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# PALMETTO PISCIFORUM

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY



October 2004

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<http://www.scafs.org>

## President's Message

Loe Rose

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased and honored that you have selected me for the responsibility of president of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. I would like to thank Chris Thomason as the outgoing president for his hard work. While he was in office he was successful in reviving the Palmetto Pisciforum from its years on hiatus. Also, he successfully carried out the duties of organizing the fall workshops and the joint annual meetings. Additionally, he represented us at the Southern Division meetings and sat on a number of committees during his time as president. Thanks, Chris for all your hard work. I look forward to carrying on with your efforts. So far this has been an active year for the SCAFS and we look forward to more exciting things in the future.

Our 2003 fall workshop on "Technology in Fisheries" was a success with many participants learning about new GIS tools and the latest and greatest in fish catching, tracking and observing technology. Our 2004 annual meeting was again a joint affair with the South Carolina Fishery Workers Association (SCFWA). For those of you who missed the fun at the Belle Baruch Institute, I have plenty of incriminating

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## Columbia Dam gets a new Fishway

Jason Moak

Within the next year, South Carolina Electric and Gas Company (SCE&G) will begin constructing a fishway at the Columbia Diversion Dam (Dam) on the Broad River in Columbia. Once constructed and operational,



the fishway will provide spawning access to an additional 23 miles of the Broad River for American shad and

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## 2002 Bayless Award Winner



Steve Leach was announced as the winner of the 2003 Bayless Award at our Annual Meeting on February 2, 2004 at the Baruch institute. The award was for

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 26 – October 1, 2004  
International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies  
94th Annual Meeting, Atlantic City, NJ  
Contact 1-800/624-4960.

October 31 – November 3, 2004  
SEAFWA 2004 Annual Conference  
Hilton Head, SC  
[stevel@scdnr.state.sc.us](mailto:stevel@scdnr.state.sc.us) or  
[lamprechts@scdnr.state.sc.us](mailto:lamprechts@scdnr.state.sc.us)

## *President's Message* continued from page 1

photos of the event that may be on sale at the 2005 joint annual meeting (Feb 7-8, Clemson). I look forward to seeing you there.

Also, SCAFS is looking forward to the up-coming SEFWA annual conference that will be held in Hilton Head later this year (October 31 – November 3). SCAFS has committed to providing administrative support and sponsorship money for events at that meeting. Additionally, we will provide support in the form of administrative services and infrastructure for the Robust Redhorse Conservation Committee. We are continually looking for ways to protect and enhance the aquatic resources of the state and look forward to participating in future projects.

The 2004 officer elections resulted in Marcel Reichert (President in 2006) as president-elect and Jason Moak as Secretary/Treasurer. Congratulations to both of you on assuming your duties with SCAFS. Also, a special thanks to our newsletter editor, Dr. Jim Long, who has once again packed lots of interesting information in this edition of the Palmetto Pisciforum. Happy Reading.

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## SEAFWA at Hilton Head

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources will host the 58<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) October 31 – November 3, 2004 at the Westin Resort in Hilton Head Island, SC.

The SEAFWA is an organization whose members are the state agencies with primary responsibility for management and protection of the fish and wildlife resources in 16 southeastern states, Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands ([www.seafwa.org](http://www.seafwa.org)). The annual conference is hosted each fall by member states on a rotating basis, to provide a forum for presentation of information and exchange of ideas regarding the management and protection of fish and wildlife resources. Anyone with an interest in wildlife and fisheries management and research is invited to attend. Attendees generally represent state and federal agencies, citizen's organizations, universities, consultants and private wildlife research groups.

Fisheries technical sessions this year will be held on Monday November 1 and Tuesday November 2. Approximately 23 papers will be presented in the general technical sessions on topics ranging from marine to freshwater, and from aquaculture to fish disease. Two special symposia will also be offered: experts on Robust Redhorse, a hot topic for the southeastern fisheries

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November 5 – 7, 2004  
AFS Fourth Annual Fisheries Student Colloquium:  
Migrate South This Winter, St. Augustine, FL.  
[surf.ifas.ufl.edu/colloquium.htm](http://surf.ifas.ufl.edu/colloquium.htm)  
Contact Mark Rogers, mrogers@ufl.edu, 352/392/9617,  
ext. 271.

