President’s message
by Kevin Storey

Thank goodness fall is finally here. I am sure we are all ready for some cooler weather although that comes with the prospect of gradually shortening days and more time spent indoors. As we wind down 2015, many Chapter members are busily working behind the scenes to prepare for our annual meeting in Kerrville in January 2016. There are ample opportunities for involvement including participation through presentation in technical or posters sessions, attendance in continuing education sessions, networking and student mentoring, serving on committees, seeking donations for fund-raising activities and contributing your own money to support student scholarships. If you have not done so already, it’s time to step up to the challenge.

Our past-President, Bruce Hysmith retired in September 2015 after a 41-year career in fisheries management. It’s sobering to realize he has worked in the fisheries field longer than the Texas Chapter AFS has existed! He has long been a fixture at our annual meeting as auctioneer and under his direction untold sums of money have been squeezed out of the pockets of members in support of student scholarships. He retired from that post a few years ago but filled in again at the Tyler meeting, a event that became the swan song for the “Bruce Show”! Later in the newsletter, Michele Nations presents a review of his long career with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

September 2015 was also memorable time for me as my father passed away. I was encouraged by my elder brother to write a eulogy for his funeral and I found the process to be therapeutic as I was reminded of many pleasant memories of him during my childhood and formative years. Of course there were some incidents I would prefer to forget, but the overwhelming majority of experiences were positive. I have come to understand we have many common interests which he undoubtedly passed onto me. Among these are a love of photography, and music and a fondness for sharing stories and experiences with others, at least for me in smaller groups. I am comforted by this realization and it is reassuring to know his legacy lives on in me. I would encourage you to look at your personal and professional lives and take stock of your loves, interests and strengths and see if you can identify those who have mentored you. Many of us have difficulty sharing so we may be uncomfortable letting people know that they have influenced us in positive ways. I can assure
you the experience of telling someone they had a profound effect on your character or development is very
rewarding and sometimes humbling. Don’t put it off because it would be sad if you waited until it was too late
and then you’d be haunted by regret. Now that I mention it, it might be informative if we thought through our
own professional eulogies. What contributions have you made to your discipline and how have you influenced
people you work with and serve? While there is time you might want to re-think some of the things you do and
the way you act so your survivors might have good things to say about you at your funeral! Just saying…

Kerrville - Here We Come for the 2016 Annual Meeting

by Dave Buzan

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meeting from January 21-23 at the Y.O. Ranch Hotel in
Kerrville. This year’s theme is “Working Together for 40 Years of Fisheries Science.” A scenic, central Texas
location, we hope it encourages all of you both from the coast and around Texas to participate. Plan to bring
your best science, presentations, posters, colleagues, and money.

Your active participation is critical to achievement of two goals for this meeting: 300 participants and $10,000
added to our scholarship endowment fund.

The key to our fund-raising has been the Friday night auction. Help Jake Norman get auction items, i.e. fish art,
guns, kayaks, fishing, hunting, and camping gear.

Preliminary Schedule:

Thursday, January 21:
• Registration (1:00 -5:30 pm)
• Continuing Education workshops (2:00-4:00 pm)
• Student/Professional Mixer (5:00-6:30 pm, bar with beer and wine will be available)

Friday, January 22:
• Registration (7:00 am – 5:30 pm)
• Keynote address (8:00-8:30 am) – The keynote address replaces the plenary sessions of previous
meetings in order to accommodate more technical presentations.
• Lunch (including the Student-Mentor lunch. Sign up on the registration form.)
• Presentations (8:30 am – 5:00 pm)
• Posters (5:00-6:30 pm)
• Banquet, Awards ceremony and Auction (6:30-10:00 pm, bar with beer and wine will be available)

Saturday, January 23:
• Past-presidents’ Breakfast (7:00-8:00 am)
• Presentations (8:00-11:00 am)
• Chapter Business Meeting (11:00 am – noon)

Registration:

Early registration will be $102 for professionals and $50 for students. Registration covers continuing education
workshops, Thursday night’s Student/Professional Mixer, presentations, Banquet, awards ceremony and
auction. Registration also includes annual membership in the chapter.

The early registration deadline is December 31, 2015.

