

Alabama Fisheries Association

INC.



32nd ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 2016
CAHABA OUTFITTERS
HELENA, ALABAMA

ALABAMA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION, INC.

March 2-3, 2016

Cahaba Outfitters - Helena, AL



ALABAMA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION, INC. ANNUAL MEETING

March 2-3, 2016
Cahaba Outfitters
Helena, Alabama

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BIOLOGIST AWARD. THESE PURCHASES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE, SO
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**ALABAMA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION, INC.
PAST LOCATIONS & OFFICERS
1984 – 2016**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEETING SITE</u>	<u>PRESIDENT</u>	<u>TREASURER</u>	<u>SECRETARY</u>
2015-16	Helena	Norm Haley	P.J. Waters	Lacy Genard
2014-15	Prattville	Tim Adams	P.J. Waters	Ruthie Perez
2013-14	Eufaula	Dusty Miller	P.J. Waters	Ruthie Perez
2012-13	Guntersville	Hugh Hammer	P.J. Waters	Ruthie Perez
2011-12	Columbiana	Troy Goldsby	P.J. Waters	Dusty Miller
2010-11	Mobile	Gina Curvin	Hugh Hammer	Dusty Miller
2009-10	Florence	Ken Weathers	Hugh Hammer	Dusty Miller
2008-09	Auburn	Dave Cline	Hugh Hammer	Gina LoGiudice
2007-08	Orange Beach	Rob Address	Hugh Hammer	Gina LoGiudice
2006-07	Orange Beach	Stan Cook	Hugh Hammer	Gina LoGiudice
2005-06	Orange Beach	Jeff Slipke	Dave Cline	Rob Address
2004-05	Auburn	Claude Reeves	Dave Cline	Rob Address
2003-04	Gulf Shores	Randell Goodman	Dave Cline	Rob Address
2002-03	Auburn	Steve Smith	Dave Cline	Rob Address
2001-02	Gulf Shores	Jay Haffner	Dave Armstrong	
2000-01	Eufaula	Fred Leslie	Dave Armstrong	
1999-00	Joe Wheeler	Phillip Kilpatrick	Dave Armstrong	
1998-99	Gulf Shores	Stuart McGregor	Jay Haffner	
1997-98	Gulf Shores	Yolanda Brady	Jay Haffner	
1996-97	Gulf Shores	Bill Reeves	Jay Haffner	
1995-96	Gulf Shores	Doug Powell	Doug Darr	
1994-95	Birmingham	Cliff Webber	Doug Darr	
1993-94	Gulf Shores	Ken Marion	Doug Darr	
1992-93	Auburn	Bill Tucker	Yolanda Brady	
1991-92	Joe Wheeler	Pat O'Neil	Yolanda Brady	
1990-91	Gulf Shores	Dan Catchings	Yolanda Brady	
1989-90	Auburn	Rick Wallace	Bill Tucker	
1988-89	Tuscaloosa	Jerry Moss	Bill Tucker	
1987-88	Gulf Shores	Fred Harders	Bill Tucker	
1986-87	Guntersville	Scott Mettee	Jerry Moss	
1985-86	Montgomery	Barry Smith	John Grogan	
1984-85	Gulf Shores	Barry Smith	John Grogan	
1984	Auburn	(Organizational Fisheries Forum)		



MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM **Registration**

9:40 Opening Remarks by Norm Haley, AFA President

Welcoming Address: Tim Webster, Cahaba Outfitters, Owner and Operator

SESSION 1

Impoundments

Moderator: Kyle Moon, Alabama Aquarium & Pond Services

10:00 **BASS CARE DURING TOURNAMENTS**

Wes Webster, PondMD, 1511 Hwy. 13, Helena, AL 35080, wes@pondmd.com

10:20 **EFFECTS OF THREADFIN SHAD ON LARGEMOUTH BASS AND BLUEGILL POPULATIONS IN SMALL IMPOUNDMENTS**

Patrick Anderson, Lusk, S. and M. J. Catalano, 203B Swingle Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849, pra0005@tigermail.auburn.edu

10:40 **ECONOMIC VALUE OF RECREATIONAL FISHING ON RESERVOIR AND TAILRACE SECTIONS OF MILLERS FERRY RESERVOIR, ALABAMA**

Stephen Gratz, 203 Swingle Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849 smg0049@auburn.edu

11:00 **Break**

Notes:



SESSION 2

Biodiversity

Moderator: Ruthie Perez, Alabama Department of Environmental Management

11:10 AN UPDATE ON THE CRAYFISH FAUNA OF ALABAMA

Rebecca A. Bearden, Stuart W. McGregor, Guenter A. Schuster, and Christopher A. Taylor, Geographical Survey of Alabama, 420 Hackberry Ln, Tuscaloosa, AL 3540, rbearden@gsa.state.al.us