November 17 – 20, 2004  
Seventh International Conference on Shell Fish  
Restoration, Charleston, SC.  
[www.scseagrant.org/icsr.htm](http://www.scseagrant.org/icsr.htm).  
Contact Elaine Knight, elaine.knight@scseagrant.org.

February 7-8, 2005  
SCAFS/SCFWA Annual Meeting  
Clemson, SC. [www.scseagrant.org/icsr.htm](http://www.scseagrant.org/icsr.htm).  
Contact Leo Rose, President@scafs.org.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

DATE: 9/1/2004

Checking Account Balance:	\$3,300.18
Savings Account Balance:	\$4,105.87
6-Month Certificate of Deposit:	\$3,331.88
<b>TOTAL CHAPTER ASSETS:</b>	<b>\$10,737.93</b>

### BAYLESS continued from page 1

Steve's presentation, Beneficial effects of increased river flow and upstream fish passage on anadromous alosid stocks, which he gave on February 3, 2003.

The Bayless Award was created in honor of Jack W. 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 Chris Thomason or Leo Rose.



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management and research community, will present information on that species; and a special half-day session on interdisciplinary management will be offered with experts presenting information on such topics as the intertwining of fisheries, wildlife, and land-use management practices. Additionally, 18 posters on a diverse array of fisheries related topics will be presented, and a specified time will be scheduled when the audience may speak with poster presenters for Q&A.

A detailed agenda will be available soon. This and other conference details can be found at <http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/seafwa/index.htm>. For further information on fisheries sessions, contact Steve Leach or Scott Lamprecht of SCDNR at (843) 825-3388.

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## SCAFS 2004 Annual Meeting Wrap-Up

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Chapter (Chapter) was held at the Belle W. Baruch Institute at Hobcaw Barony near Georgetown, South Carolina on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of February. As has become customary, the meeting was held jointly with the South Carolina Fishery Workers Association (SCFWA). The meeting was well-attended, with over 60 individual registrants.

The meeting began at noon on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> with presentations in the Conference Center. At the conclusion of Monday's presentations, the Chapter and SCFWA each held their respective annual business meetings. At the Chapter's annual business meeting, Steve Leach was announced as the winner of the 2003 Bayless Award for his presentation, Beneficial effects of increased river flow and upstream fish passage on anadromous alosid stocks, given at the 2003 Annual Meeting at Hickory Knob.

In the absence of outgoing chapter president Chris Thomason, who missed the meeting to be with his expecting wife, Leo Rose, president-elect, convened the chapter business meeting. Leo promptly began his term as chapter president and elections were held. Marcel Reichert was voted president-elect and Jason Moak was reelected as secretary/treasurer.

Leo gave a brief summary of the Chapter's 2003 Fall Workshop on Technology in Fisheries at Saluda Shoals Park, and encouraged attendees to submit suggestions

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## Book Announcement

### FISHES OF THE MIDDLE SAVANNAH RIVER BASIN: WITH EMPHASIS ON THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE



Barton C. Marcy, Jr.,  
Dean E. Fletcher,  
F. Douglas Martin,  
Michael H. Paller,  
and  
Marcel J. M. Reichert

Photographs by David E. Scott



2005 - University of Georgia Press

This book provides the first comprehensive assessment of the fishes of the Middle Savannah River Basin (MSRB) and is unique in its detail and area coverage of both South Carolina and Georgia fishes. The MSRB represents all of the Savannah River drainage area in the upper coastal plain plus edges of the lower coastal plain. The book focuses on species collected in fisheries studies from 1879 to present based on distribution data from 756 state agency, museum, and university collections, and 50 years of fisheries research studies by the University of Georgia, University of South Carolina, Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, and U. S. Department of Energy Savannah River Site (SRS) scientists. It covers studies within the unique 300 square mile area of the SRS that contain both highly altered aquatic habitats from previous nuclear reactor operations and habitats that remain relatively undisturbed and well preserved since 1951 compared to off-site water bodies.