Late registration will be $117 for professionals and $60 for students. Extra banquet tickets will be $35.
The registration form is at the end of this newsletter or can be downloaded from the chapter webpage:

**Hotel:**

The Y.O. Ranch Hotel is located at 2033 Sidney Baker St, Kerrville. Pre-tax room rates (breakfast included):

- $83/single
- $93/double
- $103/triple
- $113/four guests (the student special)

Call toll-free 1-877-967-3767 or go to -
https://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=1427579&hotelID=12007

Ask for the Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society Rate

In order to get these great rates, the hotel has blocked 120 rooms for our members. In order to guarantee you can reserve a room at these rates, you must make your reservation by noon, December 22. Remember our attendance goal is 300 members so expect rooms to be in high demand and register early.

Check-in time is **4:00 p.m.** and check-out is **noon**. The Hotel’s policy requires a credit card imprint upon check-in. If the guest does not have a credit card, and the Group does not guarantee the guest’s room expenses, all room and tax will be collected at time of check-in along with appropriate deposits. Any unused deposit will be refunded.

**Exhibitors:**

Exhibitors interested in obtaining space for their product should contact Jake Norman (jake.norman@tpwd.texas.gov) or Alice Best (alice.best@tpwd.texas.gov)

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*Save the date!*

**TCAFS Annual Meeting**

**January 21-23, 2016**

**Y.O. Ranch Hotel & Conference Center, Kerrville**
Abstracts for oral and poster presentations are requested for the 2016 annual meeting of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. The meeting will be held Thursday through Saturday, January 21 – 23, 2016, at the YO Ranch Hotel and Conference Center in Kerrville, Texas. To submit an abstract to be considered for the technical program, please provide the following information:

Author name(s): (presenting author should be noted with an *)
Presentation type: (oral or poster … please indicate whether you are willing to present the data in the alternative format if requested)
Contact information: (affiliation, street address, city, state, zip code, telephone number, and email address)
Presentation title:
Abstract: (Single paragraph, 300-word maximum length)

In addition, please indicate your intentions for the presentation in the 2016 TCAFS Proceedings (abstract-only or manuscript), and indicate whether the presenter is a STUDENT or PROFESSIONAL. To be considered a student presenter, you must be enrolled at the time the abstract is submitted. PROFESSIONAL PRESENTERS … please indicate your willingness to judge student presentations.

Oral presentations should be prepared as a 15-minute presentation (with 5-minutes for open discussion) using MS PowerPoint®. Poster presentations should be formatted to include a title, abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion/conclusion, and literature cited. Posters must not exceed 48” in any dimension.

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS IS NOVEMBER 1, 2015.

Please submit your presentation abstract ELECTRONICALLY (preferably in MS Word®) to: Dan.Daugherty@tpwd.texas.gov

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!
By Michele Nations, Awards Committee Chair

What does receiving an award really mean? All of the positions dealing with fisheries involve specialized training, a lot of experience, and the enjoyment of working with and helping others. I believe if we perform our jobs (or our class work) well, it will be from that enjoyment and dedication to the field we have chosen to pursue and not necessarily for any honor or prestige. However, the feeling is special when you know you are being recognized by your peers for what they have seen you accomplish. Not only that, they took the time and effort to actually nominate you! (We really try to make it easy for you to nominate people, but it does take a little work on your part to do the nominating.)

From student to professional, the work we perform sometimes involves threat assessment, risk analysis, emergency preparedness, disaster response and recovery, incident and crisis management, and that’s just to name a few areas of our jobs. Did I hear someone say “zebra mussels”? Or was it “golden algae”? “Hydrilla”? “Oil spill”? Or was it “a test on what? When?! O “Where’s my data?”

TCAFS wants to honor those people in fisheries who are making outstanding contributions in their administrative, management, research, fish culture and scholarly duties, and by helping others through technical support and teaching. The award categories include:

- Fisheries Administration
- Fisheries Management
- Fish Culture
- Fisheries Education
- Fisheries Research
- Fisheries Student
- Technical Support
- Special Recognition in Fisheries Work

Plus there are awards for:

- Professional Presentations
- Student Presentations
- Professional Posters
- Student Posters

For the first group of awards, a person needs to check out the qualifications for the award and then fill out a nomination form at: http://sdafs.org/tcafs/tc-awards/. You can also see who has previously won these awards at: http://sdafs.org/tcafs/tc-awards/tc-past-award-winners/.