11:30 RESULTS OF A STATUS SURVEY FOR THE TUSCUMBIA RIVER DARTER

Stuart W. McGregor, Patrick E. O'Neil, Thomas E. Shepard, Cal C. Johnson, and Nathaniel D. Sturm, Geographical Survey of Alabama, 420 Hackberry Ln, Tuscaloosa, AL 3540, smcgregor@gsa.state.al.us

11:50 SPATIOTEMPORAL PATTERNS IN THE DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE OF THE INTRODUCED REDBREAST SUNFISH (*LEPOMIS AURITUS*) AND NATIVE LONGEAR SUNFISH (*L. MEGALOTIS*; CENTRARCHIDAE) IN RESERVOIRS OF THE TENNESSEE RIVER DRAINAGE

Lacey Genard, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, 1350 Coliseum Blvd., Montgomery, AL 36110, lacey.genard@adem.state.al.us

12:10 STRATEGIC HABITAT UNITS EXPANDING INTO MISSISSIPPI

Cal Johnson, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, 2715 Sandlin Road, S.W., Decatur, AL 25603, cal.johnson@adem.state.al.us

12:30 Lunch (provided)

Notes:



SESSION 3

Aquatic Science Academics, Agencies, & Careers **Moderator: Hugh Hammer, Gadsden State Community College**

- 1:30 **Natural Resource Evaluation - Geological Survey of Alabama**
Pat O'Neil, Deputy Director, poneil@gsa.state.al.us
- 1:45 **Extension & Outreach - Alabama Cooperative Extension System**
P. J. Waters, Aquatic Resources Extension Specialist, waterph@aces.edu
- 2:00 **Sportfish Production Aquaculture – American Sport Fish Hatchery**
Sean McNulty, Owner, shawn@americansportfish.com
- 2:15 **Private Fisheries Management – Alabama Aquarium & Pond Services**
Kyle Moon, Kyle@alabamaaquarium.com
- 2:30 **Academia – Gadsden State**
Hugh Hammer, Aquatic Science, Aquaculture Instructor,
hhammer@gadsdenstate.edu
- 2:45 Break
- 3:00 **Alabama Power Environmental Affairs**
Josh Yerby, Environmental Affairs Specialist, jnyerby@southernco.com
- 3:15 **Environmental Monitoring - Alabama Department of Environmental Management**
Rebekah Taylor, Environmental Scientist, Sr., rebekah.taylor@adem.state.al.us

4:30-7 **Dinner Social**

Notes:



Thursday, March 3, 2016

8:00 - 9:30 **Registration**

8:30 - 9:30 **Breakfast (provided)**

SESSION 4

Aquatic Vegetation

Moderator: **Josh Yerby, Alabama Power**

9:00 **TVA's Aquatic Plant Management Program – Past, Present, and Future**
Brett Hartis, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive,
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, bmhartis@tva.gov

9:35 **Georgia Power's Aquatic Plant Management Program**
Warren Wagner, Georgia Power, 5131 Maner Road, Smyrna, GA 30080
whwagner@southernco.com

10:10 **GreenClean: Answers - Products, Application, and Results**
Tom Warmuth, BioSafe Systems LLC., 342 Water Mill Rd., Kernersville, NC 27284,
twarmuth@biosafesystems.com

10:45 **Aquatic Plants and Their Effects on Reservoir Aging**
Troy Goldsby, Aqua Services, Inc., 23360 US-431, Guntersville, AL 35976,
troyg@aquaservicesinc.com

11:20 **Fact or Fiction? – Aquatic Plant Management and Its Impact on Our Fisheries**
Brett Hartis, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive,
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902, bmhartis@tva.gov

11:55 **Adaptive Water Management: Algae control**
Ryan Wersal, Lonza Water Technology, 1200 Bluegrass Lakes Pkwy., Alpharetta,
GA 30004, ryan.wersal@lonza.com

12:30 **Toxifying the water with chemicals to kill plants is un-American! Or i\$ it?**
Phillip Moon, Alabama Aquarium & Pond Services, P.O. Box 360334, Birmingham,
AL 35236, Philip@alabamaaquarium.com

1:00 **Working Lunch (provided) - 2016 Business Meeting**
(2015 Business Meeting Minutes in Back of Program)



SESSION 5

Field Demonstrations

Coordinator: Kyle Moon, Alabama Aquarium & Pond Services

2:00 AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL - HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS & CALIBRATION

Josh Yerby, Alabama Power

Norm Haley, Alabama Extension

3:00 SMALL IMPOUNDMENT FISHERIES EVALUATIONS – ELECTROFISHING & SEINING

Kyle Moon, Alabama Aquarium & Pond Services

4:30-7 Bonfire Banquet, Raffle, & Adjourn

Notes:



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March 2-3, 2016

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March 2-3, 2016

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**2015 Business Meeting Minutes
Alabama Fisheries Association
Prattville, Alabama
February 12, 2014**

Tim Adams called the 2015 AFA Business Meeting to order at 13:08.

