

Tidewater Press

Newsletter Of the Tidewater Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Tidewater Chapter Annual Meeting Great Success

By Michael Luisi

The 2010 American Fisheries Society Tidewater Chapter annual meeting held in historic downtown Annapolis, Md., Mar. 18 - 20 was a great success, with over 100 students and fisheries professionals attending. The kick-off Poster Social at the Navy-Marine Corps Football Stadium, just a casual 10...okay...20-min walk from the hotel, highlighted 19 members' research and provided attendees an opportunity to read about and then to discuss an array of fisheries research being conducted along the Mid-Atlantic coast.

Friday morning's technical session got started with invited speaker Dr. Bob Wood, director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Cooperative Oxford Lab. Dr. Wood enlightened us on the linkages between climate, hydrography and fisheries

recruitment in the Chesapeake Bay and the resulting consequences for future fisheries management. Fourteen student oral presentations followed. I have never been disappointed by the quality of presentations given by the Chapter students. Once again – fantastic job!



J. COOPER | COOPER ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH

Tidewater Chapter members (L to R), Erik Zlokovitz, Stephanie McInerney (Secretary/Treasurer), and Bob Murphy (MD Member At-Large) enjoy themselves at the Friday Awards Dinner.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation graciously provided us

use of their Phillip Merrill Environmental Center for what turned out to be a gorgeous sunset and fun-filled Awards Dinner. While folks feasted on local BBQ, awards were presented to winners of best student poster and student oral presentation. (See *inside awards spread*). Thanks go to Boordy Vineyards and Dogfish Head Brewery for their beverage donations!

Saturday played host to 11 professional presentations before handshakes and parting of ways midday.

Thank you, again, to the aforementioned sponsors, as well as to Maryland Sea Grant. Also, I must thank all of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources fisheries staff who volunteered their time to put this meeting together. To be honest, they really did not need me around at all! See you all this March in Virginia!

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Summer 2010

Opportunities:

The National Sea Grant College Program is seeking applications for the 2011 National Marine Fisheries Service—Sea Grant Joint Graduate Fellowships in Population Dynamics & Marine Resource Economics. Materials should be submitted to state Sea Grant programs by Jan. 21, 2011. Find more information at: www.seagrant.noaa.gov/funding/rfp.htm [l#nmfs](#).

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Machut Named Tidewater Chapter President-Elect

By Sara Mirabilio

Leonard Machut, co-principal investigator for the Virginia Juvenile Striped Bass Seine Survey, has accepted the post of Tidewater Chapter president-elect. He will join Mike Luisi (president), Fred Scharf (past president), and Stephanie McInerney (secretary/treasurer) as Chap-

ter officers.

An upstate New York native, Leonard grew up fishing the open waters of the Great Lakes. He first was introduced to the Chesapeake Bay's shores while attending the University of Richmond as an undergraduate (1996-98). He returned to New York to earn a



VA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE WEBSITE

Leonard Machut (Va.) - Tidewater Chapter President-Elect.

see **MACHUT** page 8



President's Corner



By Michael Luisi

Fisheries managers work tirelessly to protect, to conserve, and to enhance fisheries resources along our waterways. We often work long hours for not nearly matching compensation. And, in many cases the issues being dealt with fetch us criticism, not accolades, for our every action.

Yet, as hard as it at times can get, the rewards of successful management are the reasons why I, personally, love my job. What follows is a "feel good" story about restoring the icon of the Chesapeake Bay—the blue crab—a story that certainly rejuvenates my enthusiasm toward my job. I hope it does the same for you!

Although the management framework

defined an appropriate level of fishing on Chesapeake Bay blue crab, continual failure to meet the established target led to historic low commercial harvest in both Maryland and Virginia in 2007. In response, the governors of Maryland and Virginia took a coordinated and more aggressive approach in 2008 to meet the target fishing levels needed to restore the Chesapeake Bay blue crab fishery.

The first step was to reduce the harvest of female crabs. Protecting females along their spawning migration to the mouth of the Bay increases the probability of a strong year class. A historic baywide effort was needed to accomplish this. However, following implementation of various effort and harvest controls, the results were seen immediately. The number of crabs overwintering in the Bay soared!

Next, a reduction in harvest of female

crabs was necessary. In Maryland, this was accomplished through a Commercial License Buy-Back Program and a regulation that required crabbers that were inactive for the past five years to choose between freezing their license indefinitely or harvesting male crabs only. Response to the effort to reduce fishing pressure exceeded expectations. To date, approximately 650 commercial fishing licenses have been retired in Maryland and many more have been reduced to a male crab harvest. Blue crab abundance indices have again soared. As of spring 2010, the Chesapeake Bay blue crab fishery officially was announced as on its way to recovery!

There have been many challenges felt by fishery managers and many hardships felt by the commercial crab industry; however, by working together there is now a promise of a viable Bay blue crab fishery.

University of Maryland Eastern Shore Student Subunit News

By Nick Clemons

This past six months our members were incredibly busy in the field, lab and classroom. In March, Members Nick Clemons, Lonnie Gonsalves, and Adam Tulu attend the American Fisheries Society (AFS) Tidewater Chapter meeting in Annapolis, Md. Lonnie and Adam both gave oral presentations, with Lonnie tying for second place for best student talk.