The deadline for submitting nominations for the awards to be handed out during our January 2016 annual chapter meeting is December 4th.
There’s a lot of hard work involved in preparing for the second set of awards. Such things as time, effort, skill, preparation, and teamwork are needed! And that’s to prepare the presentations and posters. The information for those of you would like to be a presenter can be found on: http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/ Next comes the judging, and all of those things are also needed to determine the winners. If you have previously been one of the judges or would like to be one, contact me and I’ll get you signed up.

Don’t hesitate to give me a shout if you have any questions, comments, or requests for being a judge.

Michele Nations
Michele.nations@tpwd.texas.gov
940-779-2301 (office)
940-445-2105 (cell # for calls or texting)

Those were the days!

Edward Llewellen caught this World Record Black Sea Bass (425 lbs) at Catalina Island, California on August 26, 1903. He allegedly caught the fish alone! If we had fisheries management on those days who knows where we’d be now!
Texas Chapter AFS Business Meeting Minutes
August 30, 2015
Y.O. Ranch Hotel & Resort, Kerrville, TX
by Michael Homer, Secretary Treasurer

Call to Order: President Kevin Storey called the meeting to order at 1:00PM.

Members Present: Kevin Storey (President), Dave Buzan (President-Elect), Michael Homer Jr. (Secretary/Treasurer), Michele Nations (Historian/Awards Committee), Mike Morgan (Scholarships), Dan Daugherty (Editorial), Allison Pease (Editorial), Jake Norman (Publicity/Exhibits), Danny Lewis (Internet), Dan Bennett (Nominating), and Joe Beach (Student Outreach)

Approval of Previous Business Meeting Minutes: Kevin asked about approval of the April EXCOM Meeting Minutes published in the May 2015 newsletter. Michael Homer gave a motion to accept the Minutes, which was seconded by Dan Daugherty. Kevin asked for a vote to which all Members present voted for with none against. Motion was passed and Minutes were approved.

President’s Report (Kevin Storey): No report; main focus of the meeting is to plan for the upcoming 2016 meeting and tour the Y.O. Ranch facility.

President-Elect’s Report (Dave Buzan): Dave visited the Y.O. Ranch facility prior to the EXCOM meeting. A contact has been developed for TCAF to hold its meeting from 1/21-1/23/2015. Dave has been in contact with Jake Norman for soliciting vendors for the meeting. Dave has also been working with Ray Mathews for the keynote address, which the address will highlight TCAF and fisheries work over the last 40 years. Dave would like the address to recognize non-traditional contributions by fisheries workers and researchers. Dave and Ray have been in contact with multiple individuals for input. A theme has not yet been established for the meeting.

SDAFS Officer Update (Craig Bonds): Not present; no report.

Secretary/Treasurer (Michael Homer Jr.): The current balance in the TCAF checking account was $11,288.20. The chapter’s tax documents were filed to the IRS with assistance from Gollub, Morgan, Peddy CPAs, and they have since been paid for their services. A $500 check was submitted per request by Tom Lang to Quinton Phelps for support of the Fisheries Outreach Symposium held at the AFS annual meeting. Patrick Cooney has been contacted for his shirt size and address, and a t-shirt will be sent as a thank you for designing the TCAF logo. Current membership is 196 members; 127 regular and 69 students.

Committee Reports

Awards (Dave Buzan and Michele Nations): Michele has been working with Dave Buzan to learn the requirements of her position, and she plans to begin contacting individuals in November for updating the TCAF history log.

Continuing Education (Lynn Wright): Not present; no report.

Editorial (Dan Daugherty and Allison Pease): Allison mentioned that there was a delay in the drafting of the proceedings because an individual had submitted a late manuscript. The manuscript was later withdrawn because the author did not wish to make the requested revisions. The 2015 meeting proceedings will be completed within a week and put onto the TCAF website for download. Dan Daugherty will have the annual meeting program draft to Mike Homer soon for printing and to Michele Nations.

