



**AMERICAN
FISHERIES
SOCIETY**



NEWSLETTER

September 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

[President's Message](#)

[Awards Committee](#)

[News from around North Carolina](#)

[Spotlight on Students and Young Professionals](#)

[Meetings of Interest](#)

[Valuable Links](#)

We would appreciate your comments on this electronic version of the NC Chapter Newsletter. Please send all responses to Jerry Finke (jerry.finke@ncwildlife.org).

President's Message

Over the past few weeks, I have had the opportunity to delve into the history of our Chapter. And thanks to information provided by a number of Chapter members, I am currently compiling a more complete record of the Chapter's activities and accomplishments and working with Jerry Finke to update the Chapter's website. Let me take this opportunity to ask that if you have information or documents you believe pertinent to this effort, please let me know.

Through this process, I have become even more aware of the rich and accomplished history of this Chapter. Over its nearly 20-year existence, we have hosted national and regional meetings, facilitated the exchange of scientific data among Chapter members, provided extraordinary continuing education opportunities, fostered student involvement, and promoted natural resource conservation. And through the dedication of our members, the list of accomplishments continues to grow.

Furthermore, our Chapter's broad scope of work compares well to the Program of Work set forth by AFS Parent Society consisting of three focus areas: Aquatic Stewardship, Information Transfer and Outreach, and Membership Services. As for the future, I see the largest opportunity for growth in the area of Aquatic Stewardship. For me, this became obvious recently while I reviewed a letter drafted by Dave McHenry and the Environmental Concerns Committee to the Office of the Governor addressing the need for water conservation in light of the recent drought.

The letter from the Environmental Concerns Committee was thorough and made a compelling case for water conservation. But as I reviewed it, I personally questioned how best to begin the dialogue. I struggled with the necessity to introduce the Chapter, describe our connection with the Parent Society, and list our credentials. For me, this begs the question: "how can we better market our Chapter both directly and indirectly through our actions?"

We shouldn't need to introduce ourselves, but instead AFS and locally our Chapter should be one of, if not, the organization of record on fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystems. I would hope our opinion is respected and our consultation is desired when it comes to conservation and management of these

resources. However, I am not sure that this is always the case. The challenge is how we as a Chapter become more visible and relevant in the conservation of aquatic resources in North Carolina.

We are taking a number of continued steps to address this challenge. I am appointing an ad-hoc committee to review the Chapter's Bylaws and Procedures. Two items that this committee will be asked to address are the development of clear objectives for outreach activities conducted by the Chapter and the incorporation of procedures for reviewing and funding potential projects. Related to that, I have asked Kevin Hining to develop an annual operating budget to aid in determining what funds are available for potential conservation projects. We also continue to search out opportunities to educate on fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystems, partner with like-minded organizations, and actively participate in conservation projects. Please look for updates on these activities in the December newsletter and presentations at the annual business meeting in February.

Christian Waters

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

[Minutes of the July 2008 Executive Committee Meeting.](#)

Submitted by Kevin Hining, Secretary-Treasurer

Awards Committee

NC State University Researcher Receives AFS Best Publication Award

Dr. Kyoungju Choi, a former doctoral student in the Department of Environmental and Molecular Toxicology at NC State University, was awarded the prestigious honor of Best Paper published in the AFS Journal of Aquatic Animal Health for 2007 at the Annual Meeting in Ottawa, Canada. The winning article was part of her Ph.D. research project on the modulation of immune function parameters in fish caused by sudden changes in dissolved oxygen and salinity. Her research was supervised by Dr. Mac Law, Professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine at NC State. Her other dissertation advisory committee members were Drs. Greg Cope, Craig Harms, and Muquarrab Qureshi. The complete citation for Ju's winning article is K. Choi, D.W. Lehmann, C.A. Harms, and J.M. Law. 2007. Acute hypoxia-reperfusion triggers immunocompromise in Nile Tilapia. *Journal of Aquatic Animal Health* 19:128-140. Dr. Choi is currently a post-doctoral researcher at NCSU.



Dr. Kyoungju Choi receives her Best Publication Award from AFS Education Section President and NC AFS Chapter Member, Dr. Tom Kwak.

Submitted by Greg Cope.