During the summer, Lonnie also was nominated as president-elect for the AFS Equal Opportunities Section, as well as accepted into the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Education Graduate Sciences Program. He will work out of the NOAA Cooperative Oxford Laboratory in Oxford, Md.

Another member, Dan Cullen, graduated with his master's degree but is returning to pursue his doctor's degree. He, Lonnie and Jamila Payton mentored undergraduates this summer for the NOAA-



TODD CHRISTENSON | LMRCSC

Lonnie Gonsalves mentors an undergraduate, summer intern. In addition to field trips, interns worked in the laboratories of researchers at the Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center.

funded Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center (LMRCSC) Research Experience for Undergraduates program. Rising sophomores interested in marine and estuarine science participated in laboratory and field-based research for ten weeks. The rest of the subunit members continued to work on their research projects and enjoy the summer.

The subunit welcomed two new members - Eric Evans and Shari Mullen—both pursuing Doctoral degrees. Eric joins us from Jackson State University. Shari hails from St. Francis University. She also has been accepted into the NOAA Office of Education Graduate Sciences Program, but her work will be at the Auke Bay Laboratory, which is part of the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in Juneau.

In September we organized a beach cleanup at Assateague State Park in conjunction with the Maryland Coastal Bays Program's 13th Annual Coast Day. We met with other local environmental groups, as we removed much garbage off the beach. We also were able to showcase our fish collection.

If you are interested in getting involved with the subunit, please feel free to contact our new president, Jamila Payton, at japayton@gmail.com. New membership always is welcome!





University of North Carolina Wilmington Student Subunit News

By Nikolai Klibansky & Steve Midway

The University of North Carolina Wilmington student subunit (UNCW AFS) has been busy in 2010 with both regional meetings and subunit activities.

In February, UNCW AFS members Joe Facendola, Nikolai Klibansky, and Steve Midway presented at the Southern Division meeting in Asheville. The UNCW AFS student involvement was substantial, with our talks comprising two-thirds of the marine talks at this chiefly freshwater meeting.

Subunit members also made a number of presentations at the annual Tidewater Chapter meeting in Annapolis, Md., including research by members Facendola, Midway, and Elizabeth Lange, as well as faculty advisor Dr. Fred Scharf and visiting assistant professor Dr. Michelle Staudinger.

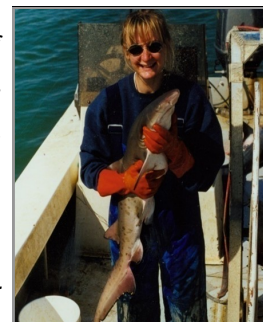
The subunit kicked off the spring meeting series with a mini-symposium on field work—"Fisheries Afield" - where mem-

bers Facendola, Lara Jarvis, and Jon Vanderfleet gave presentations describing fisheries experiences in places from Yellowstone National Park to the Gulf of Maine. The main objective was to share the "good, bad, and ugly" of fisheries fieldwork as undergrad members began to look for summer jobs.

We hosted Dr. Teresa Thorpe from the UNCW Center for Marine Science at our next meeting. She presented research on shark nursery ground designation in N.C. Later in February, Dr. Staudinger over-viewed her dissertation research on the vulnerability of longfin inshore squid to predation by fishes. At our last meeting of the spring, we held an identification workshop on local marine species with the expert help of past UNCW AFS president Chip Collier and McLean Seward of the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries.

Over the summer, we launched a new website—<http://student.uncw.edu/org/>

In Feb. 2010, Dr. Teresa Thorpe of UNC Wilmington (UNCW) Center for Marine Science presented her research on shark nursery ground designations to the American Fisheries Society UNCW student subunit.



UNKNOWN | UNCW

AFS. Looking to the fall, we welcome new president, Steve Midway, vice-president, Jon Vanderfleet, and treasurer, Deena Anderson. Past president, Klibansky, has offered to stay on as secretary. Thanks go most notably to past treasurer, Brandi Salmon, for securing the subunit Student Government Association funding to finance equipment and activities this coming year. We also congratulate Joe Facendola on the successful defense of his master's thesis!

Duke University Student Subunit News

By Henry Coppola

DukeFish rounded out its third year of existence as the Duke University student subunit of American Fisheries Society with a suite of subunit-hosted documentary



DANA OVERCASH | DUKEFISH

(L to R) Henry Coppola, Nick Mallos, Erin Klein, Kim Gordon, and Caitlin Hamer promote consumption of local seafood at the 2009 North Carolina Seafood Festival in Morehead City.

screenings, lectures, and even, providing fresh local seafood to a suite of consumers.

DukeFish hosted a series of lectures at the Duke University Marine Lab during the spring semester, covering a variety of marine and coastal fisheries issues. On the Durham campus, we also organized a screening of, "A Sea Change," which follows the journey of retired history teacher Sven Huseby on his quest to discover what is happening to the world's ocean. As part of the Durham Stormwater Services Division's Creek Week, the subunit rounded out the spring semester by adopting a section of Sandy Creek near Duke's West Campus.

Heading into summer, DukeFish participated in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's 35th Annual Fish Fry during Capitol Hill Oceans Week.

