

Newsletter of the AFS Ontario Chapter



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
ONTARIO CHAPTER

President's Message



tise for the tasks at hand.

I have been reflecting on how appropriate the AFS 2008 theme, "Fisheries in Flux - How do we ensure our sustainable future" is to the various issues evolving in Ontario. We have enormous pressures on our freshwater ecosystems, fish and fisheries, including: climate change; invasive species; new pathogens and diseases, and increasing human development. It can appear overwhelming at times. However, in my opinion, this simply means that we must change the way we do things and how we interact as professionals and scientists with our peers in other disciplines. This then is our other major pressure or challenge: we MUST break down the silos between our disciplines and organizations and learn to work more closely together to solve the issues identified above. Albert Einstein once said, **"We cannot solve today's problems with the same level of thinking that created them"**. No truer words have been spoken. We as aquatic and fisheries professionals must take steps to integrate our understanding of our science with the understanding of other disciplines and professionals. We must be willing to share ideas and learn the vernacular and principles of other related disciplines. In this way we will begin to make progress in understanding and applying better solu-

With a winter storm raging outside, fisheries and aquatic management in general seems a long way off to all of us. However, this is the time to finish off those reports on last year's field season, take stock of our work for the next field season and hone our skills and exper-

tions in the field: solutions that truly reflect a world view of environmental sustainability.

With that in mind, I want to draw your attention to the information in this newsletter on the proposed workshop series on Watershed Science and Management being proposed this coming year. A great deal of work has been done on this subject by the Education Committee with the support of members, Samantha Mason and Christine Tu. Please take a look and consider joining us in these workshops. Our intent is to present both the theoretical and practical linkages of the various disciplines in river and watershed science so that we as biologists can work with colleagues in other disciplines in order to be more effective in managing Ontario's freshwater ecosystems.

Another challenge that we as a Chapter face is to stay the course with our commitment to the AFS 2008 Annual Meeting. Under the capable direction of the Organizing Committee Chair, Dave Maraldo, the Annual Meeting plans are coming along very well. I would, however, like to emphasize once more that we are the host Chapter for the Annual Meeting and I would urge you, if you have not done so yet, to contact either Dave Maraldo (ottawa2008@afs-oc.org), Lynn Bouvier (treasurer@afs-oc.org) or myself, to volunteer to help with the meeting. Our three biggest needs right now are for assistance with the Fund-raising committee, the Raffle committee, and for volunteers during the event itself. So, consider this a **CALL TO ACTION**. We need all your help to make this the great Annual Meeting that I know it can be. I feel confident that we can meet the challenges and stay the course!

Looking forward to the exciting times ahead.

Jack Imhof
president@afs-oc.org

AFS 2008 Update

A **BIG Thank You** to the Ontario Chapter of AFS as co-host of the meeting. It seems that planning for the meeting has accelerated exponentially over the past two months. We have an excellent Organizing Committee of volunteers in place that are doing a tremendous job. The committee holds bi-weekly conference calls on Wednesday afternoons from 1- 3 pm. You are welcome to join in to find out more details or offer your thoughts and ideas. Just send me an e-mail a few days before, and I will forward the Agenda and call information. You can also check the www.fisheries.org/afs08/ website for current information on the meeting.

The program committee anticipates having 38 symposia, 16 contributed papers sessions, and 250 posters. Deb Martin-Downs reports that the fundraising is going very well. I know the Ontario Chapter is a major player in this activity, including prizes for the Raffle. The Ottawa Logistics Group headed up by Al Rose and Kerry Coleman is looking after local arrangements with the hotels and Congress Centre. They are still looking for more volunteers, particularly in the Ottawa area. Burton

McClelland's Communication Committee has been busy getting things up on the web, and into **Fisheries** magazine, while the Social Committee led by Tracy Smith has got some great plans for all of the social events. We are also making this a "green" meeting by reducing our footprint wherever we can and Brenda Koenig is taking on this initiative. These are just a few of the many activities underway; there are lots more that I can't cover here.

The OC has been a great source for volunteers, but we still need more especially in Ottawa for the week of the meeting. If you can help out, please contact Jack Imhof or myself.

Thanks,

Dave Maraldo
General Meeting Chair
AFS 2008

ottawa2008@afs-oc.org



Ontario Freshwater Fishes Life History Database

The AFS-OC is proud to be affiliated with the Ontario Freshwater Fishes Life History Database (OFFLHD). Once hosted by the Ontario Chapter, the OFFLHD now has its own domain (www.fishdb.ca). This website is an unparalleled source of information concerning the fishes of Ontario. Researchers, consultants and students alike agree this interactive searchable database provides a valuable resource to all those interested in Ontario freshwater fishes.

