemson.

Jeanne Riley SC-AFS President

## South Carolina Chapter Receives the Outstanding Small Chapter Award

SC received the outstanding Small Chapter Award on February 29 2008 by the Southern Division. This award is a testament to the hard work of officers and membership in our chapter.

The award recognizes outstanding professionalism, active resource protection, and enhancement programs, as well as a strong commitment to the mission of the Society. The South Carolina chapter has been selected in recognition of its accomplishments in the areas of Aquatic Stewardship, Information Transfer and Outreach, and Member Services.

The award will be presented at the 2008 AFS Annual Meeting in Ottawa, Canada, during the Business Meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, August 19th, 3:30-5:30 PM at the Chateau Laurier, Ballroom.

## Fall Workshop 2008

"Aquatic Invasive Species" is the subject of the SC-AFS Fall Workshop, cosponsored by the SCFWA. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday, October 2 from 9:30-3:30 at the Clemson Sandhill Research and Education Center in Columbia, SC. For this workshop, we have enlisted several speakers with expertise in the field of aquatic invasive species. An overview of aquatic invasive species will be presented by Jack Whetstone (Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service). Chris Page (SC Department of Natural Resources) will provide information on approaches to invasive species control. Several speakers will present case studies on various organisms threatening marine and freshwater resources of South Carolina. An afternoon break out session will provide group interaction with the speakers and an opportunity to discuss emerging issues. A registration fee of \$10.00 will cover lunch and breaks. The workshop announcement and registration form can be found on our website ( [www.scafs.org](http://www.scafs.org) ). **Please RSVP to Elizabeth Osier ( [secretary@scafs.org](mailto:secretary@scafs.org) ) by September 19 so that we can plan refreshments and meals.** Directions to the Clemson Sandhill

Research and Education Center can be found at <http://www.clemson.edu/sandhill>.

Date: October 2, 2008  
Time: 9:30-3:30  
Location: Clemson Sandhill Research and Education Center  
Columbia, SC

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## Jack Bayless Award for Best Professional Paper Dr. George R. Sedberry, South Carolina DNR

Dr. George Sedberry was announced as the winner of the 2007 Bayless Award at our Annual Meeting on February 4, 2008 at Santee State Park, SC. The award was for Dr Sedberry's presentation "Spawning of black grouper (*Mycteroperca bonaci*) in Belize" (co-author: Mito Paz) which he presented on January 24, 2007 at the SC-AFS annual meeting in Tybee Island, Georgia.

The Bayless Award was created in honor of Jack D. Bayless, to recognize the best South Carolina presentation/paper given at each annual chapter meeting. Each year, volunteer judges evaluate presentations in the following categories:

- Significance to aquaculture and fisheries,
- Experimental design and analysis,
- Organization,
- Presentation, and
- Quality of visual aids.

Presenters are scored on a scale of one to four, four being excellent, for each category. The presenter with the highest total score receives the award. Any members interested in volunteering as judges for the next annual meeting, or joining the Awards Committee, should contact SC-AFS President or President-elect.

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## Conservationist of the Year Award

Dr. Victor Burrell Jr. was named 2007 Conservationist of the Year at the annual meeting of the SC-AFS this year. This is the most prestigious award bestowed by the SC-AFS Chapter and it

recognizes outstanding contributions in the conservation of South Carolina fishery resources.



Marcel Reichert presenting the Conservationist of the Year Award to Dr. Burrell

Dr. Burrell served as director of the Marine Resources Research Institute from 1972 until his retirement in 1990. Though in retirement, Dr. Burrell still spends time conserving natural resources. He is actively working on a paper to document SC's historical blue crab fishery. In addition to his numerous scientific publications, Dr. Burrell has already documented SC's historical oyster industry in a book in which he provides the reader with unique anecdotal information from the fishermen themselves. No one else could have brought this important economic aspect of SC history to life and to the page as effectively as Dr. Burrell. Over the last 35 years in Charleston, Dr. Burrell has initiated, conducted and directed research focused primarily on the conservation of marine and estuarine species and habitats important to South Carolina. During that time, he produced an exhaustive list of scientific papers and presentations. To ensure the conservation and protection of biological resources of the marine environment during any exploration and production of oil and minerals, Dr. Burrell served for many years on the Bureau of Minerals Management Outer Continental Shelf Policy Committee. Also in the spirit of conservation, Dr. Burrell was one of the founding members of the South Carolina Aquarium and continues on its board of directors. Dr. Burrell has served president of the National Shellfish Association and the Estuarine Research Society,

which named him an honorary live member. He also served as president of the College of Charleston Alumni Association and was honored as the college's alumnus of the year. In addition, Dr. Burrell is listed in Community Leaders of America, Personalities of the South, American Men and Women of Science, the International Directory of Distinguished Leadership, Who's Who in the south and southwest, and Men of Achievement.