Along the way, Walking Fish, a commu-

nity-supported fishery project staffed by DukeFish members, took off! As of this writing, shares for the fall 2010 season are sold out.

Staying busy in the fall, DukeFish once more ran a booth at the 24th Annual North Carolina Seafood Festival in Morehead City. Members served grilled fish tacos using fresh, local hook-and-line caught red drum in an effort to promote consumption of local seafood and to support the local economy.

Looking towards the future, there will be creek clean-ups to organize, more movies to watch, and hopefully, monthly informal discussion sessions to host we're calling "Blue Drinks," akin to Green Drinks efforts.

To stay updated on our efforts, please visit our website: www.dukefish.org. Or, subscribe to the mailing list via <https://lists.duke.edu/sympa/info/dukefish>.



Student Presentations Carry A Successful Chapter Annual Meeting

By Ron Klauda

Student presentations again carried a successful Tidewater Chapter annual meeting. A total of 24 presentations—10 posters and 14 oral papers—were evaluated and scored by six, volunteer judges. Criteria included importance to the fisheries profession (45 points), verbal presentation (25 points), audiovisual presentation (15 points), discussion stimulation (5 points), Abstract and Title (5 points), and other considerations (5 points). The judges scores were summed to determine the best presentation.

In both the poster and oral paper categories, the judges selected first-, second- and third-place winners. At the Friday evening awards banquet held at Phillip Merrill Environmental Center winners in the poster category were announced:

First Place and \$200: J.T. Turnure, Rutgers University, for his poster entitled, "Small-scale movements and site fidelity in weakfish (*Cynoscion regalis*): Diel and seasonal patterns in a Mid-Atlantic Bight estu-

ary"

Second Place and \$100: Christian W. Conroy, University of Maryland, for his



JOHN COOPER | COOPER ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH

(L to R) Jay Turnure, Cecilia Krahforst, Christian Conroy, Lonnie Gonsalves, Ryan Woodland, and Marissa Brady, student poster and oral presentation winners at the 2010 Tidewater Chapter annual meeting in Annapolis, Md., Mar. 18 - 20, 2010.

poster entitled, "Migration and habitat use patterns by age 0 striped bass in the Patuxent River Estuary, Maryland, USA"

Third Place and \$50: Marissa G. Brady, Delaware State University, for her poster entitled, "Combining mark-recapture and telemetry to understand American eel population dynamics"

In the oral paper category, the judges selected these winners:

First Place and \$200: Cecilia S. Krahforst, East Carolina University, for her paper entitled, "Using passive acoustics to monitor Atlantic croaker populations in Pamlico Sound, NC"

Second Place (tie) and \$100: Ryan J. Woodland, University of Maryland, for his paper entitled, "Assessing changes in trophic ecology of juvenile fish across an estuarine-marine boundary: Consequences of natal habitat use"

Second Place (tie) and \$100: Lonnie Gonsalves, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, for his paper entitled, "Dietary polyunsaturated fatty acids and disease progression in striped bass, *Morone saxatilis*"

A special "thank you" to our judges!

Krahforst Awarded Third Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship

By Ron Klauda

The Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship is awarded periodically to an outstanding graduate student currently enrolled in a fisheries or closely related curriculum who has displayed a commitment to excellence in research, teaching, professional endeavors, and public outreach/community service. The award was created in 2003 to remember Dr. Eileen Setzler-Hamilton—a long-time member of the American Fisheries Society and fourth president (1989) of the Tidewater Chapter.

This year the Chapter received applications from three deserving candidates and was able to offer three Eileen awards. The first-place award went to Cecilia Krahforst, a M.S. candidate in Biology at East Carolina University (ECU), who has been accepted to the Ph.D. program in Coastal Resource



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(L to R) Jacob Boyd, Ryan Woodland, and Cecilia Krahforst, the two runners-up and first-place winner of the 2010 Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship.

Management at ECU. Two honorable mention awards were given to Ryan Woodland, a Ph.D. candidate in Marine, Estuarine and Environmental Sciences at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, and to Jacob Boyd, a M.S. candidate in Biology at ECU.

First-place recipients receive an engraved plaque and \$500. The award is presented periodically at the Chapter annual meeting—in 2011 to be in Gloucester Point, Va.

Applications for this coming year must be received no later than Jan. 28, 2011. Please send an application and recommendation forms to:

Ron Klauda, chairman
Awards and Scholarship Committee
AFS Tidewater Chapter
c/o MD Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Avenue, C-2
Annapolis, MD 21401

For more information, contact Klauda, 410-260-8615 or rklauda@dnr.state.md.us. Or, download information and forms from the website: www.sdafs.org/tidewater.



2010 Tidewater Chapter Awards; Call For 2011 Nominations

By Ron Klauda

The Awards and Scholarship Committee presented awards to several deserving individuals at the 2010 American Fisheries Society Tidewater Chapter (TWC) annual meeting Mar. 18-20 in Annapolis, Md. Specific awards given were:

The Conservation Award is given periodically to a TWC member, resource management agency, corporation, or non-profit organization who has distinguished themselves through notable fisheries or habitat conservation activities. This year the TWC recognized two deserving individuals—Karl Blakenship and Jim Uphoff.