Endowments (Dave Terre): Not present; no report.
History (Michele Nations): Michele plans to use the keynote address to update the history document. She will provide her draft for edit by chapter president and president-elect. Michele will also be creating a slideshow presentation for the meeting highlighting the chapter over the last 40 years.

Internet (John Taylor and Danny Lewis): Danny will soon be creating a 2016 annual meeting homepage. Michele Nations will also been putting the first call for papers on the TCAFS Facebook page.

Issues (Niki Ragan and Mark Webb): Not present; no report.

Membership (Debbie Wade): Not present. Michael Homer mentioned that current membership in the chapter is 193 members (125 regular; 88 students). Kevin Storey suggested sending reminders to members that do not attend the annual meeting to renew their membership; if they do not renew they should be removed from the chapter's email list serve.

Newsletter Editor (Kevin Storey): Kevin has requested that all newsletter submissions be completed by 9/18/2015. The first call for papers will be printed in the upcoming newsletter. Kevin has also been updating the email list, but some emails have been bouncing back.

Nominating (Dan Bennett): Dan has found two candidates for president-elect.

Pond Management (Greg Binion): Not present: no report.

Publicity/Exhibits (Jake Norman): Jake requested a layout of the floor plan. Jake would like a separate room for auction items’ security; Dave Buzan indicated that he has made such arrangements. Jake also requested that 15-20 tables be available for auction and raffle items, as well as additional power supply be made available for vendors. Jake has just started soliciting for vendors. Jake also requested that chapter members consider submitting artwork for the auction because it seems to be popular. Jake also plans to look into auctioning other big ticket items this year such as a gun. Jake also would like to see if Larry Hodge would be willing to provide a photograph for the auction. Many present members suggested soliciting donations and vendors from multiple businesses and artists such as YETI coolers, Ben Labay, Ray Troll, Mossback, and Austin Kayak & Canoe.

Scholarships (Mike Morgan): Mike will soon be sending scholarship announcements by first-class mail, email listing, and by the newsletter. Michele will work with Mike to also post these announcements on Facebook and Twitter. Mike specified that the postage mailings will be sent to roughly 80 colleges, and that such mailings have been beneficial in reaching non-traditional universities and recruiting students for the meetings. Dave Buzan requested that the chapter research what previous scholarship winners are currently doing for the annual meeting presentation and keynote address.

Kevin raised the question about students whether or not students should be active members as a requirement for being awarded scholarships. Mike Morgan mentioned that the bylaws do not have this documented as a requirement for the chapter’s scholarship; and this was confirmed by Mike Homer. Mike Morgan mentioned that this requirement was inserted into the scholarship announcement for multiple years and he has not removed it. Mike Morgan also mentioned that this requirement was not enforced well in the scholarship application process. Dan Daugherty and Mike Homer mentioned that in order to change this requirement in the bylaws, the issue would have to be discussed at the annual meeting and any changes would have to be voted on by the members. Mike Morgan does not believe that many applicants are non-members, but may be that undergraduate applicants are more likely to be non-members. Further, the number of applicants may be hindered by this requirement. Mike Homer and Kevin Storey stated that some members view that scholarships may be a perk of membership and that chapter scholarship funds should be used to support student members. Mike Morgan mentioned that he believes that each scholarship should have its own requirements and be mutually exclusive. For the upcoming meeting, the EXCOM suggested that the requirement of membership statement be taken out of the scholarships’ announcement until it has been discussed by the members at the 2016 annual meeting.
**Student Outreach** (Joe Beach): Joe met with Dr. Tim Bonner at TX State University to discuss the possibility of establishing a student sub-unit. Joe stated that Dr. Bonner felt that there were issues in the university’s administration and policies because of the parent society’s requirements of sub-units. Major descriptions also may be a hindrance to establishing sub-units at universities that do not have specified fisheries programs. Joe plans to meet with other professors at other universities to discuss potential subunit establishment. Joe also mentioned that 33 student interns were working with TPWD this summer.

**Student Subunit Chapter Reports:**

- Texas Tech University Student Subunit – Not present; no report.
- Texas A&M University Student Subunit – Not present; no report.