2008 Student Travel Awards Presented

The NC AFS Chapter established a Student Travel Award Program in 2005 for the specific purpose of encouraging professional growth of students and maximal participation of undergraduate and graduate students at the annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Monetary support is provided to qualifying students via a travel award of \$200 to \$400 to help defer the cost of meeting travel, registration, and accommodations. The 2008 awards were presented to six students for the annual American Fisheries Society meeting held August 17-21, 2008 in Ottawa, Canada.

The six award winners in 2008 were all from N.C. State University. Each student received a cash award of \$400 from the Chapter's Ichthus Fund account, which was established specifically to foster student involvement. The winners included Scott Favrot and Brad Garner, both advised by Dr. Tom Kwak; Jason Godbout and Steve Midway, advised by Dr. Derek Aday; and Christina Durham and Brandon Puckett, advised by Dr. David Eggleston.

<http://www.sdafs.org/ncafs/Awards.htm> for more details. The deadline for submittal of applications for the 2009 travel awards is June 15th of next year. Please direct questions to Dr. Greg Cope, NCSU at greg_cope@ncsu.edu.



2008 Student Travel Award winners pictured at the meeting alongside AFS President Mary Fabrizio include Steve Midway, Scott Favrot, and Brad Garner, along with Will Smith (far left), who was the 2008 Chapter winner of the Richard L. Noble Best Student Presentation Award. Photo credit: Dr. Tom Kwak.



Christina Durham processing shrimp samples from the Gulf of Mexico.

Submitted by Greg Cope and John Crutchfield



Brandon Puckett surveys the beautiful Ottawa River during a break from the meeting.

All six students represented the Chapter admirably at the Ottawa meeting and expressed their sincere gratitude to the Chapter for helping to make their attendance and participation possible. They all encouraged fellow students to apply for the travel award in 2009. The Chapter would like to congratulate these deserving students on receiving the 2008 travel awards. Interested students (and their advisors) should see the Awards Committee web site at

News from around North Carolina

Fred Harris Retires from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission – submitted by Bob Curry, NC WRC



Another Nice One: Russian River, Alaska, September 2005

Fred Harris will retire from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission on Oct. 1 after 36-plus years. Fred began his career with the Commission in 1972 as a district fisheries biologist, later becoming Fisheries Research Coordinator for the Piedmont Region in 1975. In 1981, he became Assistant Chief of the Division of Inland Fisheries. Five years later he was promoted to Chief of the Division. Fred was promoted to Chief Deputy Director for the Commission in 2004 and concurrently served as the Interim Executive Director for the past year.

With each promotion away from field work and towards administrative work, Fred never lost sight of his primary mission; to ensure that North Carolina's sport fisheries were managed to meet the state's growing demand for high quality recreational experiences. Fred has always had an incredible ability to inspire good work from his co-workers, and his enthusiasm for fisheries conservation was always contagious. Whether working with a committee of his employees or with a committee of biologists or administrators from other states, he was, and remains, highly respected as a keen observer, an outstanding analyst, and a provider of practical solutions.

Fred's vision, leadership and commitment to fish and wildlife conservation are recognized throughout the nation. Fred's trademark rolled-up shirt sleeves perhaps capture his dedication and work philosophy best. Fred has always been able to quietly size up any problem or issue, identify

potential solutions and then set about working tirelessly to bring about a resolution. Fred is known best for picking up the phone, calling his staff for their opinions, and most often, implementing solutions that include the recommendations of his staff. The conservation community will truly experience a void without Fred's leadership and incredible ability to develop adaptive management solutions.

A Life member as well as a Certified Fisheries Scientist, Fred joined the American Fisheries Society (AFS) in 1970. He is a charter member of the North Carolina chapter and has served on several chapter committees. Within the Southern Division, he chaired the Reservoir Committee for five years and served on several committees. In 1983, Fred served as secretary-treasurer and then president (1985-1986) of the Southern Division. His work for the organization and profession as a whole resulted in his winning the Southern Division's Outstanding Achievement Award in 1992. At the Society level, Fred also served on numerous committees; he is a member of the Fisheries Management and Fisheries Administration sections, serving as Secretary-Treasurer and then President of the latter. In 1998, Fred received the Society's Distinguished Service Award. Fred was elected as an officer for the AFS in 1999, and served as the Society's President from 2002-2003. Fred remains actively involved with the AFS; he continues to engage in conservation issues and serve on committees.

If you wish to contact Fred directly to offer your congratulations or just want to reminisce about old times, his e-mail address is fahadh92@hotmail.com.