The OFFLHD is a fully searchable database for all Ontario and adjacent Great Lakes freshwater fishes including introduced, extirpated and extinct species. It contains current information pertaining to life history, habitat, size and age, distribution, status, reproduction and nomenclature for 150 species, 3 subspecies and 2 established hybrids. The website also includes photographs, range maps, notes, references, glossary of terms and related web links.

Try it out for yourself by clicking the OFFLHD logo on the Ontario Chapter homepage, or directly by visiting <http://www.fishdb.ca>. Explore, learn and enjoy.

The Ontario Freshwater Fishes Life History Database was created and is maintained by Rob Eakins, webmaster@afs-oc.org.



Elections

We recently completed an electronic vote for the **Executive Committee** positions of **President-Elect** and **Vice President**. The term of office for President-Elect is September 2007 to August 2008. The election results are as follows:

For the position of **President-Elect** the candidate, **Mr. Jon Clayton** was elected by a vote of 56 for and 1 against.

For the position of **Vice President** the candidate, **Mr. Scott Gibson** was elected by a vote of 52 for and 0 against.

As per the Chapter Bylaws, results were determined based on a simple majority of members who responded to the election notice. Overall, we had a fairly good response with 60 members exercising their right to vote.

Many thanks to all who participated.

Rob Eakins
webmaster@afs-oc.org

2008 Annual General Meeting

2008 will be an exciting year with the Parent Society meeting in Ottawa in August. That also means a change with the scheduling of the Ontario Chapter Annual General Meeting. Normally this is takes place at our winter conference, however, this year it is being held in Ottawa during the Parent Society meeting.

While the agenda for the AGM has not been set there are a number of business items we will have to tackle. These include:

- A review of the year's events;
- Presentation of the financial statement;
- Election of officers;
- Updating and voting policies;
- Discussion of the 2009 AGM; and
- Other business

We would also normally present the E.J. Crossman Award for the best student presentation and the Ontario B.A.S.S. Award for the best student poster during our AGM. However currently, we have yet to determine how or if these awards will be offered this year.

Stay tuned for further AGM details relating to the location, time and agenda as they are confirmed.

I look forward to seeing you in Ottawa and remember this is your chance to get involved and provide your input into the Chapter's future direction.

Jon Clayton
president-elect@afs-oc.org



Student Travel Award



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

ONTARIO CHAPTER

American Fisheries Society 2008 Ontario Chapter Student Travel Award

This travel award has been established to support student attendance at the 138th AFS Annual Meeting in Ottawa, Ontario (17-21 August 2008). To be eligible to receive this award, you must be a member of the Ontario Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Inquiries on how to become a member may be sent to treasurer@afs-oc.org. Please complete the entire form and send via email to:

Lynn Bouvier
AFS-OC Treasurer
treasurer@afs-oc.org

Completed applications must be received no later than 31 March 2008. Limit answers to the space provided - additional material will not be considered.

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

1. Are you currently enrolled in university or college?

YES NO

2. If yes, please provide the name, email and phone number of your supervisor.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Please provide the following information on your current academic status.

Current University/College attending: _____

BSc or BA Start date (mm/yyyy): _____

MSc Anticipated completion date (mm/yyyy): _____

PhD Anticipated completion date (mm/yyyy): _____

Student Travel Award Application (page 2 of 3)

3. Are you currently a member of the American Fisheries Society – Ontario Chapter Student Subunit?

- YES NO

4. Have you applied to any other travel awards related to the 138th AFS Annual Meeting?

- YES NO

If yes, please list award names: _____

5. Have you submitted an abstract to present either an oral or poster presentation?

- YES NO

If yes, please provide the submitted title and abstract of the paper:

Title: _____

Abstract: _____

6. Professional and Leadership Experience

Describe all professional and leadership activities you have participated in that make you stand out as a candidate for the Ontario Chapter Student Travel Award. For example, your involvement in professional society activities, presentations, publications, memberships, committees, scientific reviews, symposia, awards, mentoring, outreach activities, etc.

**Student Travel Award
Application (page 3 of 3)**

7. Career Goals

Briefly describe your future career goals following completion of your current degree and how they fit with the field of aquatic natural resources.