**Old Business:** No old business to discuss.

**New Business:** Mike Homer requested help for the registration table at the annual meeting. Kevin requested that each member try to find at least one item for the auction and raffle. Dan Daugherty questioned if the chapter could explore other fundraising techniques such as a 50/50 raffle. Other members made suggestions such as bingo, 5K, and free-will donations on registration form. Danny Lewis also recommended 40th anniversary pins.

**Adjourn:** Mike Homer made the motion to adjourn at 2:19PM, and Dan Daugherty seconded this motion.

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**Student Scholarship Awards**

*By Mike Morgan, Scholarship Committee Chairperson*

The Scholarship Committee of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is seeking deserving students enrolled in fisheries-related curricula who are interested in applying for scholarships. The Scholarship Committee asks you, as a university representative, to disseminate this information by posting this letter and application in your department and, if possible, verbally conveying this information to all of your students.

Up to six scholarships in the amount of $1,500 each will be awarded to a minimum of two undergraduate students, one Master’s student, and one Ph.D. student. Students are eligible to receive one award in each degree category during their scholastic career. No nomination is necessary, and more than one student from the same university may apply in each category. Scholarships will be awarded during the Chapter’s annual meeting January 21-23, 2016 in Kerrville, Texas. Scholarship winners are strongly encouraged to attend the annual meeting to receive their award.

The Scholarship Committee will select the scholarship recipients based on academic excellence, professional activities, promise of future professional involvement, and contribution to the field of fisheries science.

Applications must be received by December 4, 2015. A copy of the application form has been enclosed with this announcement. Additional copies may be obtained from the TCAFS website at [http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs](http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs). Applications may be submitted by email (preferred) or U.S. Mail.

Please direct applications and questions to

Mike Morgan – Scholarship Committee Chairperson
3030 Sugar Wood Dr.
League City, TX 77573
(281) 974-9964  [mike.morgan@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:mike.morgan@tpwd.texas.gov)
By Michele Nations, TCAFS Historian

Bruce first received his bachelor’s degree in biology and chemistry from the University of Central Oklahoma (formerly Central State College) at Edmond. From there, he went on to earn a master’s degree in fish and wildlife management from Oklahoma State University where he wrote his master’s thesis entitled “Influence of Sediment Cycling on Primary Productivity in Lake Carl Blackwell, Oklahoma.” Upon graduation from OSU, he was hired as a research zoologist for the Dow Chemical Company performing shrimp aquaculture research and development in Freeport, Texas.

He began his career with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) in the Coastal Fisheries Division at the Perry R. Bass Marine Research Station (formerly Marine Fisheries Research Station) near Palacios in 1974. Even though he was only there for three years, he conducted research and published results on the hatching and pond rearing of penaeid shrimp, spotted sea trout, red drum, and striped bass. The highlight of which was pond rearing red drum on artificial diet and acclimating fingerlings to freshwater for stocking in inland reservoirs.

In 1977, seeking more challenges and wanting to head back north, he transferred to an Inland Fisheries Division position as fisheries biologist in charge of the Lake Texoma Fisheries Station where he was to be responsible for managing fishes in all the public waters of eight North Texas counties.

Known as Inland Fisheries District 2A, or more recently as Region 1 - Denison, this area contains:
- 12 major reservoirs,
- 75 Community Fishing Lakes,
- miles of streams, and
- extends from Fannin County to Montague County along the Red River and to the south for two counties.
December 1984, Bruce sitting at this desk at the Lake Texoma Station. Photo by Ronnie Ballard.

Inland Fisheries Region 2 Staff, Waco, July 1996: L-R: John Mocyzgemba, 2A; Ken Sellers, 2B; Chris Cummings, Regional Office (RO); Clell Guest, 2D; Rafe Brock, 2D; John Mitchell, 2B; Mark Howell, 2F; Patsy Berry, RO; Roger McCabe, RO; Dave Terre, 2C; Mark Webb, 2E; Mike Wilkerson, 2F; Jeff Henson, 2E; Bruce Highsmith, 2A; Steve Magnelia, 2C.
Thirty-eight years of hard work have yielded some major accomplishments, in which he:

