the shell-cracker

FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

JUNE 1991 VOLUME 11 (1)

NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

I, Chuck Cichra, will be your new newsletter editor. This great honor has been bestowed upon me by your new Chapter President, Paul Shafland and Bill Seaman. Anyone that knows me, knows that I haven't yet learned the word/phrase "NO!". Paul and I both know the value of a good newsletter to an organization's members. I hope that the newsletter will be packed with information that will be useful to you, our members. I have never before taken on the responsibility of being a newsletter editor, so I have a lot to learn. Please be patient as my skills, both of gathering information and presenting it in an easy to read format, evolve.

As both new newsletter editor and member of the Chapter, I want to thank Mike Murphy, biologist with the Florida Marine Research Institute, Department of Natural Resources, our past newsletter editor for all the work that he has done to produce our newsletter over the past two years.

In order to produce an informative newsletter, I must have information to report. If you have any information that you feel would be of interest to our members, please send it to me and I will try to incorporate it into our future newsletters. My address is: Chuck Cichra, Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture, University of Florida, 7922 NW 71st Street, Gainesville, Florida 32606. Phone: (904) 392-9617, Suncom: 622-9617, FAX: (904) 392-9617.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

It is an honor to step into the shoes worn so well by your 12 past presidents. The Florida Chapter's success has been widely acknowledged throughout the Southeastern U.S. (we were selected the first-ever "Outstanding Chapter" of the AFS Southern Division), as well as, nationally (our Chapter was favorably referred to several times at the last Parent Society EXCOM Meeting). It is going to be difficult to live up to the past success, but having listened to more than 30 members give papers at this year's annual Chapter meeting, I fell confident success will continue being the Chapter's norm.

My major objective is to assist the Chapter in taking its rightful place as Florida's pre-eminent professional Society dealing with aquatic resources: a pre-eminence based on its member's ability to independently develop and advocate the wisest use of our massively important aquatic resources. I believe one step towards this end is the formation of ad hoc technical committees that identify, research and formulate objective solutions to complicated problems arising from the multiple use priorities inherent to natural resource issues.

I have begun selecting technical committee topics and members, so please let the Chairpersons know if you are interested in any of the following Committees (Chairs listed first):

Anadromous Fish - Jim Clugston, Charlie Messing
Aquaculture (Food & Sport) - Roger Rottmann, Bill Falls, Rick Stout, Scott Willis
Commercial Fisheries - Marty Hale
Grass Carp - David Clapp, John Cassani, Bruce Jaggers, Bill Johnson, Drew Leslie
Habitat/Protection, Enhancement & Plant-Fish Relations - Ed Moyer, Frank Courtney, Joe Hinkle, Bill Loftus
Pollution - Pat Fricano, Brad Cook, Dave Cox, Ted Lange, Vince Williams
Sportfisheries - Rot Crabtree, Bill Coleman, Dick Krause, Ron Taylor
Threatened & Endangered Species - Gray Bass, Bruce Ackerman, Jim Whittington, Jim Williams
Urban Fisheries - Dilan Jones
Wetlands - Dave Cox, Dave Crewz, Jim Estes, Jon Fury

As you can see, a disproportionate number of my Committee appointees come with a freshwater background; that's only because I know more freshwater than saltwater people, although President-Elect Ron Taylor has been a tremendous help in correcting my weakness. Since each Committee is to place equal emphasis on freshwater and marine issues, we are obviously in special need of volunteers with marine backgrounds to help us with this work.

The principle purposes of the technical committees are to: 1) increase communications among professionals working on similar issues, 2) provide a mechanism for efficiently responding to legislative, agency and public requests for information, independent testimony and/or review of proposals, programs, etc. and 3) develop position statements on matters of importance to Florida's aquatic resources (e.g., what to do with Rodman Reservoir or Sable Hammocks, what is the proper role of marine and freshwater hatcheries in fisheries management, how do we deal with wetlands development, and the list goes on almost endlessly).