A retirement celebration for Fred is being planned for late November-early December 2008 in Raleigh. Additional details about his celebration will be provided as soon they are finalized. Please plan to join us in celebrating Fred's long and valued service to the citizens of North Carolina.

North Carolina Division of Water Quality News from Bryn H. Tracy and Jeff DeBerardinis, NCDWQ

Summer Intern at DWQ

Nathan Beasley, a graduating senior from North Carolina State University, became the most recent alumnus of a summer internship with the Division of Water Quality's Biological Assessment Unit (BAU). This was the sixth year that the division has worked with NCSU's College of Natural Resources to secure an internship position (see NCAFS 2003 - 2007 Newsletters -- <http://www.sdafs.org/ncafs/Newsletters.htm>) and

the second year the position was funded through the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources' REACH Program (Recruiting Exceptional Achievers for Career Horizons) (<http://www.enr.state.nc.us/Reach/index.html>).



Nate Beasley and Brown Trout, *Salmo trutta*, Middle Fork South Fork New River.

One of the goals of the REACH Program is to give college students actual NCDENR-type work experience in the hope that the students will consider working for NCDENR upon graduation. Unfortunately for us, Nate has already “hooked” a job as a science teacher at East Randolph County High School where he started last month. Nevertheless, in 10 short weeks (the weeks seem to flow past more quickly with each intern) Nate assisted the fish community assessment program in sampling 34 streams in the Watauga, New, Yadkin, and Cape Fear River basins. This was the first year that the tradition of sampling a wadeable stream near where the intern fished was not upheld. Nate grew up near the small town of Franklinville in Randolph County, but because of the ongoing drought throughout much of the Piedmont, that portion of the Cape Fear River Basin could not be sampled. Instead, we had to settle for sampling two nearby downstream reaches of the Deep River as part of a multi-agency study of the recovery of the fish community following removal of the Carbonton Dam. I guess to uphold traditions in the fishery field, one needs to be as flexible as a fly fishing rod.

Nate's travels with the BAU staff took him from the extreme northwest corner of the state in Ashe and Watauga counties where the streams are boulder-strewn, high gradient, and clear, to the southeast corner in Duplin and Bladen counties where the streams are very tannin stained, lower gradient, and have a sand-muck substrate. By working across several river basins, Nate, like interns before him, was able to observe a wide

range of stream and habitat conditions. The waterbodies ranged from low diversity streams draining minimally-impacted forested watersheds to those productivity-enhanced streams that did not have a single tree in the immediate riparian zone and where the Central Stoneroller and River Chub never seemed to stop popping up.



Cove Creek, Watauga County

Nate became familiar with 103 species of fish, slightly less than one-half of the state's total freshwater fauna. Endemics from the New River Basin that Nate was able to collect and identify included the Tonguetied Minnow (*Exoglossum laurae*), Bigmouth Chub (*Nocomis platyrhynchus*), New River Shiner (*Notropis scabriceps*), Kanawha Minnow (*Phenacobius teretulus*), Kanawha Darter (*Etheostoma kanawhae*), and Appalachia Darter (*Percina gymnocephala*). He also saw the federally endangered Cape Fear Shiner (*Notropis mekistocholas*) and the state threatened Carolina Redhorse (*Moxostoma* sp. cf. *erythrurum*).



Kanawha Darter

Besides the fish community assessment field work, Nate assisted staff with the ongoing fish tissue contaminant program investigating PCBs in the Crabtree Creek watershed (Wake County) and mercury in Jordan and Kerr reservoirs and in the lower Tar and Lumber rivers. When not in the field or the laboratory, Nate attended a JMP® (SAS software) presentation, assisted one afternoon at NCSU's Hill Forest Fisheries & Wildlife Summer

Camp, and listened to four presentations on the Cape Fear Shiner, freshwater mussels, and water quality of Chatham County streams at a meeting of the Chatham Conservation Partnership in Pittsboro, NC.

Over the past six summers, the NCSU fishery major undergraduate interns (Aaron Bunch, Alison Price, Tyler Averett, Ernie Hain, Andrew Rominger, and Nate Beasley) have provided much-needed and appreciated assistance, and a youthful spark to the stream fish community assessment program. The energetic and inquisitive interns have gained critical skills in the field and laboratory identification of many species of freshwater fish, experience in wadeable stream backpack electrofishing techniques, electronic data entry using the fish community and habitat Access databases, instream and riparian habitat assessments, and instrumentation using YSI and Fisher Accumet water quality meters. DWQ plans to continue this successful relationship for many years to come. We encourage all North Carolina college students, not just those at NCSU, to take full advantage of NCDENR's statewide REACH Program during the summer and throughout the year.