8. Reason to Attend

Describe why you want to attend the 138th annual AFS meeting (e.g., presenting a paper or poster, chairing a session, networking, business meetings, etc). What are your expectations for this meeting and how do you propose to meet these expectations?



The View From Up Here



Ummmmm

I recently had the opportunity to spend a month (October 2007) in China. It was purely a vacation, no work involved. My wife, a friend (who is from China) and I spent the month travelling around central China, visiting the major tourist sites (the ones that westerners know about and the ones that the Chinese know about) and visiting our friend's family. We were afforded incredible hospitality everywhere we went. One of the manifestations of this hospitality (and there were many!) was that we were continually served fish. Meat is a treat and fish is the penultimate treat (at least in the places that we went!). Being raised in a British household I was taught to eat what you are served whether you want to eat it or not. I don't dislike fish; I am very fond of it in fact. The local butcher who has fresh whitefish and lake trout, the all-you can eat Friday fish fry at the Moose hall or the curling club, and Clarence's fish market in Algoma Mills (halfway between the Soo and Sudbury) are places that I regularly visit. So why would I not want to eat fish served to me in China you ask. Well, I couldn't get the thought out of my head that Chinese fish would be subjected to less food safety scrutiny than North American fish. Since returning I have done some research into the food safety in China and have found that they do have standards and enforcement of those standards. But at the time I just didn't know and didn't want to offend anyone by asking.

My bias, of course, comes from living in Canada and eating fish caught from what I consider to be "pristine" lakes that are abundant in Canada. I know that the Canada Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Ontario Ministries of Natural Resources (OMNR) and Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) have or are developing fish programs related to inspection and food safety. I also know that generally we have excellent water treatment facilities here. But in reality, I have to admit (mostly to myself) that in Ontario we also have 15 areas of concern (AOC) with issues in each AOC related to fish and water quality, we have an ageing infrastructure (storm drains and sewers) that may or may not be affecting water quality and we have some waterborne diseases (not to say that these diseases are a human health issue!). If this knowledge doesn't change my fish eating patterns in Ontario it shouldn't really do so in other parts of the world either. Maybe because I also know that progress is being made at solving or reducing the issues affecting fish health in Ontario (GLAP and the revitalization of the RAP process) and I know that China's issues are just emerging.

So, during my month in China, I wondered about food safety whenever I was served fish. Did it stop me from eating the fish? No, not at all, it tasted great.

Cheers,

Bill Gardner

past-president@afs-oc.org



AFS-OC Workshop Series

An Introduction to Watershed Management and Restoration

Date: April 24th 2008 (To be confirmed)

Location: Grand River Conservation Authority, Head Office.

The Ontario Chapter **Education Committee** is developing a workshop series to cover a variety of topics associated with watershed management and restoration. This workshop series will review the relationships between Hydrology, Geomorphology, Hydro-geomorphology and the functioning of aquatic systems. Speakers and details regarding this workshop will be available shortly.

Student Subunit Update



The American Fisheries Society – Ontario Chapter is hosting the 2008 Student Colloquium February 29 – March 1 at the Queen's University Biological Station in Kingston.

All fisheries and aquatic science students (college, undergraduate and graduate) are welcome to attend and are encouraged to give a 5-minute skeleton presentation of a topic of interest.

The Student Colloquium is an excellent opportunity to become familiar with the field and laboratory research and management programs that exist, and provide student opportunities, throughout Ontario. Recreational opportunities (ice fishing, ice skating, snowshoeing) will be

available for interested parties. Please circulate the attached poster (included in this newsletter) throughout your academic institution.

The cost is \$25 with discounts available to AFS student members. Details and your registration form is included in this newsletter.

Kind regards,

Andrew, Mary, & Mike
Student Subunit Executive

Mary Finch
student-president@afs-oc.org

Michael Donaldson
student-vice-president@afs-oc.org

Andrew Drake
student-secretary@afs-oc.org

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

AFS-OC Swag! Get your Hats and Pins

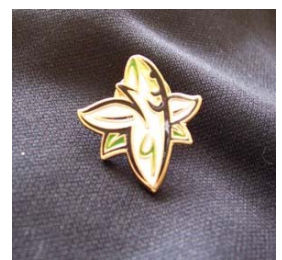
Impress your friends and colleagues - Support your AFS-OC now!

Ontario Chapter [baseball caps](#) and [lapel pins](#) are available for purchase.



Cost:	Baseball Cap	\$20.00
	Lapel Pin	\$5.00

If you would like to place an order for a baseball cap or lapel pin, please contact Heather Lynn (secretary@afs-oc.org).