Old Business

Gratitude: Tim Adams expressed thanks to Norm Haley for putting together a successful meeting. Thanks were also given to all sponsors for their contributions. 2014 Business Meeting Minutes were read aloud by Tim Adams. P.J. Waters motioned to accept the 2014 minutes and Hugh Hammer seconded.

Secretary Report: A total of 60 people registered this year. AFA is also offering an online survey/meeting evaluation; members were urged to participate in the survey.

Newsletter Report: More articles are needed for newsletter.

Treasury Report: Please see upcoming August newsletter for post-meeting balances.

Scholarship Report: Shawn Russ was awarded the David Bayne Scholarship this year; voting was unanimous. Hugh urged for more applicants; there were only two this year. Next year, they would like to award scholarships to 1-2 male and 1-2 female student applicants.

Cyberspace Report: There is now an opening for Cyberspace Committee Chair. Wes stated that the website could be revamped. Decision of who would take position will be discussed at a later date.

Norm Haley presented Tim Adams with a plaque and thanked him for his service to AFA as 2014-2015 President. Tim then handed the meeting over to Norm. Norm closed Old Business and proceeded with New Business.



New Business

Norm Haley announced the 2014-2015 nominations for the executive board.

Nominations:

President-Elect – Kyle Moon was nominated by Hugh Hammer, and PJ waters seconded; there were no other nominations.

Treasurer – PJ Waters was nominated by Ruthie Perez, and Kyle Moon seconded; there were no other nominations.

Secretary – Lacey Genard was nominated by Hugh Hammer, and Kyle Moon seconded; there were no other nominations.

Member-at-Large – Wes Webster was nominated by Kyle Moon, and PJ Waters seconded. Pat O'Neil was nominated by PJ Waters, and Hugh Hammer seconded; there were no other nominations.

Hugh Hammer asked how we can get more people excited about AFA. He mentioned that it's hard enough keeping one fisheries organization going; now there are two. However, Hugh sees value in this meeting, it's worth fighting for, and he wants more students to network and learn at this meeting.

Lindsay White stated that the AFS meeting is too close to AFA; if they were further apart, people might go to both.

Pat O'Neil agreed that timing is an issue, and we may need to determine a better date. He also noted that what used to be done at AFA has been diluted to more specific meetings. Pat also pointed out that State government should be here in larger numbers. Pat offered to recruit more presenters in order to see what each state agency is working on.

Cal Johnson noted that last year we decided to have the meeting in a central location near Montgomery to entice more people to attend. He thinks one of the problems with low attendance is meeting fatigue.

Norm Haley asked what the southern division of AFS has that AFA does not?

Doug Darr stated that more Auburn research could have been presented at AFA, but timing was an issue as AFS and AFA were a week apart. He also noted that people want to come for only the information that is applicable to them. Therefore, the sessions should be applicable to a variety of people.

The question of whether AFA should continue or merge with AFS was discussed; it was decided to reassess after the 2016 meeting. It was noted that AFS is an advocacy group, and many people/organizations cannot be a part of an advocacy group; this is a major reason



why AFA was created. AFA wanted not only fisheries information, but water quality, non-game fisheries, and more. The board has been asking if AFA should merge with AFS since 2000. The reason that the board has voted “No” each time is because of advocacy. (Certain organizations/agencies do not want to take positions.)

PJ Waters asked for a motion to change date of the 2016 AFA meeting. Hugh Hammer made the motion, and Norm Haley seconded. Norm mentioned that the reason all meetings are in late winter is because it does not interfere with field season. It was suggested that we compile all aquatic related events to see what works best for everyone. The board decided to look at timing/dates and make a decision at a later time. David Cline noted that when the AFA meetings have been held at Auburn, attendance was 20% higher.

Norm asks what value we see in AFA; Pat asks to find out why people do not attend AFA. (This will hopefully be fulfilled via the new online survey.)

Norm stated that people need an agenda in advance in order to make plans to attend and that we need moderators who will actually call people and recruit speakers. Also, moderators should maintain a list of contacts/potential speakers for each session so that they will begin to expect to see announcements each year. One way to increase attendance could be getting people committed to speak earlier (e.g., not at the last minute). It was also suggested that we get approval to offer forestry/etc. credits if the agenda was finalized sooner.

Norm stated that with 60 members attending this year, it is financially impossible to stay at conference centers. We need to be more creative and stay at state parks, etc.

Brad Phillips asked about what we can do to get other schools involved. It was noted that we really need more professor involvement, but many professors are attending other meetings. David Cline suggested that we contact graduate/undergraduate advisors in schools in Alabama. Norm proposed the idea of more high school student involvement as well as their educators. He stated that the meeting will give them experience and build up their resumes. Tim Adams noted that teachers need CEUs, so that could be an option for AFA. Norm stated that we will consider high school involvement and CEUs.

Hugh motioned to close meeting, Tim seconded. Motion carried.
Norm adjourned the 2015 AFA Business Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lacey Genard
AFA Secretary 2015-2016