Basinwide Monitoring

In 2007, the stream fish community assessment program sampled 87 basinwide sites in the Catawba, French Broad, and Tar River basins. The complete data, ratings, and analyses for all 2007 sites are now available at

<http://www.esb.enr.state.nc.us/bau.html>. The completed basinwide monitoring reports for the three river basins may be found at:
<http://www.esb.enr.state.nc.us/documents/2008ctbbauptweb.pdf>
<http://www.esb.enr.state.nc.us/documents/2008frbbauweb.pdf>
<http://www.esb.enr.state.nc.us/documents/2008starbasinwiderptfinal.pdf>

This year, 2008, basinwide monitoring activities were intended to focus on the New and Cape Fear River basins. However, due to the prolonged and severe 2007 drought and now the 2008 drought, monitoring activities shifted to the Watauga River Basin (moved up from 2009) and focused on the New River Basin (not sampled since 1998) and the Sand Hills and Coastal Plain regions of the Cape Fear River Basin. The Piedmont portion of the Cape Fear River Basin will hopefully be sampled in 2009 if a hydrologic regime approaching some degree of normalcy ever returns. A special study examining the recovery of the fish communities at three streams in Chatham County

which began in March 2008 was interrupted in June when the streams quit flowing again in this year.



Terrells Creek, Chatham County, April 2003



Terrells Creek, Chatham County, December 2007

The December 2008 or March 2009 issue of the NCAFS newsletter will report on any new distributional records that were uncovered this year. As mentioned in previous newsletters, a common occurrence, that is being repeatedly documented throughout our state, is the interbasin transfer and introduction of species. Preliminary examination of this year's data showed the Green Sunfish, *Lepomis cyanellus*, now in the Watauga and New River basins, and the Highback Chub, *Hybopsis hypsinotus*, Brown Bullhead, *Ameiurus nebulosus*, and the Black Crappie, *Pomoxis nigromaculatus*, now in the New River Basin. Approximately 46% (n = 24) of all the species in the New River Basin (n = 52) are non-indigenous.



Highback Chub

Challenging identifications this year included the separation of the Redlip Shiner (*Notropis chiliticus*) and the Saffron Shiner (*Notropis rubricroceus*) in the New River basin where both species are non-indigenous. Preliminary data showed the Redlip Shiner very abundant in the Little River watershed and some tributaries in the lower reaches of the South Fork New River. The Saffron Shiner seemed to be found mainly in some of the tributaries to the lower reaches of the South Fork New River as well as a few tributaries to the North Fork New River and New River in northern Ashe County. Ethanol-and formalin-preserved specimens of both species will be vouchered at the North Carolina State Museum of Natural Sciences for future studies on the distribution and possible hybridization of these two species.



Saffron Shiner (top) and Redlip Shiner (bottom); photo-graphs courtesy of Virginia Tech's EFISH: The Virtual Aquarium (<http://www.cnr.vt.edu/efish/>)

Fish Tissue Contaminants Program

Approximately 40 streams, rivers, and lakes have been or will be sampled during the summer of 2008 as part of DWQ's fish tissue contaminants monitoring program. Results are routinely forwarded to the NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for fish consumption risk assessments. 2008 DWQ fish mercury sites include long-term monitoring stations in the Cape Fear

River basin in the vicinity of a former chlor-alkali manufacturing facility and 13 long-term state-wide monitoring stations in collaboration with the Division of Air Quality's mandated investigation of mercury control reductions from North Carolina's coal fired power plants. Summer interns Whitney Hinton and Nate Beasley from DENR's REACH Program had the chance to roll-and-scoop a few lunkers during some of the early summer collections for the DAQ mercury mandate. Organic fish contaminant studies in 2008 include a follow up Ecosystem Enhancement Program investigation of residual pesticides from apple orchards in the southern mountains and two studies of suspected PCB contamination in the Neuse River and in Badin Lake.



