



President's Message

Hello South Carolina, and a huge thank you to all our members for helping to make the 2023 chapter meeting at Hickory Knob State Park a great success. The passion and pride that you brought forth with your work is a testament to all who work and study in the field of science. Without you, these meetings would be a dull affair. It's with you in mind that the ExComm has already started planning for another great meeting in 2024. The 2024 SCAFS chapter meeting will be February 28th – March 1st, 2024, at Table Rock Camp and Retreat Center.

I would also like to thank Wally Jenkins for reminding us of the history behind the Jack Bayless award. We present this every year for scientific excellence and its sometimes easy to forget the meaning or name behind an award. It's important for that to be refreshed from time to time, for that WE thank you Wally.

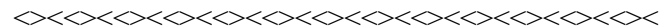
The South Carolina Chapter of AFS is a great organization and we continually strive to bring professionals and students of aquatic resources together to meet and provide opportunities for future generations of researchers.

Along this vein, I am encouraging all members to volunteer and speak at student sub-unit meetings and events. As fisheries professionals, our goal should be to show students the diversity of pathways one can take to achieve success in the field. As we get more student chapters online, this will become more and more important.

As I mentioned at the meeting, my goal is to grow the membership and scope of the chapter by expanding more into the private sector and establishing new student sub-units. Keep this in mind as you go through 2023 and feel free to invite others in your profession to join us. The more of us there are, the more we can learn from each other.

If you have made it this far, thanks for hanging in there, and I hope to see you all again soon.

- **SCAFS President, Joseph Evans**



SCAFS in the off Season

Hope Mizzell, SC State Climatologist, will be holding a Weather Data Webinar for our chapter members as a follow-up to the talk she gave during the workshop at the 2023 SCAFS Meeting. Hope and the Climate Office Team will share with us what types of weather data are available for our use and how to access them. The webinar will take place on Tuesday, June 13th at 2 pm. Please join us and learn how you can incorporate weather data into your research. Go To Meeting Link below:

June 13, 2023 at 2 pm

<https://meet.goto.com/571630637>

You can also dial in using your phone

Access code: 571-630-637

United States +1 (571) 317-3112

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2023 SCAFS Annual Meeting Report

The annual meeting of SCAFS was held March 1-3, 2023 at Hickory Knob State Park. This was the first in-person chapter meeting since 2020. There was a great turnout with nearly 100 attendees! Special thanks to everyone who helped organize the meeting and those who pitched in at the meeting to keep things running smoothly. The program consisted of twenty-three talks and eight posters.

Our business meeting was held on March 1st where we discussed Student travel and Student sub-unit awards, new logo voting, the new chapter website, the chapter Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Initiative amongst other things.

A social and dinner was held on the evening of March 2nd, with a Lowcountry BBQ and oyster roast provided by Dixieland Delights. Student presentation awards were announced at the social. The SCFWA Award for the Best Student Paper was awarded to Luke Troha for his talk entitled “Estimating Selectivity of Red Drum using 40+ Years of Tag-Recapture Data.” The SCAFS Award for Best Poster was awarded to Olivia Poelmann for her poster entitled “Molecular identification of freshwater mussel glochidia from naturally parasitized fish in a small stream community.” Thanks to all the volunteers who served as judges for the annual awards.

The 2023 Conservationist of the Year recipient was also announced at the grand social. David Wilkins was awarded the 2023 COY award. Congratulations! Don’t forget to nominate your colleagues for the 2024 COY!

The social also included a Fish Bowl Fun Prize organized by Dani Carty to raise funds for student and sub-unit travel awards. A total of \$2,143 was raised.

If you have any pictures from the 2023 Meeting please send to Margaret Finch, walkermf@dnr.sc.gov.



SCFWA Best Student Paper Award – Luke Troha



SCAFS Best Poster Award – Olivia Poelmann



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Weather Data Webinar

w/ Hope Mizzell
June 13th, 2023, at 2 pm

2023 AFS Annual Meeting

August 20th- August 24th, 2023
Grand Rapids, MI

2024 SDAFS Annual Meeting

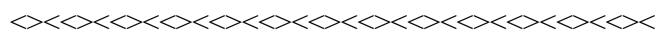
January 31st - February 4th, 2024
Chattanooga, TN

2024 SCAFS Annual Meeting

February 28th – March 1st, 2024
Table Rock Camp and Retreat Center

New SCAFS Logo

We now have a new official SCAFS Logo! Logo designs were solicited from chapter members and options were brought forth at the 2023 SCAFS Annual Meeting. There were four logo options including the original logo, and chapter members voted on their favorite. Below is the new SCAFS logo (in both color and black/white)! Get excited for new swag next year with our new logo!



