



# PISCATORIAL PRESS

OREGON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER PASSION PAYS OFF: ORAFS HOSTS SUCCESSFUL MEETING AND RECEIVES 2009 WDAFS CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Our 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is now in the books and it will be remembered, by more than 450 attendees, for the entertaining plenary, unique program, and fun-filled socials. For those that were able to attend, I would like to thank you for your participation and support. As I said during my opening remarks at the annual meeting, it is our members that make the ORAFS the best chapter in the country.

Rich Grost had a vision in the summer of 2008 and it came to fruition in Bend. Rich created a program that was slightly different than our customary programs and based on completed surveys, most of the respondents found the eccentric plenary and addition of non-traditional sessions to be a nice change of pace. The passion that Rich exhibited during the development and management of the program is commendable.

This year's meeting, like past meetings, was successful because of our volunteers. I would like to specifically recognize several individuals that contributed, including the ExCom officers: Doug Young, Rich Grost, Martyne Reesman, Shaun Clements, Christy Fellas, Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey, and Kristle Warren. Working with Christy Fellas, Kristle Warren and Shivonne Nesbit recruited a record number of student volu-

nteers that provided assistance throughout the meeting. The ever-popular poster session was managed by Michelle Weaver and the exciting raffle and auction were organized by Christy Fellas and Terry Smith. Martyne Reesman spent long hours with the Riverhouse staff arranging meeting rooms, meals, breaks, and socials. Managing the 2009 annual meeting was especially difficult since we had never convened a meeting at the Riverhouse. For a full review of the annual meeting, please see Rich Grost's article on page 3.

Like Rich, I also had a vision in the summer of 2008 and that was for the ORAFS to once again be officially recognized as the AFS's Outstanding Chapter. Well, we are one step closer to realizing that goal. During the 2009 Western Division AFS Annual Meeting, the ORAFS was recognized as the 2009 WDAFS Chapter of the Year.

During the past year, the ORAFS implemented numerous activities in an attempt to achieve the American Fisheries Society's Strategic Goals of:

1) aquatic stewardship, 2) information transfer and outreach, and 3) member services.

From 2008-2009, the ORAFS promoted the sustainability and sound stewardship of fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystems through local and global



leadership, education, and outreach. Examples of those efforts included:

- Hosting the 2008 Western Division of the American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting
- Hosting the 2009 ORAFS Annual Meeting
- Providing comments during legal and legislative hearings
- Creating an Education and Outreach Grant

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**Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Mission**

Improve the conservation and sustainability of Oregon fishery resources and their aquatic ecosystems for long-term public benefit by advancing science, education, and public discourse concerning fisheries and aquatic science and by promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:**

Contact the national office or the Oregon Chapter, or visit [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org). Be sure to tell the national office that you want to be an Oregon Chapter Member, dues are only \$2 per year

## Oregon Chapter's 45th Annual Meeting Recap

### WE SHARED OUR PASSION FOR FISHERIES RESOURCES!



Fish-art guru Ray Troll set the perfect tone with his entertaining and inspirational presentation “*Fish Worship - How I became a Scientific Surrealist*”, explaining how fish and science have infused his entire life and career with passion. His creative, colorful art has spread internationally, celebrating fish and their myriad relation to humans. One oddity re-

fish, including underwater photography and video with photographer narrations.

Two workshops preceded the meeting and educated some 50 members. Fisheries Telemetry, organized by Shaun Clements, John Beeman, and Carl Schreck, had students suturing bananas first, then fish. The workshop was supported by ODFW, OSU, USGS, and vendors including AMIRIX Systems (VEMCO) and Lotek Wireless Equipment. Displays helped students visualize how to configure field stations to effectively monitor tagged fish. The second workshop, “Identification and

The Oregon Chapter’s annual meeting in February 2009 drew more than 450 professionals, including almost 60 students, to participate in “*Sharing Our Passion*” for fish and fisheries. The theme recognized that as professionals we’re expected to be pragmatic and practical – but we can, and often should, also be passionate. Passionate about the resources we manage, the species and habitats we study, the methods we develop and employ, the information we assemble and interpretations we devise. But mostly, passionate about that lowest common denominator we all share. Intentional or not, the AFS serves as a “support group” for professional fish-o-philos – a place we can commiserate in good times and bad, when other workers, friends, even family no longer appreciate the prolific use of our favorite 4-letter “f-word” (*fish*, of course). This meeting celebrated that root connection and evoked passion like few others.

vealed: the classic skull and fish design “Spawn til You Die” has become a favorite fashion among demented antagonists in B-rate horror movies. Ray participated throughout the meeting, presenting his work devising and directing community art projects, his explorations of the vicious fishes of the Amazon, and unleashing his musical madness by leading some hard-driving, fish-inspired “sub-aqua-punk-bush-rock” during the Fish-head Jam Session.