Not only do we need volunteers for the technical committees, but we also need volunteers to work on the many other committees that make the Chapter work. These Committees (Chairs listed first) are:

Awards - Carole McIvor, Sam McKinney
"The " Book - Doug Scheidt
Chapter Development - Bill Loftus, Ken Haddad, Marty Hale, Wes Porak
Continuing Education - Scott Hardin, Ed Joyce, Mike Murphy
Legislative - Curtis Watkins, Walt Godwin, Joe Hinkle
Legislative Liaison - Vince Williams
Membership - David Clapp, Bret Kolterman
Newsletter - Chuck Cichra, Peter Hood, et al.
Nominating - Vince Williams, Frank Sutter
Professionalism - Karen Steidinger
Program - Ron Taylor, Steve Miller
Raffle - Brent Winner, Marty Hale, Dennis Renfro
Student Concerns - Chair position vacant, Mike Tringali, Carole McIvor (advisor)
Video/Slide - Bill Seaman
1995 Annual AFS Meeting Host - Wes Porak, Chuck Cichra, Elli Gilberg, Churchill Grimes, Ken Haddad, Marty Hale, Bill Seaman, Ron Taylor, Vince Williams

The technical and support Committees are <u>not</u> intended to be all-inclusive, non-overlapping or closed to input from non-committee members. Rather, they are to be vibrant, readily accessible subunits that reflect the high level and wide variety of aquatic resource expertise available within our membership. Thus, new committees will be formed and more than one committee may be coordinated to address a single issue which would lead to more meaningful, useful and effective results. Each Committee Chair has agreed to prepare at least two written summaries of Committee activities which will be sent to your Newsletter Editor (Chuck Cichra) so everyone can keep up with the work of these talented people. Some Committee Chairs are off to a fast start; so if I have omitted anyone, please accept my apology, but it's hard to keep up with so much going on!

These are but a few of the activities that your Chapter is involved with. There is an unlimited amount of work remaining to be done, so every member has a real opportunity to make a significant contribution to our Chapter, the fisheries profession and, most importantly, to the resources that we strive to protect and enhance. Please volunteer your ideas and time by contacting the appropriate Committee Chairperson, EXCOM member or me (407-391-6414; SC 221-5134). Thank you!

-- Paul Shafland

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED:

Paul Shafland, Ron Taylor and Ron Brockmeyer were elected as President, President-Elect, and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively at this year's Annual Business Meeting in Brooksville, Florida.

1995 ANNUAL AFS MEETING IN FLORIDA?

Past-presidents, the Chapter EXCOM and several additional Chapter members have established a Steering Committee to bid for the 1995 annual meeting. This committee is investigating costs, fund raising, location, hotel accommodations, entertainment, time requirements and bidding procedures. If the Florida Chapter wins the competitive bid to host the meeting, we would want the Florida Chapter, or fisheries in Florida to benefit in some way. The idea is to raise enough funds to undertake a major project. Some initial ideas were to use these funds to set up a permanent aquatic education center or to produce an educational video on fisheries for public television. We want all Chapter members to think how the Chapter might benefit from hosting the meeting and submit your ideas to Chuck Cichra, the newsletter editor.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS:

The membership of the Florida Chapter, at its annual meeting on 19 February 1991, voted to support Senate Bill 140 creating the Florida LAKEWATCH Program within the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida. Florida LAKEWATCH is a model program which teaches citizens the basic principles of monitoring lake water quality, and uses these citizen volunteers to actually collect field data and water samples for detailed analysis. LAKEWATCH has been in existence for several years, and has reached a high level of public acceptance. The data base generated by this program is statewide in nature, and provides volumes of scientifically useful information which would be economically impossible to obtain using paid personnel. A letter of support was sent from Paul Shafland, our Chapter president, to T. K. Wetherell, Speaker of the House. LAKEWATCH passed both the Senate and House, and was approved by Governor Chiles for funding.

AFS PERMANENT HOME EXPANSION FUND:

At the February 1991 Annual Meeting of the Florida Chapter, Chapter members voted to contribute $500.00 to the AFS Permanent Home Expansion Fund as a "small tribute in recognition of Carl Sullivan's selfless dedication to the Society and the fisheries profession." A check for $500.00 was sent 4 March 1991.

FLORIDA ACTIVITIES:

A series of articles/information will appear in our newsletter on a regular basis. This information will be provided by a key individual closely involved with each activity. These currently include:

Aquatic Plant Information Retrieval System (APIRS)
Florida Cooperative Extension Service (FCES)
Florida Lakewatch Program (LAKEWATCH)
North American Lake Management Society (NALMS)
Florida SeaGrant Program (SeaGrant)
Others as contacts are located.

University of Florida Aquatic Plant Information Retrieval System (APIRS)

WHAT IS APIRS?

For more than ten years, APIRS has been an information sharing and referral system for thousands of researchers, managers, regulators and students.