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### **Report of the joint Annual Meeting held at Santee State Park, SC**

The annual meeting this last February was truly a success with a large attendance of 120 members and students. The 2008 meeting was organized with SCFWA and we send out thanks to SCFWA president, Julia Byrd and SCFWA and SC-AFS members for their efforts.

The meeting was opened with a welcome by Marcel Reichert, the Program Chair and President of the SC-AFS. This was followed by an opening presentation by Dr. John Mark Dean on the beginnings of SC-AFS to commemorate the SC-AFS Chapter 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The program consisted of 27 presentations, eight of those by students. Nine posters were also presented at the meeting. Our business meeting was held on February 4 and new officers were elected. Anna Toline (Entrix, Inc.) was elected as the president-elect and Elizabeth Osier (SCDNR) as secretary/treasurer for 2008-2009. During the business meeting, the three charter member officers were recognized. Dr. Reggie Harrell, first SC-AFS president, Dr. John Mark Dean, first president-elect and Dr. Jim Bulak, first secretary/treasurer were presented with plaques in appreciation of their service to the chapter.





Dr. John Mark Dean, Dr. Reggie Harrell and Dr. Jim Bulak

Awards were announced at the social. The “Best Poster Award” went to Justin Lewandowski, a student at the University of South Carolina for his poster “One or two species of cownose ray (genus *Rhinoptera*) in the Western Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico?”. The SC-AFS “Jack Bayless Award for Best Professional Paper” at our 2007 annual meeting went to Dr. George Sedberry for his presentation titled: "Spawning of black grouper (*Mycteroperca bonaci*) in Belize” (co-author: Mito Paz). The recipient of the “Conservationist of the Year” was Dr. Victor Burrell Jr for his life long contributions to the conservation of marine and estuarine species and habitat in South Carolina. Congratulations to all!

Wally Jenkins provided the oysters for the evening social and a bar-b-que dinner was catered by Cynthia Yacapraro and Glenn Ulrich. Chapter members also celebrated with a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake. We held a very successful raffle that helped to offset meeting costs. Thanks to Ezra Lilly and the team of volunteers who worked hard to make the raffle a success.



Thanks to all the members of SC-AFS and SCFWA for their efforts in organizing the annual meeting!.

><> Speakers, moderators, and poster presenters at our annual meeting on February 4-5, 2008 held at Santee State Park, SC. <><

The moderators were Marcel Reichert, Jeff Isely, David Whitaker, Anna Toline, Tanya Darden and Mark Roberts.

### **Presentations**

John Mark Dean (Baruch Institute, University of South Carolina). SC-AFS – The beginnings.

Jason H Murray (University of South Carolina). Natural resource collapse: technological change and biased estimation.

Forrest Sessions (SC DNR). Electro-anesthesia of striped bass broodstock.

Kevin Kolmos (MRRI – SC DNR). Succession and biodiversity of an artificial reef marine protected area: A comparison of fish assemblages on protected and unprotected habitats.

Gabriel Ziskin (College of Charleston, MRRI - SCDNR). Aspects of age, growth and reproduction in speckled hind *Epinephelus drummondhayi* along the southeast coast of the United States.

Eric Hiltz\* (College of Charleston, MRD – SC DNR), Marcel Reichert (MRRI - SC DNR), and

Brad Floyd (MRD – SC DNR). Assessment of the flounder (*Paralichthys spp.*) gig fishery in South Carolina.

Adena Leibman (University of South Carolina). A even year temporal study of the natal origins of the South Carolina loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) feeding assemblage.

Lyndsey Lefebvre\* (College of Charleston, SC DNR) and Michael Denson (SC DNR). Reproductive dynamics of cobia, *Rachycentron candum*, in Port Royal Sound and St Helena Sound, South Carolina.

Jessica Stephen (University of South Carolina, MRRI – SC DNR). A review of recent concepts of in the ecologist's toolbox.

