
PALMETTO PISCIFORUM

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

www.SCAFS.fisheries.org

Summer 2024



SCAFS Officer Contact Information-

President- Amy Dukes

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Secretary- William Wood

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Past president- Joe Evans

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A message from the President

Amy Dukes, SCAFS President, DukesA@dnr.sc.gov

Summertime is in full effect, and summer means lots of field sampling for many of our South Carolina AFS Chapter members! Please remember to stay hydrated! It's also a great time to make sure that you are thinking ahead to our winter annual meeting. As you continue through your field sampling season(s), I encourage you all to think about ways for you to share your impressive projects, results and hard work by presenting with either a talk or poster during the next annual meeting.

Speaking about that meeting, it seems not that long ago we all gathered at Table Rock for our 2024-chapter meeting. It was a great success because of all of you. Thank you for your dedication and passion for science, it was evident throughout the talks and posters. I especially enjoyed the talks that showcased how science is used by partners and how we can all learn and grow through science. The Executive Committee has been very productive with discussions and plans for our next SC AFS Chapter meeting. More details will be provided later but, in the meantime, mark your calendars for February 26-28, 2025, at Hickory Knob.

Additionally, to showcase all the innovative and fun sampling that's going on, we invite you to share photos along with short captions for us to share with fellow chapter members! You might even get featured in the next newsletter!

Lastly, you will see a request from the AFS Membership Manager. The Parent Society is encouraging SC AFS Chapter members to join and/or renew their membership for 2024. I renewed mine; will you be next?

Stay fishy,

Amy

2024 SCAFS Annual Meeting Report

The 2024 SCAFS annual meeting was held February 28 – March 01 at the Table Rock Wesleyan Camp and Retreat Center. We had 93 registered attendees. Big thank you to everyone who volunteered to help organize and run the meeting. Attendees were able to listen to 26 talks, view 7 posters and attend a wonderful age reading workshop covering freshwater fish, saltwater fish, and sharks!

During our business meeting we discussed our financial situation and ability to provide more student support, so students- apply for the travel awards! Keilin went through results from a DEI survey sent out to all members before the meeting. We also discussed our lone student sub-unit at Clemson University and how we could better serve students at other Universities and colleges throughout the state. Much discussion was given to the idea of a statewide student subunit. This statewide unit would allow students at schools without a subunit to more easily participate in SCAFS activities.

Our social and dinner once again featured an Oyster roast and BBQ provided by Dixieland Delights. Once everyone was full on BBQ, awards were presented and raffle tickets were drawn for the Fish Bowl Fun Prize and prizes distributed. This year \$2,747 was raised to support student travel awards and student sub-unit travel awards. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets to support these awards!

Following awards a good time was had by all enjoying time networking with fellow fishheads of all ages late into the evening.

Award winners included:

Bayless Award - Wally Bublely

Best Student Paper - Maggie Gaither

Best Poster - Lily Thompson

Conservationist of the Year - SAFMC Staff & SEDAR Staff

Congratulations to all our award winners!



Clockwise from Top Left: Wally Bubley, Jack Bayless Award. Lily Thompson, Best Poster. Marcel Reichert receiving the Conservationist of the Year award on behalf of SAFMC & SEDAR staff. Maggie Gaither, Best Student Paper.

If you have any pictures from the 2024 annual meeting, please send to William Wood (woodw@dnr.sc.gov)

Summertime Fish Recipes-



Ceviche

1 lb fresh fish
1/2 onion
1 bell pepper
1 jalapeño (optional)
2 cloves garlic (mashed)
Juice from 3 limes
Splash of orange juice or lemonade
Salt to taste

Dice fish, onion, and pepper fine. Mix in a non-metal bowl. Add juice to cover mixture. Add salt. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour or until fish is firm & white throughout.

Smoked Fish Dip

1 pound smoked fish
4 ounces of full-fat cream cheese, softened
1/3 cup mayonnaise
1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
1/3 cup diced celery, fine dice
1/4 diced red onion, fine dice
1/3 cup chopped red bell pepper, fine dice
1/2 tsp Smoked paprika
salt and fresh cracked pepper to taste
Hot sauce if desired

Smoke fish on grill or in a smoker for approximately 1 hour or until firm (or buy pre-smoked). The best types of fish are oily fishes such as amberjacks or king mackerel.

Flake smoked fish and set aside.

Dice vegetables, and add to a bowl with cream cheese, mayonnaise, lemon juice and spices. Add smoked fish to mixture.

