



Gill Raker Gazette

The Newsletter of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society



President's Message, By Jim Fredricks, ICAFS President

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In my year-long lead up to the role of Chapter President, I reflected from time to time on what inspirational prose I might put forth in the presidential message. Surely I'd come up with something to cultivate professionalism and instill the confidence in the EXCOM—or at a minimum I'd come up with something entertaining.

So the time has come. With fingers are on the keyboard and mind awash with messages of hope and motivation, my opportunity has come. But alas, all that will have to wait. As much as I'd like to go down that road, the Chapter is once again facing administrative and governing issues that require the attention of the EXCOM and the entire membership. This message is therefore, devoted to informing the membership of the developments with the EXCOM, the implications to the Chapter, and (most importantly) how the EXCOM and the membership can insure the 2009 annual meeting and other obligations of the Chapter leadership are not compromised.

Excom Developments

Recall that Mary Faurot (much to all of our disappointment) had to resign in September from her position as President-Elect (PE). This, of course, left the EXCOM a person short and required that I assume the President's position a year ahead of schedule, thereby leaving the PE position vacant. It also required that we elect two "presidential" positions at our 2008 meeting—Ernest Keeley was elected VP and Chris Downs was elected PE.

Confusing as that might be, it's all in the past, right? Unfortunately, no. It's déjà vu all over again in the EXCOM. For those who don't know, Chris Downs accepted a job in Glacier National Park. Despite my relentless attempts to convince Chris that he could effectively fulfill his duties to the Idaho Chapter from outside the state, he was convinced the duties of a new job with a new agency would compromise his ability be an effective leader for the Chap-



ter *and* a fulfill his duties for the Park Service. I told him it would be *okay* with us if he let his day-job responsibilities slide just a bit. Nevertheless, the fact is that Chris Downs has resigned; leaving us, once again, short an EXCOM member.

Implications to the Chapter

The good news is that the Chapter's bylaws dictate a protocol to follow in the event of a resignation. The bad news is that the protocol, having just tested it last year, is cumbersome and fraught with problems. For example, Ernest timed his run for office so that he would be responsible for organizing the annual meeting in eastern Idaho. Not that he's incapable of organizing a meeting in Boise, but the prospect of working with his local community and Idaho State University was a motivating factor in his bid for office. After several long discussions and conference calls, the EXCOM was reluctant to stick with the protocol outlined in the bylaws. We are confident that we can collectively share the duties of the vacant position (primarily organizing the annual meeting) and avoid the long-term disruption with the EXCOM. Doing this, however, requires a modification to the bylaws. Though it probably wouldn't be the first or last time a chapter hasn't abided by every element of the bylaws (and most members probably don't even know we have them), they've been created for a reason, and it would be bad form to discard them when they become difficult to follow.

The proposed solution

The challenge we were faced with was coming up with a solution that wasn't fraught with a new slate of problems. In looking at bylaws from other chapters, it dawned on us that we proba-

bly don't need to define a *detailed* protocol. Perhaps flexibility *is* a solution. Why not simply state "When an officer resigns from a position the EXCOM will develop and implement a solution that best meets the needs of the Chapter and the EXCOM"? This is, in fact, exactly what we've proposed to do. Additionally, as we picked through the bylaws, we noticed some (mostly minor) errors and inconsistencies, and what initially started as one minor change to the bylaws expanded to a significant editorial effort on Bart's part. Nevertheless, there will be no better time to address them than now, so we've proposed those changes as well.

The process of bylaw modification requires that the proposed changes be reviewed by the parent society, and then be approved by the majority of our voting membership. In the next couple of months, you will be e-mailed a copy of the proposed bylaws and asked for a yes or no vote. We will provide a brief summary of all of the changes when we call for the vote. The EXCOM would appreciate your reply (with a yes).

As far as the annual meeting and chapter leadership go, as I mentioned before, the EXCOM is confident that we can effectively share the duties of the vacant position and put on a great annual meeting. The anadromous committee has stepped up and agreed to organize the entire plenary session. Bart has graciously agreed to postpone the transition from "Past President" to "I'm DONE" for one more year, and I will have the privilege of serving as President again in 2009. Stay tuned.....and don't forget to vote!



2009 Annual Meeting — First Call for Papers!

Join Us for the 2009 Idaho Chapter Annual Meeting in Boise

Wednesday, March 4 through Friday, March 6th at the:

Doubletree Hotel Boise-Riverside
2900 Chinden Boulevard (208) 343-1871



We also have space available for workshops on Tuesday, March 3—if you are interested in organizing a workshop, please contact an ICAFS Excom member.

Reservations can now be made by telephone. For online reservations....check the ICAFS website soon! Rooms will be available at government rates, so please indicate that you are with AFS.

The deadline for paper submission will be November 30, 2008. Please submit papers (using the guidelines on the ICAFS website) to Jim Fredericks, 2009 Annual Meeting Program Chair, at jfredericks@idfg.idaho.gov.