Jennifer Fountain\* (College of Charleston), Tanya Darden (MRRI – SC DNR), Wallace Jenkins (MRRI – SC-DNR), Michael Denson (MRRI – SC DNR). Preliminary stocking contribution of striped bass, *Morone saxatilis*, in the Ashley River and population structure among two South Carolina rivers.

Andrew J. Ray (College of Charleston, MRRI – SC DNR). Relationships between shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) growth parameters and microbial activity in zero-exchange culture systems.

Gina Perez (MRRI – SC DNR) William Roumillat (MRRI – SC DNR), Erin Levesque (MRRI – SC DNR) and Isaure de Buron (College of Charleston). Synchronization of occurrence of the ovarian philometrid, *Philometra carolinensis*, with the spawning season of its host, the spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*).

Chris McDonough (MRRI – SC DNR). Age and growth of sheepshead (*Archosaurus probatocephalus* L.) in South Carolina, with some comments on their reproductive biology.

Paulette Mikell\*, Jessica Stephen, and Marcel Reichert (MRRI – SC DNR). Life history of vermilion snapper.

David J. Coughlan\* (Duke Energy) and Bill Post (SC DNR). American eels in the Santee Basin.

Jennifer Price (SC DNR). The distribution of freshwater mussels in Lake Greenwood.

Jeff Isely (Clemson University).

Shaoxiong Ding (University of South Carolina). The phylogeographic analysis of black sea bass (*Centropristis striata*) based on rDNA ITS sequences.

Joseph M. Quattro (University of South Carolina). Phylogeography and conservation genetics of redeye bass (*Micropterus coosae*).

Tanjenique Paulin\* (SC DNR), Charles Jagoe (Savannah River Ecology Lab), and Ambrose Anouru (S.C. State University). An observational study of the behaviors in fiddler crabs when exposed to high concentrations of mercury in fiddler crabs.

Jamie Sykes\* (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) and Gene Hayes (SC DNR). A Partnership for fish habitat on two Savannah River reservoirs.

Suzanne Whitney (SC DNR). South Carolina's monofilament recovery and recycling program: A volunteer-based environmental stewardship project.

Virginia Shervette\* (Baruch Institute, University of South Carolina) and Windsor Aquirre (State University of New York at Stony Brook). Season changes in density, diversity and community structure of fishes inhabiting a disturbed mangrove wetland and adjacent tidal river in Palmar, Ecuador.

Jason J. Powers (MRD - SC DNR). Terrapin Excluder Devices (TEDs) in Blue Crab Traps, a SCDNR Cooperative Research Study.

Michael D. Arendt\* and Charles A. Barans (MRRI – SC DNR). Temporal variability in the composition of a multi-species assemblage at a small, un-fished artificial reef, documented using a remote video camera system.

Gorka Sancho (College of Charleston). Shallow water tracking of spotted sea trout movements in Charleston Harbor.

Bill Post (SC DNR). Didson technology, a new way of fishing?

### Posters

Max Bangs (University of South Carolina). Saluda River Redeye Bass (*Micropterus coosae*); Native or Introduced?

Laura Borecki, Michael Densen, and Tanya Darden (MRRI – SC DNR). Genetic Markers for Analysis of Cobia Stock Enhancement and Population Structure.

William Glen Brown and H. Scott Meister (SC DNR). Fecal Contamination from Boater Sewage: Potential Impacts and Current Solutions.

Jarrett Gibbons (SC DNR). Santee-Cooper Basin Shortnose Sturgeon Monitoring.

Justin Lewandowski (University of South Carolina). One or two species of cownose ray (genus *Rhinoptera*) in the Western Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico?

Mark Roberts (University of South Carolina). Geographic variation of juvenile loggerhead sea turtle feeding grounds along the coastal Southeastern US.

Pearse Webster and Patrick Biondo (MRRI – SC DNR). A SC-centric look at SEAMAP.

David Wyanski (MRRI – SC DNR). An improved and simplified terminology for reproductive classification in fishes.

Deliah Arrington (SC DNR). Replacement of Fish Meal and Fish Oil with Poultry Meal and Algal Oils in Growout and Finishing Diets of Red Drum *Sciaenops ocellatus*.

David Wyanski (MRRI – SC DNR). An improved and simplified terminology for reproductive classification in fishes.