Technical sessions accommodated 150 presentations and 36 posters, on subjects as diverse as aquaculture advances, climate and conservation, cyanobacteria and fish dynamics, dam removals, fish passage facilities, estuary and marine research, permitting and statistics, education and outreach, lamprey, bull trout, sea turtles and, of course, zebra mussels. Notably, one session addressed revision of the chapter’s white paper regarding marine reserves, and another special session synthesizing pesticide impacts to aquatic resources was planned and moderated by a panel of undergraduate students lead by chapter Student Liaison Kristle Warren as a project for an OSU problem-solving class. An even less conventional (but packed) session highlighted unique and inspiring images of



Control of Aquatic Invasive Species – how to *not* be a Vector”, was organized by Jill Hardiman and supported by USGS, USFWS, the 100<sup>th</sup> Meridian Team, OSMB, Sea Grant, USFS, BLM, and Portland State University. It featured a mock boat and trailer inspection, but first, students were familiarized with the scoundrels most recently invading area waters and the methods most useful in monitoring and controlling them. Throughout the meeting, vendors of telemetry equipment, water quality instruments, environmental services, and other products and services..

Continued on page 4



## ANNUAL MEETING RECAP: CONTINUED

The Student-Mentor Mixer was packed with some 60 students making rapid-fire 8-minute “speed-dating” rounds to meet and query all 40 mentors. Despite the hectic pace, students raved about the direct exposure this event provided to a diversity of career options, guidance, and even direct job opportunities.

Mentors were mostly hoarse at the end. Christy Fellas was the catalyst with critical assistance from Kristle Warren and Shivanne Nesbitt.

At the business meeting, President Neil Ward announced the renewal of a legislative liaison position to serve as our eyes and ears in the capitol and keep the chapter abreast of legislative issues and opportunities. Dave Ward updated us on Western Division AFS projects, Doug Young received his Past-President remembrance (a legacy baby blue T-shirt of his ordering), and External Director Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey updated members on committee activities.



Standing committees convened for strategy sessions and there was renewed passion evident, especially within the Marine Habitat, Natural Production, Legislative, and Education and Outreach committees.

The raffle and auction, organized by Terry Smith, featured a huge assortment of desirable stuff including an original Joe Tomelleri burbot painting, custom photo prints by members Richard Grost and Mary Edwards, outdoor gear, boating adventures, and custom art by Ray Troll (including a piece drawn on the tablecloth at dinner). Students deftly worked the floor selling raffle tickets and supporting the auction. Enough passion ensued to raise over \$10,000 toward future scholarships

The Jam Session, organized and grounded by bass-man Mike Faler, grew into an amazingly choreographed mass of some 30 member musicians tuning, crooning, and generally synergizing in various combinations until literally booted offstage in the wee hours. The audio feast included classic bluegrass, folk, r&b, rock, and of course the custom fish-fare of Ray Troll. One member used the dance floor to shake her newly-won hip-booties. “Lumpsuckers of love, love, love”, oh yeah.



Finally, some 50 members participated in a post-meeting free-lunch tour of Portland General Electric’s Round-Butte fish passage project. This project, well under construction, is one of the largest and most complex fish passage facilities ever built and a key element to the major anadromous fish restoration project for the upper Deschutes River Basin. Thanks Don Rattliff and Jim Bartlett, for the tour *and* the chili dogs!

Overall, the 2009 meeting fulfilled expectations as the Oregon Chapter’s largest and most important technical and professional networking event. Thanks are due to all who attended, assisted, presented, moderated, donated, and especially the ExCom for a year of behind-the-scenes planning: President Neil Ward, Past-President Doug Young, President-Elect Rich Grost, Vice-President Christy Fellas, Secretary-Treasurer Shaun Clements, Internal Director Martyne Reesman, and External Director Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey. This crew, and incoming President-Elect Demian Ebert, are already planning the next Oregon Chapter meeting February 24-26, 2010, at the Hilton in Eugene, OR.