Whitney Hinton (UNC-W) and Nate Beasley (NC SU) on point at Kerr Reservoir, Vance County

DWQ is also continuing a collaborative effort in 2008 with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and the DHHS to determine mercury risk assessments associated with North Carolina's most commonly consumed freshwater sport fish. On hand results of this monitoring effort have shed some great news about one of North Carolina's tastiest species and some not so great news about another. First, the good news: all Black Crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*) collected from six Piedmont lakes (Rhodhiss, Hickory, Norman, Jordan, Gaston, and Tuckertown) contained fillet-mercury concentrations that were well below the state's fish consumption advisory action level of 0.4 mg/kg. Now, the bad news: most Walleye (*Sander vitreus*) collected from Santeetlah Lake and Fontana Reservoir contained fillet-mercury concentrations that far exceed this action level. For information about North Carolina's fish consumption advisories and advice see: <http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/fish/>.

For further information on any of the DWQ's on-going fish studies, please contact Bryn or Jeff (bryn.tracy@ncmail.net, jeff.deberardinis@ncmail.net).

A New Species is Discovered in North Carolina, the Federally Endangered Roanoke Logperch (*Percina rex*) – Chris Wood, NC WRC

The Roanoke logperch, *Percina rex*, is a Federally Endangered fish once considered endemic to portions of the Roanoke and Chowan River basins of Virginia, but recent discoveries have shown that this rare fish also calls the great state of North Carolina home. Last summer, Duke Power biologists were surprised when they captured a single specimen of the Roanoke logperch while sampling in the Dan River just downstream of the Smith River confluence near Eden, North Carolina. This species had never been captured in the Dan River, and the closest known population was many miles away in Virginia's portion of the Smith River. Biologists hypothesized that the specimen from the Dan River was washed downstream from Virginia's Smith River population during a previous high flow event, or that drought conditions may have influenced a movement downstream. This led North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) and North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences (NCMNS) biologists to survey the North Carolina portion of the Smith River last fall. With a considerable amount of effort, one more adult individual was captured. However, no more Roanoke logperches were captured during subsequent surveys by Duke Power biologists around the Dan River occurrence locality. Biologists thought these preliminary data suggested the fish captured in the Dan River was a recruit from the Smith River and possibly from the known population in Virginia. Fish-heads in both North Carolina and Virginia had two unanswered questions on their minds: Where did these two fish come from, and is there actually a reproducing population of the Roanoke logperch right here in North Carolina? Further surveys were needed to scratch this scientific itch. But scientific discovery was not the only thing driving this enthusiasm, there are tremendous management and conservation implications associated with the discovery of a new Federally Endangered species in the state; therefore, verifying whether this fish truly occurs in North Carolina was an extremely important task. This prompted the NCWRC to conduct a series of surveys in the Dan River and its major tributaries.



NCWRC biologists surveyed almost 30 sites in the upper Dan, Mayo, and Smith Rivers during the spring and summer of 2008. While surveying a short reach in the Mayo River, a large tributary of the Dan River in Rockingham County, North Carolina, biologists captured 3 Roanoke logperches from a single run! This was an extremely exciting discovery since no occurrence records existed in either the Virginia or North Carolina portions of the Mayo River. This was the discovery needed to verify an extant population of the Roanoke logperch in North Carolina. Following the Mayo River discovery, an additional survey in the Smith River by NCWRC, NCMNS, and North Carolina Division of Water Quality biologists revealed a staggering 10 individuals ranging in size from 63 to 159mm, indicating several age classes exist. These size data suggest the Smith River harbors a self-sustaining population and is not dependent on recruitment from Virginia. This verified that we not only have one, but two extant populations of this Federally Endangered fish in North Carolina. No more Roanoke logperches have turned up in the Dan River, but biologists are still on the hunt and have already surveyed over 20 sites from the Virginia line in Stokes County down to the Smith River confluence.



Further surveys in the area and research on these newly discovered populations will take place over the next several years. Hopefully, future work will answer many questions: Were these simply undiscovered populations or is the range of the Roanoke logperch expanding? How do these newly discovered populations genetically fit in with known populations in Virginia? Is drought (i.e., low water conditions) playing a role in the discovery of this fish via a detectability or migration effect? Many other questions and hypotheses will surely arise. What was once thought to be a Virginia endemic is now officially a resident Tarheel!