1. Helped to institute uniform fish harvest regulations on Lake Texoma for Texas and Oklahoma;
2. Worked to create a Texoma Fishing License good in Texas and Oklahoma waters of Lake Texoma;
3. Assisted in a seasonal pool and lake level management plan for Lake Texoma;
4. Played a role in developing a premier striped bass fishery in Lake Texoma following stockings by Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation to establish stripers;
5. Established a reproducing population of smallmouth bass in Lake Texoma;
6. Developed pre-impoundment strategy for newly impounded Lake Ray Roberts to include nursery ponds for young Florida largemouth bass and channel catfish and fish habitat;
7. Cultivated constituent support like the Six Old Geezers fishing club who provided initial funding for two of their newest and largest boats valued at some $80,000;
8. Resisted the Red River Chloride Control Project;
9. Participated in developing a shoreline management plan and a seasonal water pool for Lake Texoma; and
10. Authored or co-authored around 14 scientific publications and 100 Federal Aid Project Reports. Favorite among research projects was the “Striped Bass Hooking Mortality on Lake Texoma” in 1992 where he and his colleagues HAD to fish for stripers in Lake Texoma for two years. It was a tough job, but someone had to do it!

Bruce has been a member of the American Fisheries Society since 1969 in graduate school days and a member of the TCAFS since 1976. One of his enjoyable jobs for the chapter was auctioneering at annual meetings, which he began in 1988 and finished in 2011. As Bruce explains, “The auction/raffle grew over the years and participation was great; our folks are very generous and it showed in our steady increase in revenue.”
Left: TCAFS president Earnest Alan (Mac) McCune and Bruce at the auction and raffle in the Lone Star Party Room during the 1989 annual meeting in San Antonio.

Right: Bruce with help from Dan Bennett conducted the raffle at the 2011 annual meeting held in San Marcos at the Embassy Suites.

Left: Bruce is joined by another helper, Gabrielle Conley, as he models a live auction item, a shawl knitted by Debbie Wade.
He contributed his energy and enthusiasm to help TCAFS in various roles besides that of auctioneer. He was the chair of the Continuing Education Committee from 1998 to 2007, and then when he said, "I am right at the lick-log of retirement, again, and I consented to be a candidate for President-elect of the Texas Chapter AFS. Am I crazy or what? I take serving very seriously, serving the membership of the Texas Chapter AFS." He won the nomination in 2013 and became president in 2014.

Again, he accomplished what he set out to do - to develop a bi-state meeting for 2014 with the Oklahoma Chapter AFS in the Lake Texoma area. When contacted about meeting with the TCAFS, the Oklahoma chapter moved their meeting time from fall to winter to accommodate the joint venture. Bruce worked with them and successfully coordinated the planning of the meeting that was held at Tanglewood on Texoma Resort. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the camaraderie between the two chapters.

Bruce formally retired as a 41-year-veteran fisheries biologist with TPWD at the end of August, 2015. Now he is beginning a new career called retirement!

He and his wife Wanda reside in Denison in the same house they’ve lived in for the past 35 years. Wanda is retired from the Denison Independent School District (DISD). They plan to travel around and see their four grown children, nine grandchildren (half of which are grown), and four great-grandchildren. Also, Bruce serves as vice-president of the DISD board of trustees and commissioner on the Denison Housing Authority Commission, and Wanda is on the board of directors of the Jack and Jill Day Care Center in Denison. Both are active in their church.

Bruce and Wanda, you will be greatly missed! Come back and see us!
**Microsoft screenshot tool**

The Microsoft Garage, a project lab at Microsoft that lets employees work on projects that often have no relation to their primary work function has released a free screenshot tool called Snip. Once installed the program toolbar minimises itself at the top of your screen. You can activate it by moving your mouse to the top of the screen or by selecting the “Print Screen” key on your keyboard. You are presented with a crosshair tool which you use to select the screen area you wish to save as a screenshot. Once you complete your selection, the application loads. The image can be annotated and this is best done with a stylus as a mouse is a bit cumbersome. All screenshots are stored in a Library or alternatively you can save them to your hard drive. You can also share your screenshot through email. Just click on “Share” and you'll be prompted to select your email mail application and it will be automatically loaded with the screenshot as an attachment. Snip can also be used to record your annotations and by using a microphone, you can record a vocal description and create a short video and share as a URL or an MP4 video. This functionality allows you to create short instructional videos.

