



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
ONTARIO CHAPTER

President's Message

It is with most sincere appreciation that I write today to say thank you for allowing me the opportunity to act as the President of the Ontario AFS Chapter. As such, I would like to sincerely welcome you to my first President's Message! This role represents a nice follow up to the time when I joined AFS back in 1995, as a Master's student studying fish in streams of the Grand River. Since then, I have learned a lot about fish, aquatic habitat, and fishery science. So, it is my hope to share some experiences and explore some new avenues with you during the next year. During this time, you will also have a chance to provide comments on this exploration process, via the Chapter website. In my view, this position allows for the use of the Newsletter to help forecast how ideas will be used to share information of relevance to members and facilitate the exploration of related topics within the Chapter. As a consequence of my views at this time, as a group, I would like to consider relevant ideas and

Meet Ontario's newest Fisheries Research Vessel

For those living or working along the shores of Lake Ontario you may have noticed a new vessel on the water this summer. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources recently launched their new fisheries assessment and research vessel, the Ontario Explorer.

One of eight large fisheries vessels operated by the province, this ship will allow the province and its partners to expand assessment and research projects throughout Lake Ontario in most weather conditions. The Ontario Explorer's crew quarters will allow the crew to travel long distances and stay out on the lake for extended periods of time. Based out of Glenora, in Prince Edward County, the Ontario Explorer has a crew of three to eight, including up-to-date navigation equipment and digital/wireless technology, as well as kitchen and washroom facilities. Designed and built in Ontario by Hike Metal Products Limited of Wheatley the 20-metre all-steel vessel is expected to be in service for more than 40 years. The Ontario explorer is captained by Jon Chicoine, a senior fisheries technician with the Lake Ontario Management Unit.

Welcome to the lake and happy sailing.

Photo below: The Ontario explorer plies the waters of Lake Ontario.
Photo credit: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources



For information on the Ontario Explorer and all Great Lakes fisheries vessels, please visit the Great Lakes Association of Science Ships website at: <http://www.canamglass.org>



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topics, such as: identification of member's views on how the Chapter should be refined, sharing of relevant experiences regarding fish, aquatic habitat, and other subjects, and resolve new activities for our Members within the Chapter. This multi-faceted approach represents my proposed agenda for the next few months, and is also consistent with the Mission Statement of AFS. If you are wondering, this Statement includes words such as: "...advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals." This consistency extends also to the stated views of how members would like the Chapter to operate, as heard at the March 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM). In the next month, I plan to include information on our website that represents the views heard at this last AGM, as a way to prepare for the 2012 AGM, and other future activities within AFS. I am excited by this opportunity particularly because I am convinced we are all of like mind on what some of the priorities should be for our Chapter. Going forward, such priorities will be integrated with my past experiences from across North America to achieve what I hope will be interesting and positive consequences for future activities in our Chapter. This integration has already begun, as the Executive Committee and I have identified the following topics of interest to be addressed within my agenda, and we will provide information on them, as they are completed in the coming months. These topics currently include: ways to increase involvement of members that reside in Northern Ontario, an exploration of alternate venues for the Ontario AGM, identification of education opportunities at the Ontario AGM, facilitation of on-line communications among members via the website, continued enhancement of recent interactions with Chapters in adjacent jurisdictions, a review of the updated *Fisheries Act* and likely implications for fishery professionals, resolve ways to subsidize travel costs for members to attend Ontario and Society Annual Meetings, consideration of other topics, such as the fisheries management zone strategy currently used for fish population management in Ontario, and initial preparations for the 2015 Society meeting in Quebec City. I will also likely address other topics of interest, as they are identified by members through future discourse.

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Photo above: Robin Gaspardy (FSWEP) with a Black Redhorse (SAR species) from the Grand River, Ontario. Photo courtesy of Jason Barnucz.