Serve with crackers or chips. Hot sauce on top.

Fishes to use- Mahi, snapper, cobia, mackerel, wahoo, trout, salmon, tuna

Clemson Fisheries Society Report 2023-2024

President: Jacob Daley (jtdaley@g.clemson.edu)

Treasurer: Lauren Landis (lrandi@g.clemson.edu)

Secretary: Lydia Alford (alford4@g.clemson.edu)

The main goal of the Clemson University sub-unit is to provide Clemson students with opportunities to gain additional fisheries skills they may not see in classrooms and to network with professionals in the field. This past year we feel we accomplished that. To begin and end every year, we hosted a cookout for students to meet and greet each other along with professors and other professionals (Picture 1). We also have hosted several guest speakers including the local DNR stream team who showcased the high fish diversity that can be found in South Carolina. With these club connections, a couple of members were able to volunteer to help with a 3-pass depletion survey on the Chattooga River (Picture 2).

Beyond networking, the sub-unit has also provided workshops hosted by professors and graduate students who demonstrated otolith removal and statistical analysis in the program R (Picture 3). Furthermore, we were able to provide a practical experience of fisheries management by assisting a landowner in Easley, SC in his pond management goals.

For the upcoming year, we plan to continue to provide these experiences with greater efficiency and cater to the desires of club members on what our monthly meetings should consist of. Finally, we also will be working hard on a proposal to the Clemson Student Funding Board for funds to send as many undergraduate students as possible to the 2025 state chapter meeting as we believe it will provide an invaluable experience for students looking to join our field.



Clemson students at a Clemson University subunit cookout.



Clemson students assist SCDNR with Chattooga River sampling, Summer 2023.



Clemson professor Dr. Troy Farmer demonstrating otolith extraction during a Clemson AFS workshop.

Statewide student subunit-

One topic of discussion at the 2024 annual meeting was the possible creation of a statewide student subunit to allow students at schools without a subunit to be active in SCAFS. If you know anyone—student, faculty, or working professional who would be interested in being a part of such a unit please contact SCAFS President Amy Dukes. (dukesa@dnr.sc.gov).

DEI-

On Thursday June 6th, members of the SCAFS executive and DEI committees attended the Hollings Marine Laboratory (HML) Pride Day, hosted by HML and the DISTEM (Diversity and Inclusion in STEM) Fort Johnson committee in Charleston. In celebration of pride month, there was conversation, good food, and the raising of the pride flag, while small pride flags were handed out to all attendees. The SCAFS executive and DEI committees are looking forward to planning for the DEI themed workshop that will occur during our upcoming annual meeting in 2025.



Pride Day attendees at the Hollings Marine Laboratory.

Treasurer's reports-

SC AFS Treasurer Report 2022-2023

SCAFS Checking Totals (BoA)

Balance as of 4/01/2022	\$	30473.11
Total Deposits		19158.96
Total Debits		-22069.08
Balance as of 3/31/2023		27562.99

SCAFS Checking Debit Details

2023 Meeting Expenses	\$	19715.19
Website Services	\$	136.84
2022/2023 Taxes, Charity Reg.	\$	51.85
2024 Registration Refunds	\$	820.20
Clemson/ VA SD AFS Donations	\$	1000.00
Ex. Comm. Natl. Reg. (x3)	\$	345.00
	\$	<u>22069.08</u>

SCAFS Savings (BoA)

Balance as of 4/01/2022	\$	315.36
Deposit	\$	0.00
Dividends	\$	0.00
Balance as of 3/31/2023	\$	<u>315.36</u>

SC AFS Treasurer Report 2023-2024

SCAFS Checking Totals (BoA)

Balance as of 4/01/2023	\$ 27562.99
Total Deposits	33588.47
Total Debits	-33036.14
Balance as of 3/31/2024	28115.32

SCAFS Checking Debit Details

2024 Meeting Expenses	\$ 20003.70
Saving Account Transfer	\$ 9684.64
2023/2024 Taxes, Charity Reg.	\$ 51.85
2024 Registration Refunds	\$ 2680.95
Clemson Student Chapter Funding	\$ 500.00
Ex. Comm. Natl. Reg. (x1)	\$ 115.00
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	33036.14

SCAFS Savings (BoA)

Balance as of 4/01/2023	\$ 315.36
Deposit	\$ 9684.65
Dividends	\$ 0.88
Balance as of 3/31/2024	<hr/>
	\$ 10,000.89