https://mix.office.com/en-us/snip

**Microsoft Office online**

Many of us utilize Microsoft Office products in our daily lives but on some occasions we’d be content with less feature-rich versions of these products. If you are familiar with Google Docs, you might consider using stripped-down versions of Excel, PowerPoint or Word. Microsoft has made these free programs available online. You will need to set up a Microsoft account which will give you access to their cloud storage program, OneDrive. Documents are stored in OneDrive by default but they can be downloaded to your computer.


https://www.office.com/
Free data transfer tool from Laplink

If your computer is currently running Windows 7 or 8.1 you will have access to a free upgrade to Windows 10 until July 2016. During the upgrade process there are options for migrating your data and apps during the move to Windows 10. If, however, you are still in the dark ages running Windows XP or Vista you won’t have access to the free upgrade offer. If you decide it’s time to buy a new computer, you still have the challenge of migrating your data from your dinosaur to the new system. Microsoft has partnered with Laplink to provide PCmover Express, free data transfer tools, available to accomplish this task.

http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/transfer-your-data The wizard-driven interface allows users to automatically transfer selected user profiles, files and settings to the new device from the old PC. It will be available for free download until August 31, 2016. Support can be obtained 24/7 at 1-877-534-9644 or by visiting the Laplink support page at http://www.laplink.com/index.php/PCME-FTA If you are uncomfortable with the transfer process, this service provides free access to a professional technician who will remotely guide the new PC setup process.

In order to use this free software, there are a few caveats:

- The older computer and the new target computer must both be connected to the Internet.
- The software will only work if the source PC is running Windows XP or later and the destination computer must be running Windows 8.1 or Windows 10.
- The program does not migrate programs and apps from the old system.
- You can selectively choose which files, folders, and settings to transfer.
- Settings that are transferred will not impact settings already personalized on the new machine.

There are licensing options for commercial users or those who wish to transfer programs and apps. Commercial licenses for PCmover Express cost $19.95 each and will just cover data migration. PCmover Professional, $29.95, facilitates migration of applications and software to the new machine.

Electric-powered fishing vessel

Norwegian boat builder Selfa Arctic AS in Harstad is now supplying the world's first electric-propelled fishing vessel, Selfa Elmax 1099, to fishing company Øra As. The 11-meter vessel which will be named “Karoline” has a 195kW battery pack on board as well as an electric propulsion motor which enables performance of fishing operations without emitting any CO₂ while producing less noise and vibration than a traditional fishing vessel. The onboard Corvus lithium polymer Energy Storage System (ESS) consists of 30 Covus AT6500 modules integrated with a Siemens propulsion system. The boat is designed to operate entirely on battery power over a planned 10-hour day. While docked, the vessel will be charged through a 63 amp 220 volt system estimated to take from six to eight hours to complete. In addition, the boat is equipped with a small 50kW auxiliary generator which can be charged overnight by plugging into the electrical grid. The “Karoline” will be in place in Troms in September 2015 and be included in daily fishing operations of Øra As. The project has obtained co-funding from Innovation Norway, a state-run agency which is jointly owned by the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries and the county authorities.
**WWF reports ocean fish numbers on ‘brink of collapse’**

The World Wildlife Fund’s (WWF) most recent *Living Blue Planet Report* which looks at the health of world oceans and the impact of human activity on marine life was published in September 2015. This study was conducted in conjunction with the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) an international scientific, conservation and educational organization which promotes worldwide conservation of animals and their habitats. Marco Lambertini, director general of WWF International, told Reuters mismanagement was pushing “the ocean to the brink of collapse”.

