



# Pennsylvania Chapter American Fisheries Society

## PA AFS Remembers Ed Cooper

As we close out 2009 and welcome in 2010, we must say goodbye to an AFS icon. Edwin L. Cooper passed away in Houghton Michigan on November 3rd, at the age of 90. Among his many accomplishments, Ed joined the faculty of the biology department at the Pennsylvania State University as an associate professor in 1956, and was promoted to professor in 1962. He retired in 1983. A specialist in the study of fish, especially trout, he and his colleagues produced the first computerized data bank on the fishes of Pennsylvania. They also assembled and preserved a collection of the fish of Pennsylvania. Active in numerous professional organizations, he served as president of the American Institute of Fisheries Research Biologists from 1968 to 1970 and as president of the American Fisheries Society in 1971. He is the author of numerous publications in scholarly journals and of the book *Fishes of Pennsylvania and the Northeastern States*.

## President's Corner

Greetings PA Chapter members:

Here are some questions that we posed at the last meeting of the Pennsylvania Chapter AFS Meeting. Attendance was limited and in order to get a better appreciation of the feeling of the membership we would like to see your responses to the following questionnaire.

1) Does the membership want to join the PA association of Non profits? (PANO is the state-wide membership organization serving and advancing the charitable nonprofit sector through leadership, advocacy, education and services in order to improve the quality of life in Pennsylvania.)

Here is the website to watch a video of what PANO does <http://www.pano.org/panovideo.php>

Yes or  No

2) Does the membership want to resurrect the Environmental Concerns Committee? Some members feel it would be beneficial for the chapter to release a position statement in light of the recent Marcellus Shale exploitation for natural gas and its potential impact on fisheries.

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September 12th—16th, 2010  
[www.fisheries.org/afs10/](http://www.fisheries.org/afs10/)

**SYMPOSIUM PROPOSAL DEADLINE**  
*January 31st, 2010*

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE**  
*February 5th, 2010*

## Minutes—PA Chapter American Fisheries Society November 20, 2009 Meeting

Chapter President Rick Spear called the business meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. after a pizza social at the PFBC's H.R. Stackhouse Training Center, Bellefonte, PA. Attendance: 22

Rick introduced the first speaker, Dave Keller from The Academy of Natural Science. He spoke on the Status of Flathead Catfish, Northern Snakehead, and Asian Swamp Eel in the Delaware River Drainage. Afterwards, Rick Spear gave an update on another invasive species, Golden Algae. The group had a short break during which members handled the preserved fish specimens that Dave Keller brought with him.

After the presentations, a business meeting was held. First, Leroy Young gave an update on the American Fisheries Society 2010 conference. AFS 2010 will be held September 12<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup> 2010 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. With a budget of \$650,000 - \$775,000, this is a huge undertaking. Eighty people will be involved in the planning of the conference. Several important deadlines were mentioned. General Abstracts and Symposia must be submitted by Feb 5<sup>th</sup> and Jan 8<sup>th</sup> respectively. Several tours will be offered to sites of local interest including Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Water and the Flight 93 Memorial. A "Spawning Run" - a 5 K foot-race - will be held in the vicinity of Hines Field. Commemorative T-shirts will sell for \$20.00. Twenty to thirty volunteers to assist with set-up, presentations, Audio-Visual equipment are needed. These "volunteers" will be paid \$10.00 per hour.

Ashley Lenig provided a treasurer's report. She moved the chapter's account from MiddPenn Bank to PNC bank and established a main account and a conference account in September 2009. The conference account was started with a donation of \$1,000 from the main AFS

account after approval from the Executive Committee. The main account had a starting (opening) balance of \$7,344.91. Two hats were sold (+\$24), and bills for AFS insurance (-\$150) and certificates and plaques (-\$50) were paid. This leaves that main account with a current balance of \$7,168.91. Rick will be added to account to sign if Ashley isn't available.

Ashley reminded members to update address, phone, emails, etc. We remove members from the list if they haven't paid in three years. Regular memberships are \$5.00 and the student memberships are \$3.00.