SCAFS Workshop

The 2023 SCAFS Workshop was entitled “Close but no Cigar...Minnow; Fisheries without the Fish” and was held in conjunction with the annual meeting. During the training workshop we heard from professions outside of fisheries, but whose work impacts fisheries in some way. Ben Stone, BIG & CVA Program Coordinator presenting a talk titled “The BIG, CVA, DJ, and How They Impact South Carolina’s Natural Resources.” Morgan Hart, Alligator Project Leader, presenting a talk titled “Alligators in South Carolina.” Hope Mizzell, SC State Climatologist, presenting a talk titled “Floods, Droughts, Hurricanes, Oh My.” Each talk was followed by a Q & A session. We would like to thank Ben, Morgan (Pickle too), and Hope for giving talks for the workshop as well as participating in the 2023 SCAFS Annual Meeting.

Clemson University Student Sub-Unit

CLEMSON SUB-UNIT OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Adam Smallridge
asmallr@g.cofc.edu

VICE PRESIDENT

Jacob Daley

SECRETARY

Lydia Alford

TREASURER AND MARKETING

Lauren Landis



CLEMSON
UNIVERSITY

The Clemson University sub-unit has been hard at work! This past year, we focused on providing Clemson students with opportunities to explore the world of fisheries research and conservation. We hosted several excellent guest speakers throughout the year, as well as organized workshops such as an otolith removal lab and a graduate student Q&A. A couple of the officers made it to the Southern Division AFS meeting in Norfolk, VA. There, they were able to present some of their work as a poster. With the semester coming to an end, the sub-unit hosted an end of year cookout. We were so excited to be able to announce the winners of our recent officer elections! For the upcoming Fall season, a kick-off fish fry will be held to announce the meeting schedule and some fundraising events planned for the semester. We plan to continue our trajectory from last year as we search for new guest speakers and provide new workshops to diversify experiences.



Lake Trash Pickup



Fish Fry



Otolith Workshop

New SCAFS Website

We have a new website! We have migrated our old website to join under the umbrella of the national American Fisheries Society website, following their design and template. The initial migration took place in Fall of 2022, bringing many of the pages and information from the old website. Changes and updates are much easier to make with this new system and are happening regularly. Please come on by scafs.fisheries.org to explore the new site. We are working to create a robust wealth of information and a helpful resource for our members. We would greatly appreciate any comments, feedback, or information that you might think would help us better achieve that goal. You can contact our webmaster directly at sinkusw@dnr.sc.gov



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Initiative

Following in the national AFS footsteps, the SCAFS committee wants to bring diversity to the forefront, and during our last annual meeting discussed creating an exploratory DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) committee. Keilin Gamboa-Salazar has been appointed chair and is compiling ideas for the committee. Potential ideas we have are to hold quarterly or biannual meetings to discuss current topics and review posts or podcasts released on the national AFS diversity website, have guest speakers or discussions with each of the student subunits, and organize the next annual meeting's workshop to be about DEI in fisheries. We can also get involved and try to increase participation on women's and bilingual fishing clinics being held in the state and are discussing the possibility of implementing a minority and diversity travel award for people to attend our annual meeting. Be on the lookout for a poll to gauge interest, and feel free to contact Keilin if you want to be involved, have feedback, or already want to share some ideas!

Keilin Gamboa- Salazar
Gamboa-salazark@dnr.sc.gov
(843)953-9002

SCAFS Treasurer's Report

Date: 5/17/2023
Checking Account Balance: \$17,926.50
Savings Account Balance: \$10,000.01

Total Chapter Assets: \$27,926.51

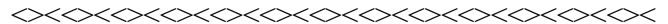
Membership Info

Interested in becoming a member of SCAFS? Contact the chapter President, Joe Evans, or visit our website www.SCAFS.fisheries.org. The 2023 annual dues for South Carolina are \$10. Dues can be paid via Venmo (@TreasurerSCAFS) or cash/check. Send cash/check payments to:

Dani Carty
217 Fort Johnson Road
Charleston, SC 29412

If you would like more information about our chapter and its activities, call or email:

Joe Evans, evansj@dnr.sc.gov, 843-953-0773

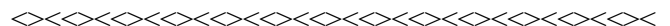


Save the Date!

**Annual Meeting of the South Carolina
Chapter of the American Fisheries
Society 2024**

February 28th- March 1st, 2024

Table Rock Camp & Retreat Center



Future Newsletters

The ExComm decided to bring back the SCAFS newsletter as a way to engage with chapter members throughout the year! If you have any ideas or suggestions for content to include in future newsletters, please send to SCAFS Secretary, Margaret Finch. Email or call:

Margaret Finch
walkermf@dnr.sc.gov
843-953-7146