Other Upcoming Events

138th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society

- August 17-21 , 2008
- Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

<http://www.fisheries.org/>

Western Division AFS Student Colloquium

- October 23-25 , 2008
 - Boseman, Montana, USA
 - To register, please email Kris Homel (krisHomel@hotmail.com)
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The Mexico-Idaho Connection

by James Capurso and Salvador Lluch

In September, James Capurso, Past President of Idaho Chapter American Fisheries Society, and Salvador E. Lluch Cota, President of the Mexican Chapter American Fisheries Society, traveled to San Francisco to the Parent Society American Fisheries Society Meeting to recommend their chapter hosts the 2011 Annual American Fisheries Society Meeting. After they and the North Pacific International Chapter (Washington Chapter) presented their proposals, the selection committee deliberated for hours. Although Seattle was eventually chosen as the 2011 parent society annual meeting location, Capurso and Lluch used the time to develop plans to benefit both their chapters from the contest, regardless of who won the 2011 nod. They developed the Mexican-Idaho Chapters Interactive Cross-Training (ICT) Program.



Salvador E. Lluch Cota, Mexico Chapter AFS President



James Capurso, Idaho Chapter AFS Past President

The ICT Program will help both chapters expand their international knowledge of fisheries, using an exchange approach. The Mexican Chapter currently has annual meetings once every 2 years. During those Mexican meeting years, the chapters will host the other's President at their annual meeting. When the Idaho Chapter meets in the winter of 2009 in Boise, they will host the Mexican Chapter President. When the Mexican Chapter meets in the spring of 2009 in Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico they will host the Idaho Chapter President. Each President is expected to present the state of their chapter and describe fisheries issues currently being addressed in their region. When each President returns to their chapter, they are expected to present to their home chapter what they have experienced during the ICT Program. In addition, if either chapter needs additional fisheries expertise, they know they can call upon each other for assistance. It is Lluch's and Capurso's hope that this program will emphasize the international nature of the American Fisheries Society while expanding members' horizons and providing opportunities to learn from other fisheries professionals.

"Not Just a Fish Story—The History of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society" is Complete!

The Idaho Chapter now has its very own historical account. It was written by Josh Bernard, a history major from Boise State University. Josh not only did a remarkably thorough job of chronicling the creation and evolution (or should I say "intelligent design") of the Chapter, but he clearly has a gift for injecting a human-interest component into his writing.

The project was initiated by Jim Capurso, who recognized a need to capture the rich and interesting his-

story of the Idaho Chapter while we still have access to many of the great men and women who've formed the Chapter since its inception in 1963. Josh captures the essence of the Chapter as it grew from a small gathering of 35 fisheries workers in 1963 to over 250 active members and two student sub-units.

If you haven't already seen the document, please take some time to read about our history. *The History of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society* is posted on the ICAFS website.

Congratulations to the Palouse Subunit for winning the 2008 Outstanding Student Chapter

Congratulations are due to the Palouse Subunit of ICAFS for winning the 2008 outstanding student chapter award. The award was recently announced by AFS National President Mary Fabrizio in a letter to the student chapter and will be presented to the chapter on Tuesday August 19th during the Business meeting of the AFS Annual Meeting in Ottawa.

The chapter recently celebrated its 30th anniversary and was the feature of an article in **Fisheries**.

2008 ICAFS Officers and Committee Chairs

Visit our website at

<http://www.idahoafs.org>



2008 Executive Committee

Jim Fredericks, President	(208) 525-7290	jfredericks@idfg.idaho.gov
Jim Fredericks, President Elect	(208) 525-7290	jfredericks@idfg.idaho.gov
Ernest Keeley, Vice President	(208) 282-3145	keelerne@isu.edu
Bart Gamett, Past President	(208) 588-2224	bgamett@fs.fed.us
Matt Davis, Treasurer	(208) 769-3049	mdavis01@fs.fed.us
Chris Kozfkay, Secretary	(208) 939-6713	ckozfkay@idfg.idaho.gov
Brett High, Nominations Chair	(208) 525-7290	bhigh@idfg.idaho.gov
Brian McIraith, Palouse Unit President	(253) 219-1166	bmcilraith@vandals.uidaho.edu
Joe Benjamin, Portneuf Unit Pres.	(208) 282-2139	benjjose@isu.edu

Committee Chairs

Tim Copeland , Anadromous Fish	(208) 465-8404	tcopeland@idfg.idaho.gov
Brian Grant, Aquaculture	(208) 588-2219	bgrant@idfg.idaho.gov
Eric Stark, Fundraising	(208) 465-8404	estark@idfg.idaho.gov
John Cassinelli, Fundraising	(208) 465-8404	johncassinelli@hotmail.com
Jason Vogel, Fundraising	(208) 843-7145	jasonv@nezperce.org
Matt Dare, Membership	(208) 373-4371	mdare@fs.fed.us
Kevin Meyer, Mentoring	(208) 465-8404	kmeyer@idfg.idaho.gov
Dan Garren, Native Fishes	(208) 525-7290	dgarren@idfg.idaho.gov
Lauri Monnot, Public Education	(208) 373-0461	lauri.monnot@deg.idaho.gov
Corey Lyman, Riparian	(208) 557-5838	clyman@fs.fed.us
Stephanie Hallock, Water Quality/Str. Hydr.	(208) 686-0701	shallock@cdatribe-nsn.gov