2008 American Fisheries Society Ontario Chapter Student Winter Retreat



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
ONTARIO CHAPTER



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
ONTARIO CHAPTER

Friday, February 29th – Saturday, March 1st 2008
Queens University Biological Station, Lake Opinicon, ON
<http://biology.queensu.ca/~qubs/qubs/Home.html>

Attention Ontario College and University Fisheries Students:

Attend the 2008 AFS-OC student retreat to meet fellow students that are interested in fisheries and aquatic sciences, discover the great work being conducted by students across the province, and most of all, have fun! The retreat is an excellent venue to become familiar with research programs that exist in Ontario.

Share your interests with the group! Prepare a 5-minute informal PowerPoint presentation that outlines your (1) personal background, (2) research interests, and (3) career aspirations. Feel free to summarize recent projects that are either complete or in progress. This is a great opportunity to share “half-baked” ideas with the group, including any questions that you have about major problems you are encountering.

Friday Evening 7 pm:

- Welcome social (*please BYOB and snacks*)

Saturday Morning 8:30 am:

- Breakfast provided
- Keynote Presentation: TBA
- Student Presentations

Saturday Afternoon 12 pm:

- Pot-luck lunch and dinner
- Recreation: Ice Fishing, Snowshoeing, Bon Fires

Registration Form

REGISTER ME FOR THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY ONTARIO CHAPTER STUDENT COLLOQUIUM

Name: _____
 Affiliation: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Province: _____
 Phone: _____
 Fax: _____
 Email: _____

I am:

An AFS-OC Student Member _____

A Non-Member _____

I would like to:

Make a Presentation _____

Title: _____

Attend Friday & Saturday _____

Registration Fees:

AFS-OC Student Member \$ 20.00 _____

Non-Member Student** \$ 25.00 _____

Cheque Enclosed (*Payable to AFS-OC*) _____**Cash or check only at the registration desk.****Email or mail the registration form to:****Andrew Drake (student-secretary@afs-oc.org)****Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology****University of Toronto****25 Willcocks Street, Toronto, Ontario****M5S3B2**

Note: Presentations will be viewed using an LCD projector in conjunction with Microsoft Power-Point version 2000. Please bring presentations on a memory stick.

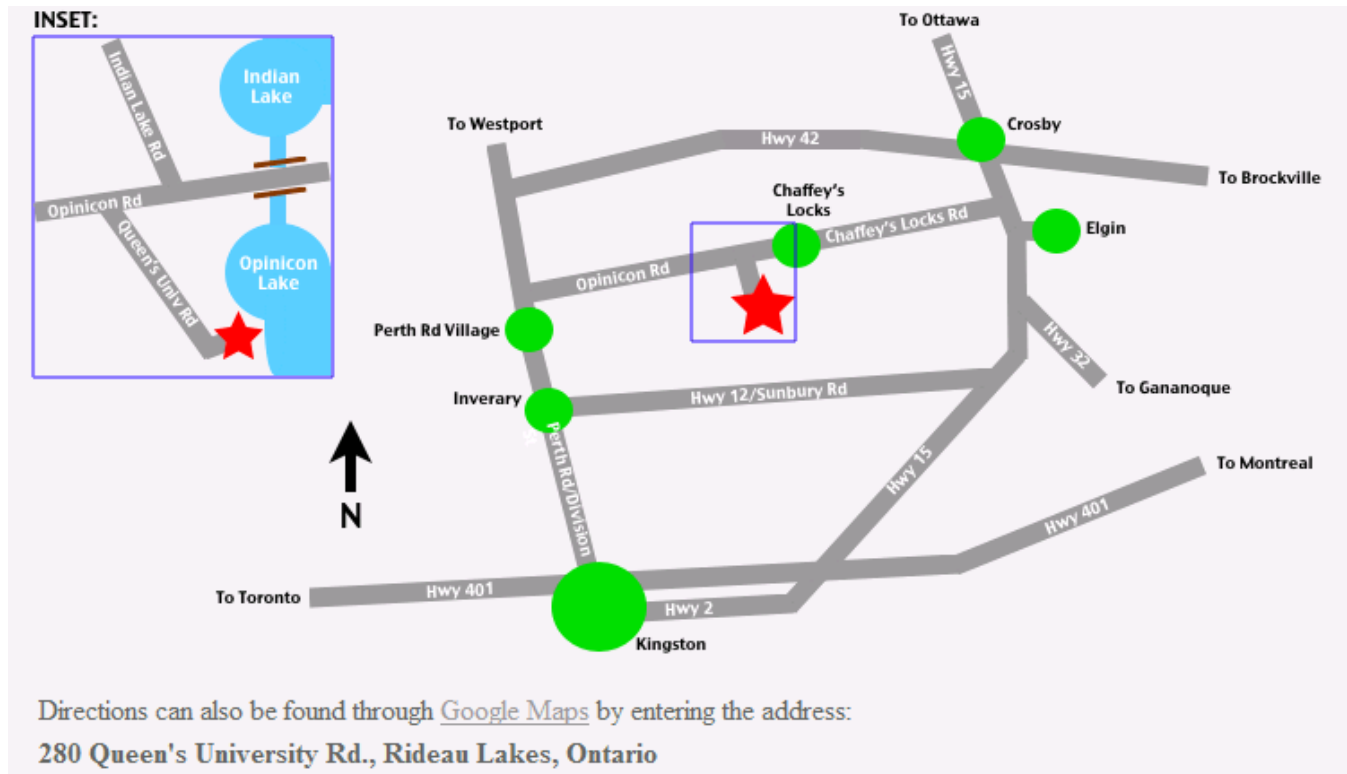
Facilities are dormitory style; bring your toiletries, towels, warm outdoor clothes, cross country skis, hiking/snow shoes, ice-fishing gear...also, BYOB.