*Rich Grost, President-Elect and Program Chair*

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER: CONTINUED

- Ensuring the Oregon Student Subunit was capable of participating in hands-on educational experiences

From 2008-2009, the ORAFS engaged in numerous activities that led to being recognized by decision-makers and natural resource professionals as an important source of science-based information about fisheries and aquatic ecosystems and their conservation, management, and sustainable development. Efforts to increase outreach and education included:

- Establishing a range-wide conservation strategy for coastal cutthroat trout
- Managing the multi-entity coastal cutthroat trout conservation strategy workgroup
- Collaborating with the Oregon Wildlife Society
- Hiring a legislative liaison to coordinate ORAFS interests with sponsors of bills and to prepare testimony

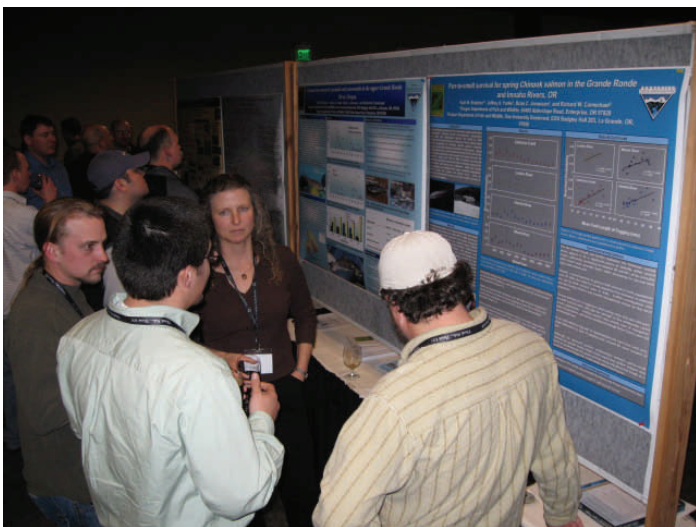
During the past year, the ORAFS continued to enhance its member service (professional development/recognition) by providing the following services:

- Increased scholarship amounts
- Created travel scholarships
- Increased the opportunities for students to participate in the annual meeting

In my previous columns, I have challenged the membership to do a number of things. Now it is time for me to challenge the incoming ExCom. At the 2009 Annual Meeting, the following officers were elected during the business meeting: President-Elect Demian Ebert (PSBJ), Secretary-Treasurer Shaun Clements (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife), Internal Director Martyne Reesman (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife), External Director Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey, and Vice-President Shivonne Nesbit (Oregon State University). Rich Grost will become President and Neil Ward will occupy the position of Past-President. Through the efforts of many of these individuals, the ORAFS reclaimed the distinction of being recognized as the WDAFS Chapter of the Year and potentially the AFS Outstanding Chapter. I challenge the 2009-2010 ExCom to exceed what was accomplished by the previous ExCom. Sharing the passion should not be limited to 2009. Let's take it into 2010 and beyond!

*Neil Ward, President*

## A FEW MORE MEMORIES FROM BEND



## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Raffle/Auction

Amazing artwork and photographs were donated by Rich Grost, Mary Edwards, Ray Troll and others. The impromptu auction of a signed Ray Troll t-shirt was won by Selina Heppell and students who managed to negotiate ORAFS baby blue t-shirts for the entire lab! There was also some serious competition over several items in the silent auction. It's great to have such an exciting raffle and auction with folks who want to support this Chapter with donations and purchases. Over 25 individuals and 35 business donated trips, items and services. I would like to give a special thanks to the Raffle/Auction chair, Terry Smith, our auctioneer, Brad Esselburn and all of the student volunteers who helped - we couldn't have done it without all of you. If you would like to volunteer or donate for next years Raffle and Auction please contact Christy Fellas.



### Student Volunteers

What a banner year for student participation at the ORAFS Annual meeting! With the help of Kristle Volin and Shivonne Nesbit, 49 student volunteers were recruited, both graduate and undergraduate. We couldn't have run the sales desk, raffle/auction or registration desk without them. With so many volunteers we were able to give students shorter work shifts and allow them to attend more technical sessions. If the trend continues, we'll have to find some more work for all these students. Hope to see some familiar and new student faces in Eugene!

