
PALMETTO PISCIFORUM

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY



<http://inlet.geol.sc.edu/SCAFS/>

December 2002

President's Message

Chris Thomason

Greetings! I hope everyone has enjoyed the Holiday season! As an added bonus, you now get the thrill of the SCAFS newsletter! We have resurrected the newsletter after a couple of years' hiatus. The Chapter was still going strong during this stretch, of course. We cohosted the 2000 Southern Division AFS Mid-winter Meeting with the Georgia Chapter of AFS in Savannah, and cohosted our annual SCAFS meeting with the NC Chapter of AFS at Sunset Beach in 2001, along with the SC Fishery Workers Association (SCFWA). The 2002 meeting was again held in conjunction with SCFWA at Seabrook Island. We sponsored Fall workshops in fishery related topics, each year, during this time, too.

Since 2002 was the 20th Anniversary of the Chapter's founding, and many new members have come on board, we felt it was a good time to bring back the newsletter, and spread the word. As you now note, we are sending the newsletter out to the masses by e-mail. This aids the chapter in cost, ease of handling, and speed of transfer. It also allows members to

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SCAFS Award Winners

Fishery Conservationist of the Year

Gerrit Jöbsis, SC Coastal Conservation League

The South Carolina Chapter presented the 2001 Fishery Conservationist of the Year Award to Gerrit Jöbsis, rivers coordinator with the S.C. Coastal Conservation League and a former fisheries biologist with the S.C. Department of Natural Resources. The Award was presented at a luncheon at the 2002 Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic in Columbia. The award is given to an individual or organization for outstanding contributions to the conservation of South Carolina's fishery resources.



Gerrit Jöbsis, 2001 Fishery Conservationist of the Year, showing off a striped bass.

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Jack Bayless Award for Best Professional Paper

Josh Loefer, SC Department of Natural Resources

Josh presented "Life History of the Atlantic Sharpnose Shark, *Rhizoprionodon terraenovae*, in the South Atlantic Bight" at the 2001 meeting at Sea Trail Resort, Sunset Beach, North Carolina. Unfortunately, Josh was not present to receive the award in person (he was working), but he assured he appreciated the recognition of his work.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GEORGIA AFS ANNUAL MEETING

ROME, GA

JANUARY 21-23, 2003

WWW.UGA.EDU/UGAFISH/GA-AFS/HOME.HTM

SE COASTAL OCEAN SCIENCE CONFERENCE

CHARLESTON, SC

JANUARY 27-31, 2003

Contact: Rick DeVoe 843/953-5586

President's Message continued from page 1

forward it on to other interested parties (Potential members?). We will certainly continue mailing hardcopies to those without e-mail. Let us know what you think about this method.

I believe the South Carolina Chapter of AFS is an excellent organization that can promote professionalism and communication among the wide array of people involved in fisheries and aquatic resources. Our diverse membership includes professionals from state and federal agencies, academic institutions, private companies, zoos and aquariums. Of course, we add into this mix a number of students in the midst of pursuing degrees that will lead them into a career in fisheries. I hope this newsletter can be used not only as a tool to keep ourselves informed, but to promote and expand our membership and participation. Please give us your ideas and assistance so we can make this endeavor and the Chapter truly useful to all.

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SCAFS Annual Meeting

The South Carolina Chapter will hold a joint annual meeting with the South Carolina Fishery Workers Association on February 3-4, 2003 at Hickory Knob State Resort Park. Hickory Knob is located near McCormick on the Eastern shoreline of J. Strom Thurmond Reservoir.

The program will include presentations on any fishery-related topic. Presentations may include completed projects or works in progress. The **deadline** for submission of presentation titles is **January 3**.

Title submissions should be sent to:

Leo Rose
SCDNR
1921 Van Boklen Road
Eastover, SC 29044
phone: (803)353-8232
fax: (864) 223-0649
email: leor@scdnr.state.sc.us

Early registration for the meeting is \$15 before Jan. 3, and \$25 thereafter (students - \$8).