****Note:** You may become a member of the American Fisheries Society – Ontario Chapter by registering online at www.fisheries.org. Please be sure to check the “Ontario Chapter” box when completing your registration.

Directions To The Colloquium

Queen's University Biological Station is located north of Kingston, approximately 2.5 hours west of Toronto:

280 Queen's University Rd., Chaffey's Locks, Ontario.



Driving Directions:

From Toronto/Kingston- Exit 401 at Division Street, go North towards Westport. Just beyond Perth Road Village, turn right onto Opinicon Road. Continue on Opinicon Road until you come to Queen's University Road. Turn Right and follow the road to its end.

From Ottawa- exit 416 at North Gower. Follow highway 4 (Roger Stevens Drive) to Smith's Falls, take hwy 15 to Chaffey's Lock Road- just passed the Westport turn. Take Chaffey's Lock Road through the village and turn left at Queen's University Road. Follow the road to its end.

Google Maps:

<http://maps.google.ca/maps?f=q&hl=en&geocode=&q=queen's+university+biological+station&ll=49.891235,-97.15369&ssp=27.31016,81.738281&ie=UTF8&mrt=kmlkmz&ll=44.544484,-76.276016&spn=0.235389,0.63858&z=11&om=0>

Not an Ontario Chapter Member?

There are many AFS members who live in Ontario, yet have not chosen to join the Ontario Chapter.

So why join?

There are many reasons that an individual AFS member should also join the Ontario Chapter.

- 1) Developing/rekindling relationships with others in the province that share a common interest.
- 2) Assisting students, both college and university, through support of the EJ Crossman award, and giving them the opportunity to mingle with fisheries professionals.
- 3) Get involved with grass roots fisheries projects, either by volunteering time or providing ideas for projects.
- 4) Accessing continuing education opportunities, such as the watershed report card and other training opportunities, also the opportunity to develop training opportunities.
- 5) Uniting the fisheries professional from all three levels of government, the private sector, academia, and NGO's and giving them a forum from which they can learn/pass along information.

Keep current on fisheries issues that affect the province of Ontario through chapter website and newsletter.

Please consider joining the Ontario Chapter the next time you renew your AFS membership (or sooner). If you have any questions regarding the Ontario Chapter please contact Bill Gardner (membership@afs-oc.org).

Calendar of Events

[Advances in Tagging and Marking Technology for Fisheries Symposium](#) (February 24-28, 2008) Auckland,

[64th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference](#) (April 27-30, 2008) Galloway, NJ

[15th Annual International Conference on the Great Lakes/St Lawrence River Ecosystem](#) (May 05-07, 2008)

[9th Biennial River Management Society Symposium](#) (May 12-16, 2008) Portland, ME

[88th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists](#) (July 23-28, 2008) Mont-

[138th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting](#) (August 17-21, 2008) Ottawa, ON

[5th World Fisheries Congress](#) (October 20-24, 2008) Yokohama, Japan

139th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting (August 30-September 03, 2009) Nashville, TN

140th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting (September 12-16, 2010) Pittsburgh, PA

[American Fisheries Society Calendar of Events](#)