### Mentor Speed Dating

This year, almost 60 students attended the mentor session. Thanks to the 40 mentors who showed up to impart their knowledge and experience to the students. Mentors were grouped by occupation and students spent 8 minutes at each table talking with mentors. It seemed that mentors and students alike had a great time this year and gave positive feedback. If you have never participated in this session, consider being a mentor at next year's meeting. I think there may have even been some matches (employer/employee) that came out of this session!

## 2010 ORAFS Annual Meeting

February 24-26, 2010

Hilton Eugene

Eugene, Oregon

Please contact 2009-2010 President-Elect Demian Ebert at [daebert@pbsj.com](mailto:daebert@pbsj.com) or 503-222-7275 if you are interested in convening a session during the 2010 Annual Meeting

## EXTERNAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

These last few months have been busy ones for our Chapter (but when aren't they?!). We put on another fantastic annual meeting, hired a Legislative Liaison, and saw increased activity among the External Committees.

Our Executive and Planning committees put in a lot of hard work and their efforts pay off in that our annual meeting is so well run and consistently sets a high bar. Several of our External Committee chairs attended the annual meeting and held breakout sessions immediately following the Business Meeting. The purpose of these sessions was to 1) allow the chairs a forum for presenting their committee's goals/priorities for the year and 2) allow membership a forum for bringing forward potential issues that our Chapter may want to address in the coming year's. Given this was the first year in many that we've had these breakout sessions, I was heartened to see that twenty or so members attended. We received some great feedback/input that should prove beneficial as we begin shaping these committees anew. In addition, we were able to get numerous people interested in (and signed up to) helping the various committees. Next year, let's see if we can bring in twice as many people at these breakout sessions!

At the Business Meeting (held at our annual meeting), Chapter President Neil Ward and I presented the logic for our Chapter hiring a Legislative Liaison. After numerous meetings with several professional liaisons, we decided on David Moskowitz and Susan Marshall of Confluence Consulting Northwest. David came recommended to us from multiple sources, is highly respected in the Capitol and around the region and put together a highly competitive proposal. Unfortunately, by the time we were able to finalize the contract, we were already several weeks into the legislative session and things at the Capitol were already happening at a rapid clip. Nevertheless, we developed a "Top 10" list of potential activities our Chapter might pursue this legislative session and beyond. They included providing input/testimony on several pieces of active State legislation (e.g., instream large wood removal, invasive species, hatchboxes on the Rogue River, etc.), developing and/or updating some white papers (e.g., importance of large wood in streams, marine reserves, climate change impacts on aquatic environments), and developing relationships with influential State Legislators (i.e., committee chairs) between and after the legislative sessions. Our

hope is that through developing these relationships, we might be able to help provide natural resource insights as legislation is being crafted rather than providing input after the fact.

In our efforts to increase our connections with and presence throughout the State and region, I have been attending several meetings with numerous local and regional conservation leaders. These meetings, organized by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and hosted (recently) by the Oregon Zoo, have been quite informative, help keep our Chapter abreast of current conservation issues, and allow us to build and solidify relationships with conservation leaders throughout the State and region. I look forward to attending more of these meetings. If you are also interested in attending, please email me (osbornegowey at hotmail dot com) and I'll forward you all the particulars.

On another note, our Education and Outreach Committee, chaired by Jason Kent, did an outstanding job of evaluating the grant proposals submitted as part of our Chapter's efforts to make grant monies available this year. They were able to thoroughly review the nearly thirty proposals and provide recommendations to the Executive Committee (ExCom) in an extremely tight timeframe. After some excellent discussions, the ExCom ultimately approved three awards and gained some valuable insights for potential future granting opportunities. The three awarded projects (and their applicant/partners) were:

- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Connecting People with Nature Program), and Oregon State University Klamath Basin Research and Education Center (OSU-KBREC). - *"Klamath Basin Fish Field Days for Middle School Students"*
- Wallowa Resources & Wallowa Mountain Institute - *"Wallowa and Innaha River Watershed Evaluation Teams (WET) Program"*
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, La Grande Field Office - *"Blue Mountains Fisheries/Watershed Project"*

Until next time...

*Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey, External Director*

## WELCOME 2009-2010 EXCOM OFFICERS

Welcome to newly-elected and returning officers of the ORAFS Executive Committee (ExCom). Please congratulate them and thank them when you have an opportunity, for ORAFS could not function without these dedicated individuals. Although you elected them during the 2009 Annual Meeting, the new officer's terms start September 1. The new officers will be:

**President-Elect / 2010 Annual Meeting Chair** — Demian Ebert, PBSJ, daebert@pbsj.com

**Vice President** — Shivonne Nesbit, Oregon State University, shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu

**Student Representative** — Brandon Bertilson, Oregon State University, bertilsr@onid.orst.edu

Returning officers are (contact information is listed on page 2):

**Past President (formerly President)** — Neil Ward, Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority

**President (formerly President-Elect)** — Rich Grost, PacifiCorp

**Secretary-Treasurer** — Shaun Clements, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

**External Director** — Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey, Conservation Biology Institute

**Internal Director** — Martyne Reessman, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

## AND THE WINNERS ARE...

The 2009 Annual Meeting was a great forum for sharing information, ideas, research, and camaraderie, but also a time to recognize the achievements of some outstanding individuals. Professional awards were managed expertly by Mindy Simmons and the Awards Committee. Congratulations to the award winners, and thanks to all of the nominators.

### Award of Merit Winners

- Central Oregon Flyfishers, for sustained dedication to conservation work benefiting native fish
- Sunriver Anglers Club, for sustained dedication to conservation work benefiting native fish
- Leesa Cobb, for sustained dedication to marine conservation work
- Port Orford Resources Team, for sustained dedication to community-based marine conservation work
- Bianca Streif and Janine Castro, for exemplary service in planning the 2008 WD AFS workshop: "Stream Restoration: Integrating Practical Approaches"

### Bill Wingfield Memorial Award in Fish Culture

Tony Amandi (on behalf of the ODFW Fish Health Team), for long-term contributions to fish health and production

### Fishery Team of the Year

Tim Hoffnagle, Don Hair, Deb Eddy, Sally Gee, and Fred Monzyk, for exemplary research on artificial propagation and recovery of threatened Snake River spring/summer Chinook

### Broken Oar

Tim Shibahara and Chris Karchesky, for surviving a "watch this!" test-drive where the manufacturer swamped his own jet boat at the base of Willamette Falls.

### Student Award Winners

From a record number of scholarship applications, scholarships were awarded to:

- Kari Rosch, A.A., Mount Hood Community College
- Autumn Smith, B.S., OSU
- Mac Barr, M.S., OSU
- Ben Clemens, Ph.D., OSU

The inaugural and uniquely prestigious Carl Bond Scholarship was awarded to:

- Matt Sloat, Ph.D., OSU, in support of his work on life history evolution and anadromy in Pacific salmonids.

Scott Heppell and his committee did an outstanding job managing the scholarship process and evaluating many worthy applicants, most of whom we hope to see again next year.

### Best Student Paper and Poster

Best Student Paper: William Brignon (OSU) and Heidi Andersen (OSU, runner-up)

Best Student Poster: Brett Blundon (OSU) and Londi Tomaro (OSU, runner-up).

Mike Hudson did his usual excellent job planning for and presenting these important awards.



Bill Brignon, Brett Blundon, and Londi Tomaro received the Best Student paper Awards during the 2009 ORAFS Annual Meeting. Accepting Heidi Anderson's award was her advisor Jason Dunham.



Scott Heppell with Student Scholarship winners, Mac Barr, Autumn Smith, and Matt Sloat.



The 2009 ORAFS Fishery Team of the Year was presented to Tim Hoffnagloe, Don Hair, Deb Eddy, Sally Gee, and Fred Monzyk for their work on Snake River spring/summer Chinook.



Tim Shibahara and Chris Karchesky received the Broken Oar Award for surviving an encounter with the Willamette Falls.



Tony Amadi (on behalf of the OFFW Fish health Team) was presented the Bill Wingfield Memorial Award in Fish Culture for long-term contributions to fish health and production.



Bianca Streif and Janine Castro were presented an Award of Merit for the Stream Restoration: Integrating Practical Approaches workshop convened during the 2008 WDAFS Meeting.



Central Oregon Flyfishers and Sunriver Anglers were presented Award of Merits for sustained dedication to conservation and work benefitting native fish.



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**Piscatorial Press Deadlines:**  
**Dec. 15; March 15; June 15; Sept. 15**  
Newsletter will be published approximately  
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*Late submissions used as time  
and space allows*