The book addresses 24 fish families and includes 98 native or introduced fish species collected in the MSRB. It discusses the Savannah River, tributary streams, reservoirs, and ponds from the 1950's to present showing ecological changes, detailed habitat

descriptions, and associated fish assemblages within the region. It presents fish family descriptions and species accounts. Each account includes a species description with notes on similar species, distribution (including a color map of the distribution within the MSRB), and information on size, conservation status, habitat, and the biology of the species. Over 170 color photos illustrate each species (mostly live specimens of differing ages and sex, many in spawning colors) and the diverse habitats. A taxonomic field key for the identification of the families and individual species is uniquely illustrated with 180 black and white plates. The extensive reference list includes close to one thousand cited works. Book is 8 ½ x 11 and has 462 pp., 112 maps, 173 color photos, and 180 B&W plates. The expected publication date is February 2005.

Please send an e-mail to:  
[fishesMSRB@yahoo.com](mailto:fishesMSRB@yahoo.com) if you are interested in receiving future information about this publication or if you are interested in purchasing a copy of the book.

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blueback herring.

Plans for the fishway were developed during the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing process in consultation with the SCE&G, South Carolina DNR, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries (formerly NMFS), and Kleinschmidt (SCE&G's consultant). During the relicensing process, participants documented the presence of blueback herring and American shad downstream of the Dam.

The Dam was originally built by the State of South Carolina in 1824, and was modified in 1893 to generate electricity. The Dam now diverts flows from the Broad River into a 3.5 mile long canal that conveys water to the project powerhouse, located adjacent to the South Carolina State Museum on Gervais Street. The canal also serves as a municipal water supply source for the City of Columbia. The Broad River joins the Saluda River approximately two miles downstream of the Dam to form the Congaree River.



Construction of the fishway is slated to begin in April of 2005 and is expected to take six to eight months. The fishway will be a vertical slot, pool and weir design, with 12 pools that will allow fish to negotiate the 14 ft high Dam. Attraction flows ranging from 50 to 200 cfs will be provided at the fishway to help upstream migrants locate the fishway entrances. The fishway was designed to accommodate the upstream passage of up to 250,000 American shad and 2,500,000 blueback herring annually.

Once construction is completed, the upstream fishway will be operated from February 1<sup>st</sup> through May 15<sup>th</sup> each year. The new operating license for the project also requires the release of minimum flows at the Dam, ranging from 550 cfs to 900 cfs, depending on the season of year.

As part of the fishway requirement, SCE&G will also modify an existing, unused intake structure at the powerhouse to provide downstream passage for fish

migrating out of the power canal.

Once construction is completed and the upstream fishway is operational, SCE&G may perform surveys to determine its effectiveness. Details of the monitoring efforts will be developed in consultation with state and federal resource agency personnel.

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### *Annual Meeting* continued from page 3

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for topics for the 2004 workshop. Larry Connor, Vice-president of the Southern Division of AFS, highlighted some of the Southern Division's recent activities. After the business meetings, attendees feasted on steamed oysters and low country boil.

On Tuesday, the meeting was resumed with a full morning of presentations. Over the course of the two-day meeting, over 20 presentations were given. The meeting was adjourned just after noon on Tuesday.

### *Meet Your New Officers!*

**Leo Rose** was born and raised in Victoria, Australia. He moved to the United States in 1995 where he graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in Marine Science. Leo initially worked at the Riverbanks Zoo Aquarium as an aquarist before he began work with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 1998. At that time he joined the SCAFS and was elected President for the 2004 – 2006 term. He recently concluded a three-year research project in the Congaree National Park focusing on the fish community structure. Currently Leo works in SCDNR's Environmental Programs office where he works as an Environmental Program Coordinator. In this capacity he provides advice and comments on DOT projects, wetlands permitting and FERC licensing issues.