Photo below: Ian Senecal (OMNR) holds a 22kg Lake Sturgeon prior to tagging. Photo courtesy of Bill Gardner



The Ontario chapter is proud to be associated with:



www.fishdb.ca

Upcoming Conferences

31st International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS)
2011 A.D. Latornell Conservation Symposium
72nd Midwest F&W Conference
65th Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research

Date

October 26-28, 2011
November 16-18, 2011
December 4-7, 2011
January 5-7, 2012

Website

www.nalms.org
www.latornell.ca
www.midwest2011.org
www.uwindsor.ca/glier/ccffr

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These other topics will represent those priorities that are not apparent now but require attention within our Chapter. To provide a bit more information on myself, I will also end each message with a short description of one past study. During the 1990s, with Dr. Edward Kott, we completed a morphological and taxonomic assessment of ghost shiner (*Notropis buchanani*) from rivers in southern Ontario, and also assessed museum specimens from across the range of the species. We then reported the morphological, meristic, and taxonomic interpretation of the ghost shiner in Ontario, Illinois, Missouri, and Oklahoma in a journal article. This process allowed me to study a fish species beyond my then-thesis focus on yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*) in lakes, and to interact with scientists at museums, and was very worthwhile. I encourage you all to find the time to collaborate with individuals on subjects of mutual interest.

Dean Fitzgerald, AFS-OC President (president@afs-oc.org)



Photo above: AFS-OC President Dean Fitzgerald



Photo: River Chub (top) and Hornyhead Chub (bottom). Photo courtesy of Jon Clayton.

IF4- The International Fly Fishing Film Festival

October 15, 2011 marks the next stop for the IF4 tour. The location is the Odean Room at the Wilfred Laurier University campus in Brantford.

For more information please visit: <http://flyfilmfest.com>

Photo below: Karen Murchie implants a transmitter into a Walleye in Lake Huron. Photo courtesy of Sean Landsman.



History Bytes

The Southern Ontario Chapter (SOC) created the Vice President position in 1995 and had 7 VP's until the chapter disbanded in 2003. The Northwest Ontario Chapter (NWO) created the Vice President position in 1993 and had at least 6 VP's fill the position until the demise of the chapter. The Ontario Chapter was created with a Vice President position already in place and there have been 3 VP's so far.

The View from Up Here (by Bill Gardner)

I just got back from a wonderful family vacation to Prince Edward Island. Anyone who has ever been to PEI knows that the province is a seafood lovers dream. All types of seafood are available at most restaurants. Not a lobster fan, I chose instead to eat my body weight in fish. Poached fish, grilled fish, English-style fish and chips, you name it I had it. I did try some of the other seafood available including, scallops, oysters and mussels but mostly I stuck with fish. I was amazed at how many restaurants served freshly caught fish.

In 1997, a bridge linking New Brunswick to PEI opened. This bridge made it cheaper and easier to “import” of all sorts of items to the island. As a result of this and the recent trend of 100-mile diets and such, there is a campaign on the island to “buy local”.

The 24 hour drive back from PEI to the Sault got me thinking about the concept of “buy local”. Living in Northern Ontario we have a harder time with the concept. That is not to say that we don’t grow vegetables and some fruit up here but not in the same scale as other parts of Ontario or Canada. One thing that we do have in abundance (compared to the population) is fish.

I have visited many towns in Northern Ontario and I try to have fish whenever it is available. Luckily, it is available in most towns in some form or another. Often it is the small “chip trucks” but in some towns there are multiple restaurants serving fresh fish. After a recent conversation with a commercial fisher I am convinced that I am in the minority. Both the fisher and I were at a loss as to why with “cleaner” lakes and availability of cooked fish in many forms freshwater fish appears to be consumed less than saltwater fish. Is it presentation? Is it marketing? Or is it something else? With sushi restaurants opening up in most cities, even in Northern Ontario, maybe we should be thinking of changing the presentation of freshwater fish from cooked to a more appealing form, like ceviche or sushi.

Until then, Happy Fishing.

Fisheries at the Toronto Zoo!

In 2010 an Ontario biologist, Tim McKaskie joined a crew in assessing the freshwater fish of Madagascar.

For more information please visit:
<http://www.torontozoo.com/conservation/MadFishes.asp>

Photo below: David Marson and Ryan Kelly sampling for Pugnose Shiner in the St. Lawrence River. Photo courtesy of Jason Barnucz.