Karl Blakenship is the long-time editor and principal staff writer for the *Bay Journal*. Launched in 1991, the *Bay Journal* is the “newspaper of record” for Chesapeake Bay happenings. Thanks to Karl’s extraordinary analytical and writing skills, it is one of the most dependable sources of accurate, as well as comprehensive, coverage of what is often complicated scientific topics and controversial fisheries policy issues. Respect for Karl and his writing skills extends far beyond the *Bay Journal*’s readership of over 40,000, and he has won numerous awards for his work, including the Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s Lifetime Achievement Award (2006).

The second Conservation award recipient, Jim Uphoff, works for the M.D. Department of Natural Resources’ Fisheries Service. A past president of the TWC, he has long distinguished himself in applied fish-

eries science and advisory service, fostering better land use, habitat protection, and fisheries management. Jim does not demure when he holds unpopular beliefs. For example, early in his career he expressed the controversial view that Chesapeake Bay striped bass were being over-exploited, a position according to the book *Striper Wars*, that nearly cost him his job. He also argued that the reasons for recovery were far more complex than most believe and forced the issue of predation effects into the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s stock assessments for weakfish and Atlantic menhaden. Jim’s initiative and problem-solving skills as a field biologist and fisheries scientist, cou-



Chairman Ron Klauda (R), Awards & Scholarship Committee, presents Jim Uphoff (L) of the M.D. Department of Natural Resources’ Fisheries Service, with an American Fisheries Society Tidewater Chapter 2010 Conservation award at the annual meeting Mar. 18-20 in Annapolis, Md.

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pled with his constant search for new ways to “skin a cat,” have led him to find answers to many key questions.

This year’s Excellence in Fisheries Education award went to Dr. Ed Houde. The award is given periodically to a TWC member who has achieved excellence in teaching and in student advising in fisheries science (or related area), and who encourages student participation at the TWC annual meetings. A professor at the University of Maryland’s Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, his research, publication record, and leadership on numerous committees—academic to international—netted him a TWC Conservation Award in 2005. But, his enthusiasm and commitment to



Chairman Ron Klauda (R), Awards & Scholarship Committee, presents Ed Houde (L) University of Maryland’s Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, with an American Fisheries Society Tidewater Chapter 2010 Excellence in Fisheries Education award at the annual meeting Mar. 18-20 in Annapolis, Md.

J.COOPER | COOPER ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH

quality education is equally notable. For more than 35 years, he has taught a graduate-level “Fisheries Science and Management” course somewhere. Ed’s students are inspired by his work ethic, honesty and integrity with one writing, “His method of teaching is very enjoyable, as he brings his passion for science...into the classroom.” He generously shares his wealth of knowledge with all students under his guidance and offers abundant encouragement. To date, Ed has mentored 11 doctoral and at least 28 master’s students, who have taken (or soon will take) their places in the world of fisheries science and management.

The Meritorious Service award—given periodically to a TWC member for unswerving loyalty, dedication and service to the TWC, and for their exceptional commitment to the programs, objectives and long-term goals of the TWC—was not presented this year. **Please help the Awards and Scholarship Committee by nominating deserving individuals for these awards. Send nominations, complete with brief description of why you think they deserve the award, by Jan. 28, 2011 to:**

Ron Klauda, chairman
Awards and Scholarship Committee
AFS Tidewater Chapter
c/o MD Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Avenue, C-2
Annapolis, MD 21401



Chairman Ron Klauda (R), Awards & Scholarship Committee, presents Karl Blakenship (L), editor of the “Bay Journal,” with an American Fisheries Society Tidewater Chapter 2010 Conservation award at the annual meeting Mar. 18-20 in Annapolis, Md.

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Spotlight Research: East Carolina University Student Subunit

By Chuck Bangley

Members of the East Carolina University student subunit of the American Fisheries Society (ECU-AFS) are involved in a wide variety of research projects attempting to answer important questions about the fisheries of North Carolina and beyond. Their research involves some of the most important commercial fish species in the Mid-Atlantic states, and some of their projects go beyond biology and into the realm of policy. This is a sampling of some of the work being done currently by members.

Subunit co-presidents Jacob Boyd and Chuck Bangley are part of Dr. Roger Rulifson's lab. Jacob's research goal is to collect current data on the maturity and fecundity of the striped bass population in the Roanoke River. Striped bass were sampled from 2009–2010 during the pre-spawn, spawning, and post-spawning periods (February–May) by a state-run fishery independent gillnet survey in the Albemarle Sound. Additional sampling on and near the spawning grounds in the Roanoke River was conducted by electroshocking during the same period. Jacob soon will complete maturity and fecundity analyses of the ovaries. The otoliths from each fish will be used for aging and for microchemical analyses to determine spawning frequency. In addition, he expects to be able to tell what proportion of the spawning population are "residents" (living in Albemarle So.) versus anadromous (coming in from ocean overwintering habitats).



RULIFSON LAB WEBSITE

Jacob Boyd, M.S. candidate in Biology at ECU under Dr. Roger Rulifson, shown here holding a big female striped bass near the Roanoke River, N.C., spawning grounds. His research aims to determine the proportion of resident versus anadromous spawners.