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SCAFS/SCFWA ANNUAL MEETING

HICKORY KNOB STATE PARK, SC
FEBRUARY 3-4, 2003

[INLET.GEOL.SC.EDU/SCAFS/MEETINGS.HTML](http://inlet.geol.sc.edu/SCAFS/MEETINGS.HTML)

SOUTHERN DIVISION AFS SPRING MEETING

WILMINGTON, NC
FEBRUARY 12-16, 2003

www.sdafs.org/meetings/03sdafs/2003home.htm

AQUACULTURE AMERICA 2003

LOUISVILLE, KY
FEBRUARY 18-21, 2003

www.was.org

AFS 133RD ANNUAL MEETING

QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC, CANADA
AUGUST 10-14, 2003

www.fapaq.gouv.qc.ca/fr/AFS_congres/accueil.htm

TREASURER'S REPORT

DATE: 12/17/2002

Checking Account Balance:	\$3,664.03
Savings Account Balance:	\$4,045.44
6-Month Certificate of Deposit:	\$3,249.26
TOTAL CHAPTER ASSETS:	\$10,958.73

SCAFS Annual Meeting continued from page 2

Attendees will be responsible for booking their own rooms. The double occupancy room rate is \$51.84. Meals will be available at the restaurant buffet at prices that fall within the SCDNR per diem (individuals are responsible for paying for their own meals at the restaurant). Contact the Park at (864) 391-2450 or 1-800-491-1764 for reservations. Be sure to indicate you are with the SCFWA/SCAFS meeting when making your reservation. Pre-registration is requested so that we may plan for refreshments and the social. For more information about registration, contact Sabrina Wright at (843) 825-3388. Additional information including a downloadable copy of the registration packet is available on the SCAFS website

<http://inlet.geol.sc.edu/SCAFS/meetings.html>.

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Jöbsis and the S.C. Coastal Conservation League partner with American Rivers and the Hydropower Reform Coalition to work on river conservation issues. Under a unique arrangement, Jöbsis leads hydropower reform work in the Carolinas for both American Rivers and the Conservation League. Jöbsis has extensive experience in hydro relicensing, having coordinated Federal Energy Regulatory Commission work for the S.C. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for more than a dozen years before joining the Coastal Conservation League in 2001.

A fisheries biologist by training, Jöbsis focuses on hydropower projects on numerous rivers including the Santee, Cooper, Catawba, Wateree, Yadkin, Pee Dee, Saluda and Savannah. More than 20 hydropower dams on these rivers will undergo relicensing during the current decade.

Some of Gerrit's accomplishments, which helped earn him the Fishery Conservationist of the Year Award, include:

- Key role in the development and implementation of DNR instream flow and impoundment construction policies.
- Establishment of the Environmental Coordination program within DNR's Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries that is specifically responsible for the review of environmental permits and development of environmental policy.
- Instrumental in the development and application of a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission review process for the DNR.
- His efforts have led to improved water quality, increased flows, mitigation of environmental damages, establishment of environmental trust funds and a standardized approach for the review of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing projects in South Carolina waters.

Adapted From April 1, 2002 SCDNR News Release, written by Greg Lucas.

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Hickory Knob State Park, South Carolina is the site for the 2003 Annual Meeting.

SCAFS 2002 Fall Workshop

The SC Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (SCAFS) held its annual Fall workshop on November 13, 2002 at the Congaree Swamp National Monument.

This year the subject of the workshop was Cyprinid and Catastomid identification. Our guest speakers, Fritz Rohde (NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources) and Dr. Wayne Starnes (NC State Museum of Natural Sciences), led the workshop's morning session with lecture and presentation sessions. Rohde showcased his new [Key to South Carolina's Carps and Minnows \(draft\)](#) (PDF, 273KB) and some excellent South Carolina Cyprinid slides. Starnes presented a PowerPoint show of the Catastomid family of fishes. The presentation included a slide comparing the lips of various suckers ([JPEG](#), 2.89MB or [PDE](#), 791KB). Both the sucker lips slide and Fritz Rohde's Key to South Carolina's Carps and Minnows (draft) are available free for download at the SCAFS website (<http://inlet.geol.sc.edu/SCAFS/>).

After the morning session, Drew Robb (SCDNR) prepared a delicious lunch of catfish stew, chili, and cornbread (Thanks Drew) before we headed back for some hands on fish identification. Rohde assisted people with their minnow identifications while Starnes shared his expertise on the suckers.



Wayne Starnes demonstrates the art of identifying Catastomids.

Based on comments from many who attended, the information provided at the workshop was very useful. Both Rohde and Starnes did an excellent job. With over 50 participants, representing state and federal government, universities, industry, and private citizens, the workshop was a resounding success.

THANK YOU FRITZ AND WAYNE!

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Fritz Rohde demonstrates the ease (for him) of identifying the minnows of South Carolina.



