

**Southern Division AFS Business Meeting Minutes**  
**February 26, 2010**  
**Asheville, North Carolina**

The 2010 SDAFS Business Meeting was called to order at 1705 hrs by President Cecil Jennings. It was determined that there was a quorum present. President Jennings introduced AFS President Don Jackson. President Jennings then introduced SDAFS Past Presidents: Jeff Boxrucker, Charles C. Coutant, Bob Curry, Fred A. Harris, Donald C. Jackson, Patricia M. Mazik, Richard L. Noble, Michael J. Van Den Avyle, and Larry J. Wilson. President Jennings then introduced the current SDAFS officers; Fred Janssen, President-Elect; Steve Lochmann, Vice President; Steve McMullin, Past President; and Dave Coughlan, Secretary-Treasurer.

**AFS President Jackson's Remarks:** Don reminded everybody that AFS is the oldest science based organization in the US. Our journals, and our members, are diverse but there are some common denominators running throughout. Don noted that AFS journals help to get your voices and data heard. AFS also helps get our voices heard on Capitol Hill. He admires the deep currents that sustain us. Don noted that the SDAFS's own Bob Curry will be a candidate for AFS Second Vice President.

**President Jennings' Address:** Cecil thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. While he was somewhat hesitant at first, he has learned a lot during his Presidential journey. AFS Governing Board Meetings were especially enlightening as they are the means to shape the future direction of AFS. Cecil's year as SDAFS President had three goals. The first was survey and evaluate the web presence of the various SD subunits. President Jennings assembled a team to evaluate division web pages and report back to him. A PowerPoint presentation summarizing the results will be given during Old Business. The second goal was to implement a 'Membership Updates' section in the SDAFS Newsletter. This was to be a sort of 'Alumni News' section whereby the personal details, whereabouts, promotions, new hires, etc. within the Division could be posted. The first member updates appeared in the December 2009 SDAFS Newsletter. Cecil's third goal was align the SD Strategic Plan with the newly implemented AFS Strategic Plan. Unfortunately, there was little time to implement this objective during his tenure and he will assist the incoming President with the task. Cecil thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the SDAFS.

**Secretary-Treasurer Coughlan's Report:** Minutes from the 2009 New Orleans Business Meeting were published in the August 2009 SDAFS Newsletter and in the Briefing Book. Hearing no call for revision, President Jennings asked for a motion to approve. A motion was made (Taylor) and seconded (Murphy) and the 2009 Business Meeting minutes were approved.

**President-Elect Janssen's Chapter Activity Report:** Reports from the various state chapters and their student subunits, as compiled in the EXCOM Briefing Book, were summarized.

**President Jennings' Technical Committee Report:** The SDAFS Technical Committees had an active 2009. The Catfish Management Committee, in combination with the North Central Division, is planning for the Second International Catfish Symposium to be held in June in St. Louis. The Reservoir Committee will give out two Robert Jenkins Scholarships this year. The Striped Bass committee is hoping to publish their recent Nashville Symposium by the end of 2010. The Warmwater Streams Committee will give out two Jimmie Pigg Scholarships this

year. The ad-hoc Alligator Gar Technical Committee held a gar ageing workshop in New Orleans and has more activities planned in the future.

**Ballot Committee Report:** Christian Waters, Ballot Committee Chair, thanked Jerry Finke and Steve McMullin for their assistance with the 2009 election. Christian noted that Brian Murphy and Lawrence Dorsey were the candidates for the position of Vice President in 2009. Through the use of one of Steve McMullin's survey programs, e-mail ballots were sent out. Voter response in 2009 was 20.2% and exceeded that in 2008 and 2007 (18% and 14%, respectively). Christian recognized Brian Murphy as the new SDAFS Vice President.

**Presentation of Awards:** President-Elect Janssen announced the following SDAFS Awards while President Jennings congratulated recipients and presented awards:

The SDAFS Distinguished Service Award went to Jerry Finke of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for his website prowess and extraordinary assistance with recent SDAFS electronic elections.

The 2009 SEAFWA Jack Dequine Best paper award went to Keith Ashley (North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission) and R.D. Barwick and R.T. Rachels. The second place award went to MattiLynn D. Dantin (Nicholls State University) and A.M. Ferrara, and Q.C. Fontenot.

The Outstanding Student Subunit Award went to North Carolina State University.

The best student paper award from the 2009 SDAFS Spring Meeting in New Orleans went to Olivia. A. Smith of Nicholls State University and second place went to Shaunna N. Harris of Louisiana State University Agricultural Experimental Station. Best student poster from the 2009 SDAFS Spring Meeting went to Molly. M Martin of Auburn University.

The winner of the SDAFS Membership Challenge was the North Carolina Chapter with 73% of their members belonging to AFS.

The Jimmie Pigg Memorial Award was presented by Eric Cummins of the Warmwater Streams Committee to Michael Fisk (North Carolina State University) and Ryan McManamay (VA Tech).

Two Robert M. Jenkins Scholarships were presented by Kurt Kuklinski of the Reservoir Committee to Melissa Fries (LSU) and Marybeth Brey (NCSU). Both awards were being renewed for a second year.

**Resolution of Appreciation and Thanks:** President Jennings presented a resolution of appreciation and thanks by acclamation to the North Carolina Chapter. Specifically, he recognized Lawrence Dorsey, General Meeting Chair; Derek Aday, Program Chair; Doug Besler, Local Arrangements Chair; and Chad Thomas, NCAFS President, for their efforts to graciously host an entertaining and well-planned 2010 Spring Meeting.

**Old Business:** President Jennings used the services of Taconya Goar (Auburn University) and UGA staff and students to conduct a survey of SDAFS subunit web pages. The survey was to see what information is being disseminated by the various subunits and also suggest a list of standardized content. Eighty-one percent of the SD's 37 subunits have a web presence; however,

only 40% of those are up-to-date. Subunit information, officer contacts, history, bylaws, links to other professional pages, links to social media, etc. varied by subunit and some suggestions for a more uniform web presence were provided. Dissemination of AFS, SDAFS, and subunit information to members and future members will call for the diligence of a full-time web manager or contact.

**Installation of 2010 Officers:** Newly installed officers, Brian Murphy, Vice President; Steve Lochmann, President-Elect; and Fred Janssen, President; were escorted to the head of the room. Cecil Jennings presented the Presidential gavel to Fred Janssen.

**Newly Installed President Janssen's Remarks:** Fred thanked Cecil for his guidance during the past year and awarded him a Past President's plaque and a bottle of a finely aged adult beverage. Fred also acknowledged the support of the MS, NC, TN, and TX chapters. His priorities in 2010 were to fix the holes in various chapter and divisional web pages and to introduce social media as a tool for the wider dissemination of AFS information. He noted the benefits of Facebook and discussed its advantages over traditional Internet media (i.e., web pages). He also was interested in fostering greater involvement of SDAFS technical committees and chapters with SEAFWA and the Southeastern Aquatic Resource Partnership.

**New Business:**

Tom Kwak reminded everyone that the Catfish 2010 Symposium was scheduled for June and that abstracts were still being accepted. The proceedings will be published.

A motion to adjourn was made (Taylor) and seconded (Schramm) and the meeting concluded at 1830 hrs.