



Flatwater Examiner

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President's Report

The recent stretch of nice weather gives little indication of the upcoming change in seasons, however the installation of new officers indicates the beginning of another AFS-Nebraska Chapter year. Past-president Gerald Mestl and outgoing officers Keith Hurlley and Becky Latka have done an exemplary job in the stewardship of this chapter and richly deserve our thanks and appreciation for their excellent service. It is also important that we welcome and support this year's officers: Rob Hofpar (president-elect), Rick Eades (secretary-treasurer), and Mark Staab (newsletter editor) as they begin their new duties.

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Nebraska & Dakota Chapters Joint Meeting



The Dakota and Nebraska AFS Chapters Joint meeting is set for February 25-27, 2002, at the Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, SD, across the Missouri River from Chamberlain. Room reservations must be made by **January 25, 2002** and are available at SD state rates for all those attending (\$35.00 single/\$70.00

double). Call 888-697-6363 and tell the reservation clerk you are with Dakota Chapter AFS. <http://www.cedarshore.com/>

**! First Call for Papers !
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Robert E. Thomas Memorial Fisheries Fund

In May of 2001, Marilyn Thomas, her son Bill, along with Wes Sheets, Larry Hutchinson, Rick Holland and Gerald Mestl representing the Nebraska Chapter of the AFS met with a representative of the University of Nebraska Foundation. Marilyn proposed using the memorial gifts that the family had received in Bob Thomas' name to establish a trust fund to be managed by the Nebraska Chapter of the AFS for the benefit of fisheries students.

table purposes. The Fund shall be used at the advice of the Nebraska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. The Chapter has the right to increase the Fund through additional gifts and shall permit others to contribute thereto, but all contributions are subject to the terms and conditions of the Agreement. The Agreement may be amended or modified for the more convenient or efficient administration of the Fund.

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These discussions resulted in the creation of the Robert E. Thomas Memorial Fisheries Fund. This fund was established by the Nebraska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society with the University of Nebraska Foundation on 10 May 2001 with an initial donation of \$2,000.00. The principal of this Fund is considered a permanent endowment with only the net income generated therefrom used for the purpose of the Fund. Until such time as the principal of the Fund reaches \$10,000.00, all net income shall be reinvested with the principal of the Fund. After the principal of the Fund reaches \$10,000.00, the Fund shall be used annually or more frequently for any permissible chari-

As of November 15, 2001 the balance in the Robert E. Thomas Memorial Fisheries Fund was \$2,627.00

It was decided at the meeting to not establish the guidelines for distribution of awards, but to let the members of the Nebraska Chapter of the AFS make those decisions. There is a limited time frame (approximately six years) in which the Fund has to become fully endowed or else the monies revert to the University of Nebraska Foundation. The Nebraska Chapter has accepted the responsibility to raise the remaining funds.

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**Nebraska Chapter AFS
EXCOM Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2001**

Submitted by: Rick Eades Secretary/Treasurer

Attending: Gerald Mestl, Mark Porath, Rob Hofpar, Rick Eades, Keith Hurley and Larry Hutchinson

Location: Fisheries Division office, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Lincoln

Chapter President Gerald Mestl called the meeting to order at 1:30pm. Gerald quickly handed over the duties of Chapter President to Mark Porath. Rob Hofpar assumed the duties of president-elect and Rick Eades became Secretary/Treasurer.

Gerald reported that rather than turning all the Chapter files over to Mark, a permanent archive (locked file cabinet) has been established in the NGPC Fisheries Division office. Keith gave a brief Treasurer's report. For 2001, income so far is about \$1,500 and expenses have been about \$1,100. Rick will purchase any needed computer software for the officers. Rick will also get signatory authority changed for our Chapter bank account.

There was some discussion of the Chapter newsletter. Gerald is helping Mark Staab get it going and will be providing a computer for Mark to use. There is always a need for news items. Information on the up-coming joint meeting with the Dakota Chapter needs to be included, including dates, location, hotel information and a first call for papers. Rob Hofpar will handle this. Gerald is looking to update the Chapter website information as well. He is looking into including a user forum section in the near future.

Gerald reported that about 25-30 people participated in the Chapter's summer Missouri River tour. Larry Hutchinson updated the EXCOM on the Bob Thomas memorial fund. It has been created at UNL to provide scholarships. Marilyn Thomas has donated \$2,000 to the fund and other donations have been received. The Chapter has to get the fund to \$10,000 within six or seven years or the money gets disbursed and the fund closed. Scholarships cannot be given until the fund reaches \$10,000 as well. The Chapter still needs to decide how to distribute the money and how it wants to raise money.

President Mark Porath will need to fill out some of the standing Chapter committees. A few people have withdrawn from their positions and not been replaced. Mark will check with each committee chair on their status.