APIRS collects, categorizes and computerizes publication information about freshwater aquatic plants. The database now includes more than 30,000 research articles, reports and books on the ecology, biology, utilization and management of freshwater plants. More than 200 items per month are added to the database.

Because of the nature of aquatic plant research, APIRS also includes much information on aquatic animals, fish, water pollution, wetland ecosystems, and other related areas of science.

APIRS FREE SERVICES

CURRENT AWARENESS AND RETROSPECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHIES

Computer generated bibliographies, corresponding to any combinations of species, names, categories and keywords of their choice, are produced and mailed to users. APIRS performs searches of its own and other computer databases to answer queries of its users.

REFERRAL

APIRS has research and address files for thousands of researchers. Users are referred to organizations and experts in many fields.

AQUAPHYTE

The APIRS newsletter is distributed to 3,500 subscribers throughout the world.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

APIRS produces educational videotape programs for managers and the general public, including school children. Subjects range from aquatic plant management techniques to the meaning of eutrophication, to Florida limnology, to plant identification.

APIRS produces and publishes public information and technical training materials for management, regulatory agencies and educational institutions.

TO TAKE ADVANTAGE, CONTACT US

The APIRS program has flourished because of the regular contributions of reprints and books by researchers world-wide.

ANYONE may take advantage of APIRS' free services. However, in exchange for services we expect users to contribute reprints and bibliographies that relate to aquatic plants, when they can.

For more information, contact:

APIRS/Center for Aquatic Plants
University of Florida, IFAS
7922 N.W. 71st Street
Gainesville, FL 32606
(904) 392-1799

AQUATIC PLANT INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM (APIRS)

University of Florida
7922 North West 71st Street
Gainesville, FL 32606 USA
(904) 392-1799

The Aquatic Plant Information Retrieval System (APIRS) collects information relating to aquatic plants, which is then catalogued by the APIRS staff. The catalogued citations and keywords of the literature are entered into a computerized database. Computer generated bibliographies, corresponding to any combinations of species, names, categories and keywords of the user's choice, are produced and mailed to researchers, students, water resource managers, government agencies and others free of charge. The database now includes over 25,000 aquatic plant research papers and books. Several hundred articles per month are added to the database.

Users regularly contribute reprints and bibliographies to be entered into the database. Program staff scans journal contents, article bibliographies and conference proceedings for additional materials. Computerized searches of other databases are conducted periodically. Many regional research centers around the world also contribute relevant publications.

HOW TO ORDER A BIBLIOGRAPHY...

Database users should make specific requests for searches. Some categories are thousands of citations in length. Therefore, when ordering database searches, users should combine categories and keywords with plant species of particular interest. The following are examples of requested searches:

*Eichhornia crassipes and utilization
*Reproduction of Salvinia spp.
*Heavy metal uptake in any aquatic plant
*Chemical control of Lemna spp. and Spirodela spp.
*Azolla used as green manure
*Distribution of Ceratophyllum demersum
*Mineral contents of selected aquatic weeds
*Salinity tolerance in Spartina alterniflora
*Productivity of Phragmites in lakes
*Wastewater treatment using Eichhornia crassipes
*Mechanical control of Hydrilla
*Biological control using insects

KEYWORDS - ANY WORDS REQUESTED CAN BE SEARCHED AS KEYWORDS IN THE DATABASE.
Examples of keywords are:

* carbon
* biomass
* nitrogen fixation
* sediment
* arsenic
* composition
* aquaculture
* cytotoxicity
* wastewater treatment
* restoration

In addition, bibliographies can be produced according to authors and co-authors cited in the database. Please provide the full names and correct spellings for author and co-author searches.

CATEGORIES FOR AQUATIC PLANT INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

PLANT NAME(S)

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL
Animals
Fish
Insects
Manatees
Pathogens
Plants
Snails

CHEMICAL CONTROL
Chemical Name(s)

CULTURAL CONTROL
Water Level
Fertilization
Shading
Drawdown

DISTRIBUTION-COUNTRIES, STATES

ECOLOGY
Lakes (Ponds)
Reservoirs
Wetlands
Rivers (Streams, Irrigation Canals, Channels)
Estuaries (Bay)
Primary Production
Productivity
Eutrophication
Pollution (Toxicology)
Nutrient Cycling
Plant Succession
Host Plants
Herbicides
Ecosystem
Government Control
Phenology
Water Chemistry