Photo below: Common Shiner X Longnose Dace hybrid. Photo courtesy of Jon Clayton.



Photo left: Bill Gardner



Photo right: MOE Vessel Great Lakes Guardian in Hamilton Harbour. Photo courtesy of Ontario Ministry of Environment.

Featured Biologist: Ed Malindzak

Ed Malindzak has had a keen interest in his natural surroundings and the environment throughout his life. He has engaged in academic, employment and recreational activities in a wide variety of geographically diverse areas, such as the sub-arctic Scandinavia, offshore of the Carolinas, the interior mountains of North America, and the Great Lakes and Northern Canada.

Ed completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Fish and Wildlife Science at North Carolina State University (NCSU) in 2003. While there, he worked for 3 years as a Research Technician for the North Carolina Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (NC COOP Unit), whose research efforts were jointly supported by NCSU, the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission, the United States Geological Survey and Wildlife Management Institute. During those years he had the good fortune to work on graduate research projects related to numerous freshwater and anadromous fish species, including: American Shad (*Alosa sapidissima*), Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*), Carolina Redhorse (*Moxostoma* sp.), Flathead Catfish (*Pylodictis olivaris*), Hickory Shad (*Alosa mediocris*), Sicklefin Redhorse (*Moxostoma* sp.), and Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*).

Following graduation, Ed accepted a graduate research position at NCSU, working with Dr. Tom Kwak of the NC COOP Unit. Ed's research focused on the annual, seasonal, and diel movement and habitat use of introduced Flathead Catfish in the Deep River (a central North Carolina river). The purpose of this study was to determine the preferred habitats for Flathead Catfish, and to identify potential habitat overlap and associated consequences for the endangered Cape Fear Shiner (*Notropis mekistocholas*), which coexists in these waters.

Ed moved to Ottawa Ontario following graduation and accepted contract work with the NC Coop Unit as part of a research team investigating fish community structure in the interior mountains of Puerto Rico. He then found contract work with the South Nation Conservation Authority as a Fisheries Technician. Ed has been employed as a Biologist for Stantec Consulting Limited's Environmental Services Group for the past 5 years.

Ed was first introduced to the American Fisheries Society as an undergraduate at NCSU, where he served as Treasurer for the Student Sub-unit of the North Carolina Chapter. He has attended Chapter, Division and National meetings throughout the United States and Ontario. He presented his M.Sc. research

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Mmmmm Caviar!

Recent articles in the major newspapers have been discussing the only CITES approved Caviar producer. It is found in New Brunswick. For more details check out: <http://breviro.com>

DFO's Sustainable Seafood website

DFO has launched a new website that tells the Canadian fisheries and aquaculture sustainability story in a new and significantly more accessible way, and underscores the Canadian fish and seafood industry's reputation as a trusted source of sustainable products in domestic and international markets.

For more information please visit: <http://www.sustainable-seafood.ca>

Photo below: Featured Biologist: Ed Malindzak
Photo courtesy of Ed Malindzak



Upcoming Ontario Chapter Events

Executive Committee Elections

October 2011 via email

www.afs-oc.org

Ontario Chapter AGM

February-March 2012

www.afs-oc.org

Featured Biologist (continued from page 5)

results at the annual American Fisheries Society meeting in Anchorage, Alaska in 2005.

Ed was born in Winston Salem, North Carolina, and has lived the majority of his life in the southern and midwestern United States. He currently resides in Ottawa, Ontario with his wife Krista, daughter Logan and son Owen.



Happy Birthday Harkness!

2011 marks the 75th anniversary of the Harkness Laboratory of Fisheries Research in Algonquin Provincial Park. Known only as Harkness to most, the station is one of the oldest Fisheries field stations in Canada. Much of the early inland fisheries work conducted in Ontario was done at Harkness.

For more information please visit:
<http://www.harkness.ca>

Fisheries Listserv

Got a fisheries related question and don't know who to ask? Want to know about upcoming conferences? Check out the FISH-SCI listserv at:
<http://segate.sunet.se/cgi-bin/wa?A0=FISH-SCI>

Fish Habitat Questions or Answers?