**Marcel Reichert** was born and grew up in Haarlem, The Netherlands. He graduated from the University of Amsterdam and later received his Ph.D. at the University of Groningen. He worked at the Netherlands Institute for Sea Research at Texel on zooplankton-phytoplankton interactions in the North Sea until he moved to the US in 1992. Here, he worked for 12 years at the University of South Carolina as research faculty in the Baruch Institute and the Department of Biological Sciences. His research concentrated on fish ecology, especially in estuarine and freshwater stream environments. Much of his recent research was conducted at the Savannah River Site, where he studied the structure of fish communities in collaboration with students and colleagues at USC and the SRS. One of the products of these collaborations is the book

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# Clemson University Student Sub-Unit, SCAFS

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

DATE: 9/1/2004

Checking Account Balance: \$250.00

**TOTAL CHAPTER ASSETS: \$250.00**

It's been another busy semester for the Clemson University Student Subunit. On April 1, we held our Spring Social that included venison cooked Cajun style and a bonfire. Our second Kid Fish was held on March 28. We again hosted approximately 30 kids from Helping Hands, the local shelter for abused and neglected children, for a day of fishing and a hot dog lunch. Everyone caught a fish and had a great time on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. We have continued our charity work with Helping Hands through providing labor and services when called upon for various

activities. We hope to increase our membership to 20+ at our first meeting of the fall semester, September 7, by encouraging participation of students from the biological sciences and environmental toxicology that are working with fish, aquatic animals, and aquatic ecology. Our group also plans to interact with other student environmental organizations at Clemson to support various activities such as recycling and aquatic ecology education in return for their participation in our activities.

Several members attended and presented at the SCAFS, GAAFS, and annual AFS meetings. Clemson University hosted the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Larval Fish Conference of the Early Life History Section of the American Fisheries Society in May, and our members were busy supporting the meeting and assisting Dr. Jeff Isely with arrangements. Also, four members gave oral presentations. Tim Grabowski, past-president of the sub-unit and current PhD student with Dr. Jeff Isely, was awarded the Sally Richardson Award for Best Student Presentation for his talk on the partitioning of gravel bar spawning habitat among riverine fishes in the Savannah River. Also, Ian Davenport, member and recent PhD graduate, was runner-up for the Sally Richardson Award for Best Student Presentation for his talk on the evolution and development of large egg size in sharks.

Our members have continued their diverse research looking at the movement patterns and behavior of striped bass in reservoirs, shortnose sturgeon, and robust redhorse; the ontogeny of the immune system in mummichogs; mating systems and sexual selection in sailfin mollies; ammonia and nitrite toxicity in Pacific white shrimp; the partitioning of gravel bar spawning habitat among riverine fishes in the Savannah River; and aquatic contaminants and metals toxicity. We have been able to encourage several of our undergraduate members to participate in these research projects and hope to gain even greater participation in the future. If SCAFS members are looking for assistance, please contact us here at Clemson. Many of our members are looking for opportunities to gain experience.

Our accounts are steady at \$250.00. All T-shirts have been sold. We will discuss future fundraisers at our September 7 meeting to support this semester's activities.

Visit us on the web at our new site:

[www.clemson.edu/~csafs](http://www.clemson.edu/~csafs)

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*Fishes of the Middle Savannah River Basin*, which will be published early 2005. His salt water investigations include the study of recruitment processes, reproduction, and age and growth of a variety of species including a SC flatfishes, wahoo, tuna, lane snapper, and bass. Marcel also taught several courses at USC, including Ichthyology. In July of this year he accepted a position at the Marine Resources Division at the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources in Charleston, where he is now working on life history and fisheries aspects of hard bottom fishes.

**Jason Moak** has been a SCAFS member since 1998, and Secretary-Treasurer since 1999. Jason earned a his BS in Biology from Augusta State University in 1997. Jason lives in Augusta, Georgia and has worked for Kleinschmid, an energy and water resources consulting firm in Columbia, for six years as a biologist. Jason also serves as the webmaster for the SCAFS website.

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## CLEMSON GRADUATES

Congratulations to these members that have recently graduated with a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences.

- *Caroline Clarkson*
- *Jason Shirley*
- *John Swaim*
- *Patrick Ely*

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## NOMINATIONS NEEDED

### *Fishery Conservationist of the Year*

The 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 (2003) award. Submit your nomination, along with a brief biographical sketch outlining why that person or organization deserves the award, to any SCAFS officer by November 1, 2004.

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Don't get swallowed alive. Join SCAFS!!!



## Membership

Interested in becoming a member of SCAFS? Contact the chapter president, [Leo Rose](#), 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