Forrest Sessions taking a closer look at some suckers brought to the workshop.

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The Clemson University Student Sub-Unit has been quite active during 2002. The officers have conducted an aggressive membership drive during this past year. Membership has increased to 20, and we are holding monthly meetings throughout the year.

During 2002, we accomplished several goals. As part of our outreach campaign, members have designed and produced a Clemson University Student Chapter poster to be shown at various functions and meetings to increase our visibility. Another product is a new Clemson AFS T-shirt. This shirt will have the Clemson AFS logo on front and a design called the South Carolina Natives on the back. The design is an outline of the state overlain with photos of 5 SC native species (brook trout, redbreast sunfish, robust redhorse, striped bass and rosyzide dace). T-shirts will sell for \$15 apiece, with proceeds helping to send student members to various professional meetings in 2003. Students have plans for attending the annual

meetings of SCAFS, Georgia AFS and The Southern Division AFS Spring meeting.

Several activities are now in the planning stages for early 2003. A Catfish Sale will be held in conjunction with the Clemson Chapter of The Wildlife Society this Spring. This will serve as a fundraising event for both chapters. We also plan to host a Career Workshop this Spring to help students in their pursuit of employment in the field of fisheries and related areas (the halcyon days of student life must end someday!) Other activities include sponsoring a Children's Fishing Rodeo and participating in the Clemson University Student Colloquium.

Members have also taken on a very worthy project as their official philanthropy: assisting with the local Clemson area Shelter for Battered Women and Children. The students in the chapter have helped with needed repairs to the facility and given material donations (e.g. clothes, toiletries) which are always of benefit to the residents of the shelter.

In 2003, Clemson University students will be studying rainbow trout, robust redhorse, American shad, tessellated darter, and shortnose sturgeon. Any help from the professionals in SCAFS are welcomed and encouraged.

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Class of 2002 Clemson University Graduates

- Quenton Fontenot Ph.D.

Quenton's work involved Bioenergetics in Tilapia. He has now moved back to his native Louisiana, and is working at Nichols State University.

- Mike Bailey M.S.

Mike was involved with American shad passage in the lower Savannah River while at Clemson. He is now returning to his native New England where he is pursuing work on anadromous species in Maine.

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AWARD NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Fishery Conservationist of the Year

SCAFS presents, annually, the Fishery Conservationist of the Year award to an individual or organization for outstanding contributions to the conservation of South Carolina's fishery resources. We are currently soliciting nominations for this year's (2002) award. The award will be presented at the 2003 Palmetto Sportsman's Classic. Submit your nomination, along with a brief biographical sketch outlining why that person or organization deserves the award, to any SCAFS officer by March 1, 2003.

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SOUTHERN DIVISION AFS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

John F. Dequine Scholarship

Scholarship created to provide financial assistance to students in the southeastern states. One \$1,000 scholarship awarded based on academic and professional performance. Award made directly to student. Application deadline is February 1, 2003.

Reservoir Committee: Robert M. Jenkins Memorial Reservoir Research Scholarship

Scholarship created in 1997 to provide financial assistance to graduate students in the southeastern states that are conducting reservoir related fisheries research. Two \$1,000 scholarships awarded annually with funding for a second year contingent upon research and academic performance. Made directly to student. Deadline for application is January 31, 2003.

Warmwater Streams Committee: Jimmie Pigg Memorial Outstanding Student Achievement Award

Award created by the Warmwater Streams Committee in 1997 to recognize university students for outstanding research

activities in warmwater streams. Renamed in 1999, in honor of Jimmie Pigg, a long time supporter of student activities. Outstanding student(s) are recognized at the Southern Division Spring Meeting, receive a plaque, funds to travel to the meeting, and a one-year membership to the American Fisheries Society. Deadline for application is January 15, 2003.

All nomination material and application forms can be accessed through the Southern Division AFS homepage (<http://www.sdafs.org>) and/or the links to the committee homepages.

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Membership

Interested in becoming a member of SCAFS? Contact the chapter president, [Chris Thomason](#), fill out the form below, or download the [membership form](#) and send it in, along with your \$5 annual dues, to:

Jason Moak
Kleinschmidt Associates
101 Trade Zone Drive Suite 21A
West Columbia, SC 29170

Name	
Address	
City, State ZIP	
Phone	
Email	
Title	
Employer	

Dues enclosed

Dues paid through Parent Society

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