Scott Van Horn's Retirement Celebration – submitted by Jodie Owen, NC WRC

On Aug. 25 at Lake Mackintosh in Burlington, more than 100 people gathered to celebrate Scott Van Horn's 33 years-plus of service with the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. While Scott retired officially on June 30, in keeping with his traditions, the retirement barbeque was celebrated nearly two months later.



More than 100 people gathered for Scott Van Horn's retirement celebration.

Stamey's Barbeque catered the lunch. Among the gifts that Scott received were a Browning 22 Auto Rimfire Rifle, Leupold 2-7x variable scope with mounts and rings, and Boyt rifle case. The

commission presented Scott with a framed bluegill print by Duane Raver. Duke Power personnel gave Scott a fishing rod and reel. A couple of retired Fish heads gifted Scott with gag gifts best left unnamed.



Duke Power presented Scott with a rod and reel.

Old stories were recounted, fond memories were shared and lots of laughs were had by all who attended. Accompanying Scott to the retirement barbeque were his wife Cheryl, his daughter Marcia and her husband Kevin, his daughter Erica and her husband Derek, and his four grandchildren Joanna, Jonathon, Conor and Caitlyn.



Scott's family accompanied him to the barbeque.

The number of state and federal agencies, natural resources organizations, educational facilities and power companies represented at the retirement barbeque was a testament to how widespread his science-based fisheries management, professional service, nongame conservation, and mentorship to students and colleagues reached.

Scott spent most of his career with the Division of Inland Fisheries as the lead reservoir biologist in the Piedmont Region. In recent years, Scott took on the task of supervising the Aquatic Faunal Diversity Program. His leadership, vision and commitment to managing and conserving

aquatic resources have cemented the Division's long-standing reputation as an organization devoted to excellence in natural resource management and he will be sorely missed.

In addition to his work with the Commission, Scott has selflessly volunteered his time, talents and energy to further the goals and initiatives of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) at the state chapter, regional and parent society levels. He has been an AFS member since 1972 and a member of the NC AFS Chapter since its inception. He served as its first President (1990-1991) and was instrumental in the chapter's formation and recognition by the Parent Society. Scott has also been actively involved in the Southern Division of AFS, chairing several technical committees, serving as Secretary-Treasurer and ultimately President (1998-1999). Scott's considerable thoughtfulness combined with his unique philosophical approach to dealing with weighty issues deliberated at AFS Governing Board meetings is renowned throughout the Society.

2008 American Fisheries Society Meeting in Ottawa – submitted by Joe Hightower, NCSU

A large contingent from NC State University (along with NC colleagues from UNC-Wilmington, East Carolina University, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and Duke Energy) traveled to Ottawa for the August 17-21, 2008 American Fisheries Society meeting.



Changing of the Guard ceremony in front of the Parliament building.

NCSU students and faculty participated in workshops ranging from sturgeon surgical techniques to programming in R. Tom Kwak completed his first year as President of the Education Section, and Joe Hightower assumed duties as Skinner Memorial Award Committee Chair. Scott Favrot and Steve Midway were recognized as Skinner Travel Award winners, as

was Julie Harris who received a travel award from the Equal Opportunity Section.



Skinner award winners Scott Favrot (left) and Steve Midway with AFS President Mary Fabrizio.

Seven NC State students received travel awards from our Chapter to attend the meeting (see Awards Committee report). We watched the changing of the guard, shopped and dined in Byward Market, and explored the many museums (when talks were not going on, of course!). And speaking of talks, fifteen NCSU graduate students gave presentations. In short, we had a great visit to our neighbor to the north, and we look forward to Nashville in 2009, where there will be no drink tickets!



AFS Equal Opportunities Section meeting, where Julie Harris (far right in picture) was recognized with others receiving a travel award.

SDAFS 2010 Spring Meeting Update – submitted by Christian Waters, NC WRC

Lawrence Dorsey has graciously agreed to serve as the general chair for the SDAFS 2010 Spring Meeting, and Doug Besler will oversee local arrangements. The meeting will be in Asheville, and meeting planning is well underway. Look for additional information in the coming months as Lawrence and Doug begin recruiting volunteers to assist with the program, posters, local arrangements, budget/finance, registration, fundraising, audio-visual, etc.