Chuck is researching the feeding habits of spiny dogfish overwintering off of

Cape Hatteras, N.C., and their interactions with other species. It is well-known that these small sharks migrate during the winter from cooler New England waters, and then return north in the spring when waters warm. The effect of this large number of transient predators on the local ecosystem is poorly understood. Stomach contents collected during the 2010 USFWS-led Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruise and during the National Marine Fisheries Service Spring Trawl Survey will allow for identification of dogfish prey species and consumption rates. Chuck also is looking at co-occurrence between spiny dogfish and other species in the trawl data to determine if the presence of dogfish affects the distribution of potential competing predators, such as striped bass.

Jennifer Cudney, Ph.D. candidate in Coastal Resource Management at ECU under Dr. Roger Rulifson, tagged spiny dogfish on the 2009 USFWS-led Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruise.



RULIFSON LAB WEBSITE

Also working on spiny dogfish in the Rulifson lab is Jennifer Cudney-Burch, who is using acoustic tags to track the movements of these sharks in North Carolina waters. She tagged a total of 53 sharks in 2009 on the Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruise and 40 sharks in 2010 with the help of commercial fishermen and off ECU research vessels. Jen currently is analyzing tracking data for over 46 different sharks that were detected not only in North Carolina, but also, by receiver arrays in Delaware and Massachusetts.

Rounding out the Rulifson lab is Dan Zapf, who is assessing spawning and nursery habitat of river herring in the Albemarle So., N.C., using otolith microchemistry. Elemental composition of otoliths can reveal natal origins and nursery areas of fish and can identify migration patterns

throughout the life of the fish when compared to water samples from selected watersheds.



OVERTON LAB WEBSITE

Wayne Mabe, M.S. candidate in Biology at ECU under Dr. Anthony Overton, uses a beach seine to determine species richness and abundance in Pamlico River, N.C.

Working in the lab of ECU professor Dr. Anthony Overton is Wayne Mabe. Wayne is working to characterize juvenile fish community structure in the Pamlico So. and River initially by using a twenty-year N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries data set for community structure over time. He then will overlay climatic data to determine if and how climate has affected community structure. In the Pamlico River, he has been using a beach seine to collect juvenile fish and to determine relative abundance of various species along the river. The comparison between sound and river systems will help determine to what extent environmental factors (e.g., dissolved oxygen, turbidity) affect fish communities.

Several subunit members are interested in how differing management strategies work to ensure viable fisheries. For example, Nick Myers, a M.A. candidate in International Studies with a concentration in Coastal Resources Management, is interested in international environmental policy and conservation, specifically the use of marine protected areas (MPAs) as tools for conservation, management and sustainable development. Nick specifically is examining the design of various MPAs and their resulting effectiveness in exporting exploitable biomass.

This is a small sampling of the fisheries research currently being conducted by ECU-AFS subunit members. More information on our activities can be found by visiting our website: www.ecu.edu/org/afs/ECU-AFS/Homepage.html.



Did you hear?

BLUE CRAB RESTRICTIONS CONTINUE

Newport News, Va.—Officials from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission have voted to extend the previous two year's blue crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) fishing regulations that called for a 15% harvest reduction, prohibited winter dredging of hibernating crabs, recreational pot limits, and a shortened season. Since these sanctions were imposed two years ago, a new scientific study shows crab abundance baywide has doubled, with the largest new generation of baby crabs found in many years. The Commission also signaled its willingness to extend indefinitely the moratorium on issuance of new commercial crab permits that has been in place since 1999. Source: VMRC Press Release 4/27/10.

FREE FISHERMAN ID PROGRAM IN VA

Newport News, Va.—The Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) has approved creation of a free fisherman identification program (FIP) that will exempt Virginia saltwater anglers from paying \$15-\$25 a year to register to fish with the federal government under the National Saltwater Angler Registry now in effect. The Virginia Fisherman Identification Program will be in place in January. It will impact only those adult saltwater anglers who are exempt under Virginia law from having to buy a saltwater fishing license. If you buy an annual saltwater license, you will not be affected by this program. As of January, license-exempt saltwater anglers 16 years of age or older will need to register with the VMRC either online or through a toll-free number that will be established to collect their names, addresses, phone numbers, and dates of birth. The FIP is designed, in combination with contact information collected from licensed anglers when they buy their licenses, to create a complete phone book of all adults who fish in Virginia's saltwaters, thus allowing exemption from the National Saltwater Registry and the registration charge. Source: VMRC Press Release 9/28/10.

NORTH CAROLINA TILEFISH RECORD

Morehead City, N.C.—A Virginia angler established a state record with the 45-pound golden tilefish he caught off Cape Hatteras this summer. Guy R. Jones of Newport News, Va., caught the fish using cut bait on 60-pound line test with a Shimano Torium 20, Offshore Angler Model Power Stick. The fish measured 43.5 inches from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail and had a 30-inch girth. Jones caught the fish Jul. 3 while fishing with Capt. Derek Taylor aboard the charter boat *Carolina Girl*. North Carolina previously did not have a state record golden tilefish. To establish a state record fish, the angler must submit an application that is then reviewed by the Division of Marine Fisheries staff and NC Saltwater Fishing Tournament Advisory Board. The world record golden tilefish, caught in 2007 off Maryland, stands at 59 pounds, 3 ounces. Source: NCDMF Press Release 9/14/10.