## Treasurer's Report

<b>January 1, 2008 Balance</b>	<b>1,163.96</b>
Dividends	4.38
<b>Balance as of 7/31/08</b>	<b>1,168.34</b>
<b>Certificate of Deposit</b>	
<b>January 1, 2008 Balance</b>	<b>3,674.25</b>
Dividends	78.19
<b>Balance as of 7/31/08</b>	<b>3,752.44</b>
<b>Checking</b>	
<b>January 1, 2008 Balance</b>	<b>1,084.92</b>
<b>Dividends</b>	4.05
<b>Deposits</b>	
2007 Fall workshop – Dues and revenue	180.00
2008 Annual Meeting – Revenue & dues	1,476.05
Dues from Parent AFS Chapter	238.92
	<b>1,894.97</b>
<b>Debits</b>	
2008 Annual Meeting - expenses	286.17
2009 Annual Meeting – facility reservation	450.00
	<b>736.17</b>
<b>Balance as of 7/31/08</b>	<b>\$2,247.77</b>

## Research Reports From our Membership

### Sturgeon Sampling in Winyah Bay and Edisto River

ENTRIX, Inc (Dr. Anna Toline, Leo Lentsch) and SCDNR (Bill Post, Dr. Mark Collins) partnered on the development and implementation of a SC Sea Grant funded project to sample and tag Atlantic sturgeon in Winyah Bay and the Edisto River. This project was designed to utilize the help of individuals who were once commercial sturgeon fishermen. Mr. Ronnie Campbell, Mr. Jr. Jordon and Mr. Ivy Perry were all active participants in the project.

Twenty-five fish were captured in Winyah Bay; one was estimated at approximately 200lbs. Two of the fish were recaptures. One of the recaptures was from the Winyah Bay sampling, while one was from elsewhere.



Trey, Blake and Jr. Jordon working in Winyah Bay.

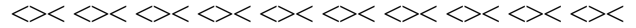
There were 35 Adult Atlantic Sturgeon caught in the Edisto River. Four of the sturgeon were recaptured from past projects, with one of the fish (original capture 1997) having had a radio and sonic tag.



Mr. and Mrs. Ivy Perry working in the Edisto River

The purpose of this project was to work cooperatively with commercial Atlantic sturgeon fishermen to tag sturgeon sampled from Winyah Bay and the Edisto River. Fishermen that

sampled both sites were highly-cooperative and responsible. This project allowed fishermen the opportunity to better understand what is involved in sampling and aided in building a cooperative partnership with fishermen, SCDNR and researchers. Additionally, it created an opportunity for knowledge gained by local fishermen to be transferred to sturgeon researchers.

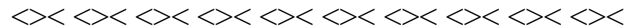


### **AFS Book Warehouse**

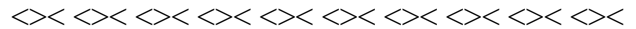
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- Fax: 703-996-1010
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- Mail: American Fisheries Society  
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The July 2008 Edition of the Southern Division AFS newsletter is now available on the SDAFS web site at <http://www.sdafs.org>. Download your copy now!





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**Membership**

Dues to:  
Elizabeth Osier  
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2007 Pisgah Road  
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SAVE THE DATES!

FALL WORKSHOP  
"Aquatic Invasive Species"

October 2, 2008  
9:30-3:30

Clemson Sandhill Research and Education Center  
<http://www.clemson.edu/sandhill>.

Columbia, SC

ANNUAL MEETING February 12 -13, 2009  
Clemson University Outdoor Lab  
Clemson SC

**South Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society**

**Conservationist of the Year Award.**

The Conservationist of the Year Award recognizes outstanding contributions in the conservation of South Carolina fisheries resources. It is one of the most prestigious awards bestowed by the SC AFS Chapter. This award is generally presented each spring and nominations are accepted until December 31 of the previous year.

Nominations can be made by electronic submission to the president of the SC-AFS at [president@scafs.org](mailto:president@scafs.org).

Conservationist of the Year Award nomination form

Date:

Nominated by (name):

Affiliation:

Phone number:

E-mail address:

Relationship with nominee:

Nominee (name):

Address:

Affiliation:

Why should this nominee be considered for the Conservationist of the Year Award?

Provide a short description of the nominee's professional career and accomplishments, in particular where they pertain to the Conservationist of the Year Award.

Provide a website or publication information that may assist the award committee in their decision (if available).