No meeting minutes were available from the Summer Social. A small group of approximately five members with their spouses attended.

Rick Spear asked the members what they thought of several ideas. It was felt that we would like to register with the PA Department of State as a 501C3 company. The conference proceeds will put us in a category as a non-profit with more than \$25,000 and it would be best to register. The PA Association of Non-profits is a membership of \$65.00/yr. The group felt that we should look into this a bit more but thought that it would benefit us, especially since the Secretary/Treasurer files the chapter taxes. Rick raised the question of whether or not we should resurrect an Environmental Concerns Council to handle current topics. Also discussed was an idea to revamp the logo and sell T-shirts sporting the logo at the conference. The timing and location of the summer social and possibilities of other renovations to our meetings, such as having a call for papers for the spring meeting, were discussed. This might stimulate new interest from our members and presentations would be an avenue to get students involved. Rick and Geoff plan to work on a survey that could be used to assess the membership's

thoughts on these topics.

A question was raised about whether or not we had a website. Yes we do. Cara Campbell voluntarily serves as our webmaster. Someone commented on the lack of a newsletter. Ashley remarked that we really need a newsletter committee; the Secretary/Treasurer is a large job. Becky Dunlap offered to handle putting together a newsletter. Devin Demario suggested that we explore social networking sites for our group such as Facebook. She offered to explore those options further.

The PA AFS voted to sponsor the regular cost of the conference for up to five student presenters (Rob Blye / Dave Heicher motion).

Andy Shields moved that we investigate the chapter sponsorship at the national meeting at a level that is commensurate with having our name on conference materials and added that the executive committee could make the final decision on the amount. Devin Demario seconded the motion and it carried.

David Miko mentioned that we could start an Edward Cooper National Meeting Sponsorship Award in memory of Edward Cooper (1919-2009). Cooper was an expert in the fisheries field who had served as an active member of the PA Chapter AFS, a professor at Penn State University, and as the President of the American Fisheries Society (national, 1971).

Two new members joined and four members renewed. One hat was sold.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m. A lot of good discussion occurred!

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Lenig, PA AFS Secretary/Treasurer

## President's Corner Cont'd

Cont'd from page 1

In the past this would have been conducted through the ECC which has apparently disbanded over the years.

Yes or  No

Please indicate if you can head or serve on this committee.

3) Does the membership have any opinion or expertise on designing a new logo?

4) Does the membership want to sell item(s) with the new logo on it at the national meeting? If yes, please send ideas.

Yes or  No

5) Does the membership have any ideas for the format or a location for the spring technical session? (examples: put out a call for papers or have in a different location to attract new members)

6) Does anyone have any ideas for the summer social such as functions and location? If so, please send ideas.

7) At the meeting it was mentioned that we could start an

Edwin Cooper National Meeting Sponsorship Award in memory of Ed Cooper (1919-2009).

Cooper was an expert in the fisheries field who had served as an active member of the PA Chapter AFS, a professor at Penn State University, and as the President of the American Fisheries Society (national, 1971). Are in favor of this idea?

Yes or  No

Please send all responses or questions to [rspear@state.pa.us](mailto:rspear@state.pa.us) or you can call Rick at 412-600-3943 with your ideas. Surveys can also be returned by mail to Rick Spear, 400 Waterfront Drive., Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

Thanks,

Rick, Chapter President



## Welcome to Pennsylvania AFS's latest newsletter!

We need articles for our next edition. Send your suggestions to Rebecca Dunlap at [rdunlap@tu.org](mailto:rdunlap@tu.org) or 570-748-4901.

### Help Needed

Just a reminder that the Pennsylvania AFS chapter is hosting the Annual Fishery Society 140th Annual meeting in Pittsburgh on September 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010. As such, we are playing an active role in helping to plan and coordinate this meeting. Volunteers are welcome and needed. Students: there is an opportunity to get paid to help! For more information about how to volunteer contact Jason Detar, Volunteer Chair, at [jdetar@state.pa.us](mailto:jdetar@state.pa.us) or at 814-359-5118.



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