NC ISSUES 2010 STOCK STATUS INFO

Morehead City, N.C.—The N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries' 2010 Stock Status Report shows saltwater fish populations in North Carolina are stable and, in many cases, improving. Spiny dogfish moved from "recovering" to "viable" based on a 2010 stock assessment that found that the stock has been rebuilt. Summer flounder remains listed as "recovering" and striped bass in the ocean and in the Albemarle Sound-Roanoke River Management Area remain listed as "viable." Additionally, bay scallops continue to recover, allowing for periodic season openings in some water bodies. Oysters, while remaining listed as "concern," have shown signs of improvement with increased landings and increased spatfall both in wild harvest areas and in sanctuaries. Spotted seatrout, however, moved from "concern" to "depleted" based on a 2009 stock assessment. The assessment indicated the stock is overfished and undergoing overfishing based on data from 1991-2008. The annual stock status report serves as a general barome-

ter of the overall health of North Carolina's coastal fishery resources, and it is used to prioritize development of fishery management plans and subsequent plan amendments. Source: NCDMF Press Release 6/24/10.

NC FISHERY RESOURCE GRANTS RFP

Raleigh, N.C.—The North Carolina Fishery Resource Grant Program, administered by N.C. Sea Grant, invites members of the fishing and research communities to submit proposals for funding in 2011. Proposals should include North Carolina citizens who are actively involved in commercial or recreational fishing, the charter boat industry, aquaculture/mariculture or the handling of fish products. E-mail applications should be sent to srebach@ncsu.edu. Or, mail signed applications and support letters to: North Carolina Sea Grant, NC State University, Box 8605, 1575 Varsity Drive, Flex Lab Bldg. Module 1, Raleigh, NC 27695-8605. All principal investigators must participate in a pre-submission conference with a Sea Grant representative. Final award decisions will be made no later than April 30, 2011. For more information visit: <http://www.ncseagrant.org/home/research/grantsfellowships>. Source: NCSG Press Release 9/21/10.

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Treasurer's Report



By Stephanie McInerny

After all expenses for the 2010 annual meeting were paid, the

Tidewater Chapter (TWC) checking account balance was \$11,119.99—well above our operating budget of \$4,500. This includes the \$3,000 student travel and expense grant provided by Maryland Sea Grant and a membership rebate check from the Parent Society for \$63.84.

At the last executive committee meeting, it was agreed that the Chapter will contribute \$250 towards sponsorship of the January 2011 Southern Division meeting in Tampa, Fla.

At the annual meeting, I reported that the value of our mutual fund was remaining relatively flatlined with only modest gains. As of Aug. 1, 2010, the mutual fund is valued at \$987.57. The TWC executive committee still agrees that it would not be wise

to pull money out when we are at a loss, so the mutual fund will stay open and continue to be monitored.

Financial Report Summary:

Checking:	\$11,119.99
Mutual Fund:	\$ 987.57
Total:	\$12,107.56

Please do not forget to pay your 2010 TWC dues! Please check the membership list on the next page for your name. Annual dues for 2010 are \$10.00. A lifetime membership is available for a onetime fee of \$150.00.

If you are not currently a member of the Chapter but would like to join, visit the TWC website at:

www.sdafs.org/tidewater and click on the "Membership" tab to download a membership form. Or, you can e-mail me at Stephanie.McInerny@ncdenr.gov.

Checks should be made payable to "Tidewater Chapter AFS." Please mail payment to:

Stephanie McInerny
TWC Secretary/Treasurer
209 Brigantine Ct.
Cape Carteret, NC 28584

Please note that membership dues are no longer included in the Chapter annual meeting registration fee. However, meeting attendees will have the opportunity to pay yearly dues during check-in. A listing of current members will be available at the registration desk to ease registrants in membership renewal.

.....
• *All memberships are for a*
• *calendar year. Any payments*
• *received later than September 1st*
• *will be processed for*
• *membership beginning January*
• *1st of the following year. Join*
• *the AFS Tidewater Chapter*
• *today!*
.....

MACHUT continued from page 1

Bachelor of Science degree (2000) from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF).

Leonard's first professional venture was examining plant responses to herbivory in a terrestrial plant ecology lab. While enjoying the work and the location of Yellowstone National Park, Leonard yearned to get back on the water. In 2003, he returned to SUNY ESF to begin graduate studies under Dr. Karin Limburg.

Leonard graduated in 2006 with a Master of Science degree in fishery biology and aquatic ecology, publishing his thesis describing some effects of anthropogenic impacts on American eel stock dynamics. He liked the eel work and spent the next two years working with the U.S. Geologic Survey Great Lakes Science Center to develop an American eel management plan

Seeking Nominations for Chapter President-Elect

The American Fisheries Society Tidewater Chapter is seeking nominations for a North Carolina member to serve as president-elect. This person chairs the Program Committee and oversees all arrangements for the annual meeting—to be held in North Carolina in 2012. The president-elect assumes the presidency upon expiration of the current president's term, so nominees must be willing to serve on if elected.

Candidate bios will be in the winter newsletter. Voting will be through the Listserv so make sure you are signed up!

.....
for the N.Y. State Department of Environmental Conservation.