Call for Nominations, Southern Division AFS Awards – forwarded by Dave Coughlan, Duke Energy

Many of our members, chapters, and subunits are investing tremendous amounts of time and energy in fish-related research, education, and service. The 2009 Spring Meeting in New Orleans is the perfect opportunity to recognize these efforts. Please review summaries of award criteria on the SDAFS website (<http://www.sdafs.org/award/callnom.htm>). Some award nominations need only a letter of support. Other nominations will take more time to complete. Regardless, it is worth the effort to recognize outstanding individuals, chapters, and subunits. Take a moment to consider coworkers and collaborators, whose work and service in the fisheries profession should be recognized with the Distinguished Service Award or Outstanding Achievement Award. It shouldn't take long to compose a short list. The problem likely will be selecting only one nominee for each award. Deadline for all nominations is November 15.

Spotlight on Students and Young Professionals

David Goodfred, Fisheries Biologist, NC WRC



David Goodfred was born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee. Growing up in Nashville provided many fishing opportunities. From fishing for largemouth bass at Old Hickory and J. Percy Priest Reservoirs to wade fishing for smallmouth bass in the numerous streams across the state, David not only developed a passion for fishing, but he became very interested in the biology and ecology of fishes.

David graduated from David Lipscomb High School in 1999. The following August, he entered David Lipscomb University, and in December 2003, he received a Bachelor of Science in exercise science with a minor in biology. In August 2004, he entered the Master's program at Tennessee Technological University under the supervision of Dr. Brad Cook. David's thesis focused upon how habitat conditions and land use practices influence stream communities within the Emory River Watershed, Tennessee. Following completion of his graduate work in March 2006, David was employed as a fisheries biologist by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

In August 2008, David started work with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission as the District-8 Fisheries Biologist I.

David is accompanied by his wife, Adrienne, and they live in Marion. They are both avid outdoor participants and are extremely excited to live in the western mountains of North Carolina. They are looking forward to this new chapter in life, where they will be in closer proximity to their families, while enjoying the small town atmosphere.

Submitted by Jacob Rash

Meetings of Interest

8th Annual AFS Student Colloquium: “Dam it! Impacts of Impoundments on Fisheries”

November 7 – 8th, 2008
Pikeville, TN at Fall Creek Falls State Park

The extended early registration and abstract submission deadline for oral and poster presentation is set for September 24th. Abstracts can be submitted at the TTUSFA website (<http://orgs.tntech.edu/sfa/>). A block of 50 rooms have been reserved for the Colloquium and a reservation deadline is set for September 25th. Please contact Fall Creek Falls State park for reservations (1-800-250-8610). Oral presentation will be on a first-come first-serve basis.

The theme for the Student Colloquium is “Dam it! Impacts of Impoundments on Fisheries”. However, we realize that not all students are conducting research related to impoundments; therefore, please feel free to submit other presentations pertinent to fisheries research, such as fish or aquatic invertebrate ecology and taxonomy.

Registration will be \$20 for early registration by September 24th and late registration will be \$25. Please make checks payable to TTU SFA and mail to: TTU Student Fisheries Association; P.O. Box 5114 TTU; Cookeville, TN 38505. Registration includes a T-shirt, welcoming social, breaks, Saturday box lunch, and dinner at the bonfire social.

Additional information on the student colloquium can be found at <http://orgs.tntech.edu/sfa/> or by contacting Tyler Black at ttufisheries@gmail.com.

2009 Southern Division Spring Meeting

15 – 18 January 2009
New Orleans, LA
Hosted by LA AFS Chapter

Mark your schedule for the 17th annual Spring Meeting of the Southern Division of AFS. This meeting promises to be an effective forum for the exchange of ideas, presentation of research papers (completed and in progress), to conduct technical committee and Division business, and other professional interactions. The meeting will be held in the Royal Sonesta Hotel, which is located in New Orleans, LA. Rooms, single or double, are quoted at the government rate of \$131. Details regarding accommodations, reservations procedures and meeting registration will be announced in the

Winter 2008 Division Newsletter and will be posted on the Division Website.

The deadline for abstract submission is October 24th. Schedule for the upcoming Spring Meeting is as follows: Thursday, Technical Committee meetings; Friday, EXCOM and continuing education workshops; and Saturday and Sunday (until noon), Technical Sessions, Symposia, and Posters.

Valuable Links –

The American Fisheries Society Home Page offers a wealth of links to assist you in your fishery endeavors. Information on ordering AFS books, public outreach, annual meetings, chapter links and joining the AFS can be found at <http://www.fisheries.org/>.