If you have questions about fish habitat or are a researcher doing fish habitat studies, a website that may be of interest is Fish Habitat Nexus. This "one-stop shopping website" has been created to provide "an objective platform for information integration and exchange on fish habitat management requirements, challenges, solutions, opportunities and science."

For more information please visit:
www.fishhabitatnexus.com

Upcoming Ontario Chapter Training

To Be Announced

Date

TBA

Website

www.afs-oc.org

Student Subunit News

By Lee Gutowsky, President, OC-Student Subunit

The Ontario Chapter Student Subunit has several activities planned for 2012. As always, students will sell raffle tickets at the AFS-OC Annual General Meeting (AGM). Sales will be used to support conference travel for students. The student sub-unit also plans to cater an outdoor cook-out that will act as a meet-and-greet for students and a chance to enjoy hot food in a unique winter BBQ setting. Meat and vegetarian hotdogs and burgers will be on the menu. Although in the preliminary stages of planning, the AFS-OC student subunit is trying to organize a guest speaker for this year's AGM. This speaker will deliver a talk to kick-off what is already shaping up to be another excellent AGM. Please email Lee Gutowsky (student-president@afs-oc.org) if you would like to suggest a speaker for the AGM or volunteer with the activities that the student subunit has planned. In addition to being involved at the AGM, the student subunit is also in the early stages of coordinating activities at the Canadian Center for Inland Waters (CCIW) in Burlington during the fall of 2012. Activities at CCIW could include a tour of the facilities, a fisheries techniques demonstration, or a class-2 backpack electrofishing certification course.



Photo above: Electrofishing operations for Species at Risk. Photo courtesy of Jason Barnucz

AFS-OC Online Store

Looking for gifts for the boss, the intern, that special someone? Look no further than the Ontario Chapter On-line store. Check it out at:

<http://afs-oc.org/cgi-bin/online/storepro.php>



Photo above: Danielle Hosick (FSWEP), David Marson (DFO), Jason Read (FSWEP) and Robin Gaspard (FSWEP) with a nice Common Carp from the Thames River, Ontario (DFO-Science 2011) Photo courtesy of Jason Barnucz

Ontario Student Subunit Events

TBA

Date

TBA

Website

www.afs-oc.org

Attention All Former Northwestern and Southern Ontario Chapter Members

As part of the ongoing initiative to preserve our chapter history, we are searching for copies of old newsletters from the defunct Northwestern Ontario and Southern Ontario Chapters. The list below indicates those newsletters which are believed to have been published but missing from the electronic archive. If you have copies of any of these issues please contact, history@afs-oc.org or webmaster@afs-oc.org.

Year	Issue
NWO-AFS	
1980	Vol. 1 No. 1
1986	Vol. 6 No. 2-3
1988	Vol. 8 No. 3
1990	Vol. 9 No. 3
1990	Vol. 10 No. 2
1990-91	Vol. 10 No. 3
1991	Vol. 11 No. 3
1992-93	Vol. 12 No. 3
1993	Vol. 13 No. 2
1993-94	Vol. 13 No. 3
1993-94	Vol. 14 No. 1-3?
1994-95	Vol. 15 No. 2-3?
1995-96	Vol. 16 No. 2-3?
1997-98	Vol. 17 No. 2-3?
1998-99	Vol. 18 No. 2-3?
2000-01	Vol. 19 No. 2-3?
2001+?	Vol. 20?+

AFS-SOC	
1992	Vol. 5 No. 2
1995	Vol. 8 No. 1

Some issues may have never been published. If you can help in sorting this out, please also contact us!



Photo above: Sunset over the Magpie River, Wawa, ON
Photo courtesy of: Kim Tuor

Photo below: Atlantic salmon caught in the St. Mary's River-2007
Photo courtesy of: DFO



Got photos you would like to share?

Please send them to Bill Gardner at newsletter@afs-oc.org. Please include the caption and photo credit.

Please have items for the next issue of
The Lateral Line submitted by
November 25, 2011