In 2008 sick of snow, Leonard decided to change his scenery and accepted a position at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science to oversee day-to-day operations of

Officer installation will be at the March Chapter annual meeting.

Send the name of your nominee, a brief bio, and a description of why they are deserving to be president, to Nominating Committee Chairman Fred Scharf, scharff@uncw.edu, by Dec. 17, 2010.

Chapter officers consist of president, president-elect and secretary/treasurer. The secretary/treasurer may hold office for a period longer than one year, but the term of the other officers is one year.

.....
the State's portion of the striped bass juvenile abundance index monitoring program.

Leonard currently lives in Gloucester County, Va., with his wife Mandy, year-old daughter Brooke, dog Seabass, and satellite dish for hours of hockey watching.

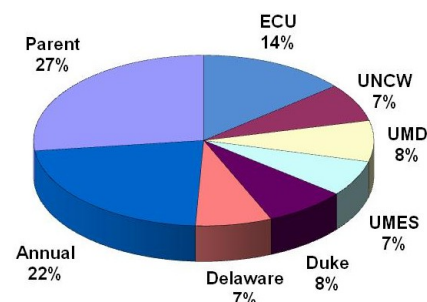


A Who's Who For The Tidewater Chapter

By Stephanie McInerny

The 2010 Tidewater Chapter membership remains steady to previous years at 177, including both students and professionals. At the time of newsletter printing, not all student subunits had fully tallied their membership, so numbers could be slightly inaccurate. Names are arranged by mechanism of dues payment. If you paid dues through the Parent Society or at the Chapter annual meeting and also belong to a subunit, you will find your name under both categories. Please report errors to Stephanie McInerny, Chapter secretary / treasurer, at: Stephanie.McInerny@ncdenr.gov.

Breakdown of all the 2010 Tidewater members by their membership enrollment. >



East Carolina University Subunit

Roger Rulifson
Anthony Overton
Jeff McKinnon
Joey Powers
Samantha Binion
Katie Kleber
Jacob Boyd
Dan Zapf
Garry Wright
Chuck Bangle
Wayne Mabe
Becky Deehr
Nick Myers
Joyce Steinmetz
Brandon Wilson
Jillian Osbourne
Ken Riley
Stacy Armentrout
Nick Creech
Jocelyn Kim
Dave Kimmel
Chad Smith
Cecilia Krahforst
Lyndell Bade
Coley Hughes
Sung Kang
Jen Cudney-Burch

UNC Wilmington Subunit

Fred Scharf
Steve Midway
Jon Vanderfleet
Deena Anderson
Nikolai Klibansky
Ashley Craft
Brandi Salmon
Elizabeth Lange

Michael Winesette
Jim White
Simon Kline
Danielle DiIullo
Morell Fox
Chip Collier

University of Maryland Subunit

Jennifer Barkman
Alison Chandler
Amanda Colton
Bill Connelly
Chris Conroy
Jason Edwards
Jennifer Humphrey
Maude Livings
Dave Loewensteiner
Carlos Lozano
Brian Morris
Adam Peer
Jason Robinson
Ryan Woodland

UMD - Eastern Shore Subunit

Nicholas Clemons
Lonnie Gonsalves
Tedra Booker
Jhamyllia Rice
Jamila-Dawn Payton
Belita Nguluwe
Jacklyn James
William Gardner
Samara Lawrentz
Eric Evans
Whitney Dyson
Adam Tulu
Shari Mullen

Duke University Subunit

Henry Coppola
Marianna Bradley
Emily Vuxton
Jaime Budzynkiewicz
Caitlin Hamer
Corey Anco
Gabby Vires
Dana Overcash
Jeff Allenby
Mary Clark
Kirby Rootes-Murdy
Claire Fitz-Gerald
Holly Sanders
Jonathan Schram
Josh Black

Delaware Affiliate

Dewayne Fox
Lori Brown
Naeem Willett
Matt Breece
Marissa Brady
Johnny Moore
Mike Cinelli
Kate Fleming
Brian Reckenbiel
Jordan Zimmerman
Rebecca Lynch
Jessica Rash
Ernest Eierman
Gregory Reger

Annual Meeting

Maryland—
Allison Luettel
Andrea Hoover
Angel Willey
Becky Thur

Bob Murphy
Carlos Lozano
Carrie Kennedy
David Secor
Ed Houde
Eric Johnson
Erik Zlokovitz
Heather Soulen
James Councilman
Jennifer Barkman
Jim Thompson
Joseph Love
Julianna Brush
Matt Rhodes
Michael Luisi
Paige Roberts
Rob Aguilar
Ron Klauda
Ryan Woodland
Steve Minkinen
Tony Kaufman
Jon Jacobs
Abigail Franklin
Ed Martino

North Carolina—

Daniel Zapf
Jacob Boyd
Jennifer Weaver
Paul Rudershausen
Sara Mirabilio
Scott Baker
Stephanie McInerny
Wayne Mabe