ECONOMICS

INTEGRATED CONTROL

MECHANICAL CONTROL
Mowing
Dredging

MORPHOLOGY
Cytology
Embryology
Histology

PHYSIOLOGY
Photosynthesis
Transpiration

REPRODUCTION
Flowering
Germination
Ontogeny

REMOTE SENSING

REVIEW
SURVEY
TAXONOMY

TOXIC PLANTS

UTILIZATION
Biogas
Food
Pollution

BIBLIOGRAPHY REQUEST

BIBLIOGRAPHY TITLE: _____
(If plant name, please use scientific name, including species name)

_____

_____

DATE SENT: _____

REQUESTED BY: _____

_____

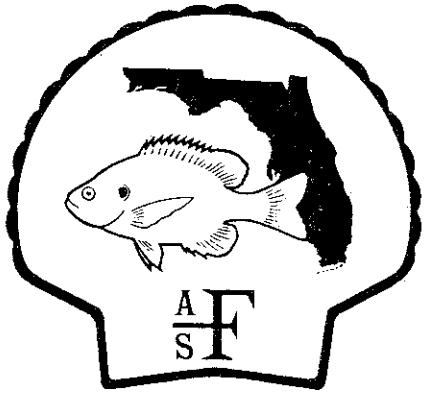
FCES: by Chuck Cichra

The Florida Cooperative Extension Service (FCES) is the administrative entity through which the University of Florida cooperates with the federal and local governments in the administration of food, agricultural, natural and renewable resources, home economics, 4-H, community resource development and marine advisory programs statewide.

FCES is the off-campus, non-formal (i.e., non-credit) educational component of the land grant university. The Extension Service is the third functional arm of the land grant system complementing research and resident instruction. Extension has been a key outreach component of the University of Florida.

The goal of extension is to help solve agricultural, natural resource and related problems of the people of Florida and to provide a channel for the delivery and application of new information and technology. The local county extension office provides up-to-date research-based information in solving day-to-day problems. The extension function also develops and delivers educational programs purposely designed to fulfill the needs of local people. Through advisory committees, local clients contribute to the identification and prioritization of problems, needs and opportunities and the development of educational programs to address those problems, needs and opportunities. Extension is also deeply involved in the timely identification of important research needs, which comprise a significant portion of the research component of the University of Florida.

Extension offices are located in all 67 Florida counties. "County faculty" are responsible for conducting local extension programs in cooperation with county governments. Additional faculty are formally located in various departments on the main campus in Gainesville, yet have statewide responsibility for facilitating the use of research information by county extension faculty, user groups and individuals. Additional subject matter specialists with statewide responsibility are dispersed among 11 research locations throughout the state.



The following is a list of FCES faculty that may be of interest to Chapter members:

Person:	Areas of Expertise:
Dr. Frank A. Chapman (Frank) Aquaculture Specialist Dept. of Fisheries & Aquaculture 7922 NW 71st Street Gainesville, FL 32606 (904)392-9617 or 9613	Food & ornamental fish culture Fish reproduction & spawning Hatchery management Larval fish rearing
Dr. Charles E. Cichra (Chuck) Fisheries Specialist Dept. of Fisheries & Aquaculture 7922 NW 71st Street Gainesville, FL 32606 (904)392-9617 or 9613	Coordination, development & execution of extension program General aquaculture Farm pond management Fee fishing, Urban fishing Youth education
Dr. Ruth Francis-Floyd (Ruth) Aquatic Animal Health Specialist Dept. of Fisheries & Aquaculture 7922 NW 71st Street Gainesville, FL 32606 (904)392-9617 or 9613	Fish health management Fish parasites and diseases Water quality General aquaculture
Dr. Kenneth Langeland (Ken) Aquatic Plant Specialist Center For Aquatic Plants 7922 NW 71st Street Gainesville, FL 32606 (904)392-9613 or 9617	Aquatic plant identification, biology, & management Mechanical control, biological control & herbicides Applicator certification training Aquascaping
Mr. Craig Watson (Craig) Multi-County Agent - Aquaculture Hillsborough County Ext. Office 5339 Co. Rd. 579 Seffner, FL 33584 (813)621-5605	Ornamental & food fish culture 4-H aquaculture Aquascaping
Dr. Andrew Lazur (Andy) Aquaculture Specialist Northwest Florida Aquaculture Farm Route 1, Box 754 Blountstown, FL 32424 (904)674-3184 or 3188	Development & execution of extension & demonstration activities in NW Florida Food fish culture General aquaculture

LAKEWATCH: by Sandy Fisher

Lakes are special to those people who live there. Lakefront living means watching the bass bed along your shoreline, seeing the awkwardly regal walk of the wading birds stalking fish, watching osprey dive after a glint of silver, being awed by the beauty of the sunsets across the water, teaching kids to water ski, and taking photographs of the youngsters when the fish they catch are almost as big as the kids.