The report concluded populations of fish, marine mammals, birds and reptiles had fallen 49% between 1970 and 2012. Populations of tuna, mackerel, and bonito have fallen by almost 75%. Damage to coral reefs and mangroves, which are nurseries for many fish, add to problems led by over-fishing. Other threats include coastal development, pollution, and climate change, which is raising temperatures and making waters more acidic. World marine fish catches dipped to 87.8 million tons in 2012 from 91.1 million in 2011, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

Despite the serious issues facing the oceans, the authors identified solutions which need to be applied in order to enable this dynamic interconnected global ecosystem to recover. They listed the adoption of smart fishing practices which eliminate bycatch, waste and overfishing, getting rid of harmful subsidies and unregulated fishing, protecting key habitats and a large enough portion of the ocean to enable the regeneration of its living resources while conserving iconic species and inspiration places and cutting CO₂ emissions that threaten a potentially catastrophic acidification of the ocean as major topics for improvement.


**American eels in a pickle**

American eels (*Anguilla rostrata*), facultative catadromous fish, used to be widespread throughout the eastern coast of North America stretching from Greenland as far south as Brazil. Their populations have declined greatly due to an estimated loss of 80% of their natural habitat due to the creation of dams and waterfront development. Additional factors such as pollution, invasive species, disease and parasites and oceanic changes linked to climate change have exacerbated their decline. The Center for Environmental Science, Accuracy and Reliability (CESAR), a non-profit conservation group based in Fresno, California petitioned the Secretary of the Interior in 2010 to list eels as threatened under the Endangered Species Act to protect them from overfishing. The Federal Government has apparently been considering the status of the American eel since 2011 and FWS spokesman Steven Shepard recently told the Associated Press the agency will likely make a decision by the end of September 2015. Declines in recruitment and landings have been documented but the species is virtually un-managed and monitoring data is sparse.

Young eels, elvers, harvested in Maine and South Carolina as they migrate from the sea into rivers and estuaries are sold to Japanese aquaculture farms which raise them to maturity for food such as sushi. The market value of elvers has skyrocketed to $2,100 per pound in 2015 up from $100 per pound in 2009. This price increase was driven in part by the decline by 99% of European eel populations which has increased the pressure on American eels.
Join the Texas Chapter

If you are interested in joining or renewing your membership to the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, you can get membership materials at our web site, www.sdafs.org/tcafs/index.htm or by contacting Deborah Wade, Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, 5550 FM 2495, Athens, TX 75752, (903) 670-2234, Deborah.Wade@tpwd.state.tx.us

If your e-mail address has changed, please contact us with an update so you can continue to receive the chapter newsletter.

Members are encouraged to make submissions to the Newsletter Editor by mail or e-mail to one of the addresses listed below.

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(includes Stocks-at-Risk & Exotic Species Sub-committees)
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POND MANAGEMENT ............. Greg Binion
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SCHOLARSHIP ..................... Mike Morgan
STUDENT OUTREACH ............ Joe Beach

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Registration Form

Registration now includes annual chapter membership but receipts will show itemized charges separately. Professional or Student) and access to all technical sessions, continuing education workshops, Student/Professional Friday Lunch, and Friday night banquet. The deadline for early registration is December 31, 2015! Please print legibly, especially e-mail addresses.

Name
Date
Street Address
City, State, Zip Code
Organization
Phone
Email Address

MEETING REGISTRATION:

<table>
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<th>Registration Type</th>
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ADDITIONAL MEETING SIGN-UP INFO: Free for all registrants - please indicate if you plan to participate.

Willingness to serve as a presentation judge at meeting (TCAFS Professional Members only, students are not eligible).

Yes ☐ No ☐

Thursday Continuing Education Workshop:

- “Understanding Variability in Your Data: How Good is Good Enough?”. Presenters: Warren Schlechte and John Taylor (TPWD Inland Fisheries)

Yes ☐ No ☐

Friday Student/Mentor Lunch:
Pair up with someone with interest in or experience with governmental agency, academia, private consulting, etc. (select your role or leave blank if not interested)

Student ☐ Mentor ☐

Saturday TCAFS Business Meetings:
TCAFS business meeting will occur following the technical sessions Saturday morning. Please attend for more information on committees to serve on, chapter business and any potential voting that may be conducted.

SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM TO MIKE HOMER:

- One (1) form per person.
- Please make checks payable to TCAFS, please do not send cash!!!
- To pay by Credit Card (PayPal), check here and send completed registration form to Michael Homer. (A PayPal invoice will be sent to email address provided above with instructions on how to pay using your credit card).

Michael Homer
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Michael.Homer@tpwd.texas.gov