Virginia—

Alison Deary
Branson Williams
Karen Capossela
Kevin Spanik
Ryan Schloesser

Miscellaneous—
Chris Hayes/DC
Jay Turnure/NJ

Parent Society

Delaware—
Lori Brown
Marissa Brady
Timothy Targett

Maryland—

Andrew Loftus
Christian Conroy
Christopher Heyer
Ed Houde
Genevieve Nesslage
H. Ward Slacum
James Uphoff
Jason Robinson
Jennifer Humphrey
Jules Loos
Kirsten Larsen
Marek Topolski
Michael Wilberg
Rebecca Wingate
Richard Bohn
Tom Ihde
Bill Goldsborough
William Richkus

North Carolina—

Chad Thomas
Chris Taylor
Christine Voss
Douglas Vaughan
Fred Scharf
Jim Rice
Jeff Buckel
Jocelyn Kim
John Boreman
Katie Kleber

Kimberly Gordon
Kyle Shertzer
Michael Mabe
Mike Street
Reid Laney
Robert Herrmann
Roger Rulifson
Thomas Thompson
Warren Mitchell
Chip Collier

Virginia—

Marcel Montane
Mary Fabrizio
Renee Reilly
Richard Kraus
Troy Tuckey

Miscellaneous—

John Cooper/NY
Richard Balouskus/
CT
Jody Callihan/LA
Andy Danylchuk/MA
Matthew Yergey/NJ
Peter Lattin/OR

Check out the new Web site: www.sdafs.org/tidewater

Tidewater Chapter
American Fisheries Society
Maryland - Virginia - North Carolina

For Research Awards Past Meetings Membership
Newsletters Mailing List Bylaws AFS Parent Society



The mission of the American Fisheries Society is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

The Tidewater Chapter is composed of members of the fisheries community from Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina. The Tidewater Chapter membership is quite diverse with expertise ranging from inland to offshore fisheries.

SPOT CHECKING WEBSITE! SOME PAGES MAY NOT BE VIEWABLE!

Welcome to the new Tidewater Chapter Website!
Take a look around to get familiar with the new layout. If you find dead links or errors, please contact me.

Become a Member
AFS
Join Today

AFS Tidewater Chapter Website | Developed and Maintained by Chad Smith | Updated: July 23, 2009

Registration for the Chapter annual meeting will go from Dec. 13, 2010 to Feb. 11, 2011. Register early & join us for a great meeting!

The Tidewater Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) encourages the exchange of information by those residing, working in, or having a professional interest in the estuarine and coastal fisheries of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the States of Maryland and North Carolina.

Tidewater Officers include:

President—Michael Luisi; mluisi@dnr.state.md.us

President-Elect—Leonard Machut; lsmachut@vims.edu

Past-President—Fred Scharf; scharff@uncw.edu

Sec / Tres—Stephanie McInerney; Stephanie.McInerney@ncdenr.gov

At-Large Members:

MD—Bob Murphy; murphy@ecosystemsolutions.org

VA—Kevin Spanik; kspanik@vims.edu

NC—Paul Rudershausen; pjruders@ncsu.edu

Student Subunit President(s):

ECU—Jacob Boyd; JBB0223@ecu.edu, and

Chuck Bangley; CWB0319@ecu.edu

UNCW—Steve Midway; srm8757@uncw.edu

Duke—Henry Coppola; hcc8@duke.edu

UM—Jason Robinson; jrobin@cbl.umces.edu

UMES—Jamila Payton; jamiladawn.payton@gmail.com

DSU Representative—Johnny Moore; johnny_mo85@yahoo.com

UD Representative—vacant

Newsletter Editor - Sara Mirabilio; saram@csi.northcarolina.edu

Webmaster - Chad Smith; smithmich@ecu.edu

Awards & Scholarship Cmte - Ron Klauda; rklauda@dnr.state.md.us

Editors' Note: We welcome comments on the newsletter and website formats and content!



2011 Tidewater Chapter Annual Meeting Plans Underway



Pres-Elect Leonard Machut will be our host for the 2011 annual meeting in Gloucester Point, Va.

work reserving venues offering spectacular views of the York River and sampling numerous potential delectable caterers for what promises to be an enjoyable event!

The meeting's location near Historic Yorktown—part of the “Historic Triangle” of Yorktown, Jamestown and Williams-

The 2011 Tidewater Chapter annual meeting will be held Mar. 10 – 12 at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) in Gloucester Point, Va. Our host, Pres-Elect Leonard Machut and the planning committee already have been hard at

burg— allows for numerous leisure experiences. You can stroll the Yorktown battlefields where General Cornwallis surrendered to George Washington during the Revolutionary War; or, climb aboard the Jamestown Settlement re-creations of the three ships that brought the first colonists to Jamestown in 1607.

The Thursday night welcoming Poster Social will be held outside the VIMS McHugh auditorium. This will be a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and colleagues and read about some of the new and exciting fisheries research being conducted by Chapter members. After a day of talks on Friday, the Awards Banquet will be held at the Yorktown Freight Shed, a terminal for Baltimore steamships until 1952.

Rooms are reserved at the Duke of York

Hotel. Additional lodging is available at the Comfort and Hampton Inns in Gloucester Courthouse. Information will be posted as it becomes available at: www.vims.edu/research/departments/fisheries/tidewater_afs_meeting/index.php.



FREIGHT SHED WEBSITE

The Friday evening Awards Social will be held at the historic Yorktown Freight Shed—just a few minutes walk from the hotel!