The EXCOM discussed a request from Bob Carline to send letters/signatures to President Bush asking him to sign and adopt the Kyoto protocols. The consensus of the EXCOM was that there was not enough information given to offer

Chapter support. Individuals interested in supporting this effort can contact Bob Carline at carlinemb@home.com. There was also an invitation from RCRA to attend a meeting in Omaha, November 19-20 on recycling. There is no cost to attend. Larry will get additional information and advise whether a Chapter member should go to represent us.

Gerald reminded the group that the EXCOM is the nominating committee and a request for volunteers/nominees should be included in the next newsletter. Also, we need to decide if there will be a raffle and/or auction at the upcoming meeting and if so, get started on collecting items.

President Mark Porath acknowledged the fine service to the Chapter by Gerald and Keith and then adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm.

Memorial Fund (Continued from page 1)

Members of the Nebraska Chapter of the AFS, prior to the Chapter business meeting coming up in Chamberlain, SD please be thinking about fund raising ideas as well as what we want to do with the Fund after it becomes endowed.

Possible fund raising activities might include; targeting auction proceeds for the Fund, considering a small increase in the Chapter dues targeted for the Fund, a member's pledge drive, soliciting contributions from outside entities such as fishing clubs, etc., fund raisers such as raffles, golf tournament, etc.?

President's Report (Continued from page 1)

This year is again filled with a number of activities and challenges. The upcoming joint meeting with the Dakota Chapter in February will likely be one of the annual highlights, and serve as an opportunity to share technical presentations and interact professionally with our neighbors to the north. This year is also the inaugural year of the Thomas Fund. Set up as a memorial to Bob Thomas by his family, the chapter is charged to ensure that the fund is fully endowed over the next several years. This will take a concerted effort by our chapter and will draw on some exceptional leadership skills prevalent in many of our members. This is also the first year in which a committee will assemble a pool of officer candidates to supplement the nominations made at the annual meeting. The committee involvement is to ensure a robust pool of interested individuals for each annual meeting and therefore, further strengthening the chapter. Our chapter newsletter and webpage continues to grow and evolve providing better service to our members. And while these activities will occupy most of our efforts, we must also be prepared to provide evaluation of pending state and federal legislation that may impact Nebraska's resources. Any suggestions or ideas on how we can better accomplish these tasks or continue to improve your chapter are always welcome.

I'm looking forward to the upcoming year and I hope you are too. **Mark Porath**

ABSTRACT FORM

Abstract form for presentation at the 2002 Nebraska / Dakota Chapters AFS joint meeting, February 25th – February 27th, 2002 in Chamberlain, SD.

Paper or Poster (circle one)

Student or Professional (circle one)

Title of paper or poster:

Audio/Video Needs (e.g., 2x2 slides, digital projector):

Author(s), affiliations, addresses, phone numbers: (please underline the name of the author making the presentation)

Abstract: Please type only in the space below. Abstracts should be 250 words or less

Please submit abstracts no later than January 18th, 2002 to:

Mark Porath
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
2200 North 33rd Street
Lincoln, NE 68503
(402) 471-7651

If you would prefer, you may submit this information in electronic form by e-mailing a WordPerfect or WORD file to:

mporath@ngpc.state.ne.us

Email: nafs@4w.com

http://www.4w.com/nebraskaAFS/

Check us out at

We are On The WEB!

The Nebraska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

Nebraska / Dakota AFS Chapter Meeting

February 25-27, 2002

Cedar Shore Resort

Oacoma, South Dakota (across the river from Chamberlain)

For reservations call 888-697-6363

and tell the clerk you are with Dakota Chapter AFS

Mark Porath - Nebraska Chapter President

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

402-471-7651

mporath@ngpc.state.ne.us

6th Annual Missouri River Natural Resources Conference

Big River Science - Meeting the Challenge of Change

April 21-24, 2002

Marina Inn

South Sioux City, Nebraska

<http://infolink.cr.usgs.gov/events/02.htm>

Gene Zuerlein - Conference Chairman

Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

402-471-5555

zuerlein@ngpc.state.ne.us

132st American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting

"Turning the Tide:

Forging Partnerships to Enhance Fisheries"

August 18-22, 2002

Baltimore, Maryland

<http://www.fisheries.org/annual2002/>

!!! WANTED !!!

Items for Chapter Newsletter

Including but not limited to:

- ⇒ Fisheries issues of local, state or national importance
- ⇒ What are our members involved with—publications, projects, etc.
- ⇒ Student projects
- ⇒ Upcoming meetings
- ⇒ Any other items that you think would interest our members

Request for Nominees/Volunteers for Officers, Please Contact Mark Porath, President

!!! Committee Chairperson Needed !!!

The Chapter is currently seeking a member to chair the Membership Committee.

Don't want to be a chair but are willing to help out?
Contact any of the chairpersons and offer your assistance.