I live on a lake, so I know. And I have been monitoring my lake's water quality through the Florida LAKEWATCH Program for almost two years. The program began unofficially in the mid-1980's under the direction of Dr. Dan Canfield, Professor of Limnology at the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, at the University of Florida. While traveling around the state gathering data on lakes, Dr. Canfield saw the need for regularly scheduled data collection on the thousands of Florida lakes that were not being monitored by any agency. Knowing that the cost of having professionals do the job would be prohibitive and that other states have had successful citizen monitoring programs, Dr. Canfield began by training lake residents informally by himself.

Volunteers in Florida LAKEWATCH are taught how to take "grab samples" of surface water. Some of this water is frozen and later sent to the IFAS labs for measurement of nitrogen and phosphorus contents. Nitrogen and phosphorus are important because they fertilize plant growth (including algae growth) in lakes. The rest of the sample water is filtered, and the filter paper collects the suspended solids. These are later analyzed to find out how much algae is in the water. Since algae is the base of the food chain, it affects the numbers and sizes of fish and wildlife the lake can support. Volunteers also learn to use a Secchi Disk, an instrument that looks like a frisbee, and gives an indication of the clarity of the lake water.

The volunteer gets information on basic lake management techniques and, after a year of taking monthly samples, also receives a report on trends and changes in his lake.

While in the program, the volunteer has access to experts at IFAS who can answer questions about specific problems. So far the range of inquiries has been impressive. People have asked about the identification of specific plants, the oil scum on their boat's water line, the suds that form along the shore, the source of reddish water after a rain, how to get rid of "punk" trees, controlling snakes, causes of fish kills, lawn irrigation and fertilization techniques, stormwater management, registering eagles they see - and the list goes on. Instead of getting general information about lakes, people in Florida LAKEWATCH can get specific information about their lake and its unique problems.

Having specific information that documents trends in their lakes has made residents more effective in communicating with regulatory agencies. For example, LAKEWATCH data gathered on

Lake Santa Fe in Alachua County show that the algae levels have quadrupled in the past eight months after having remained rather steady since 1986. This information will be used by the homeowners association to enlist the aid of the Suwannee River Water Management District.

Florida's tremendous population growth means tremendous impact on the state's 7,700 lakes. The Putnam County Board of Realtors reported that lakefront property makes up 80 percent of their sales. It's a race against time. Water quality in many Florida lakes is changing rapidly with the influx of lakefront residents. Baseline data should be gathered before the opportunity is lost.

Unfortunately, many people who purchase lakefront property do not know that their everyday actions may have a direct effect on water quality. A lake is not a swimming pool; it is a living, breathing organism with many interrelated parts. Besides water, a lake has many types of plants, fish, birds, insects, snakes, alligators and other wildlife. If one part of a lake's ecosystem is altered, it will affect another part, whether we see the consequences or not.

For example, to control plants that are sometimes perceived as a problem, herbicides, bio-controls, or harvesting techniques can be used. In some lakes this works fine. In others, if too many plants are removed, algae often proliferate and the water becomes "pea-soup" green. Lake residents aren't always aware that this might be one of the consequences of their actions, and ironically, often find themselves attempting to replant the lake's vegetation.

In Florida LAKEWATCH lake residents can learn what their range of options is and the consequences of each one. They can make informed decisions based on the specifics of their lake.

Since everyone agrees on the need for environmental information, the LAKEWATCH Program has proved to be an exciting and unifying catalyst for homeowners associations that are springing up around the state.

By donating about an hour of their time each month, the use of their boats, and transportation of the samples twice a year to Gainesville, lake residents are accomplishing what would otherwise cost thousands of dollars per lake. It is truly effective volunteerism at its best.

If you are interested in joining, send your name, address, phone number, lake name and county name to: Ms. Sandy Fisher, Florida LAKEWATCH, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, 7922 NW 71st Street, Gainesville, FL, 32606. Or, call (904) 392-9613.

(The above text is a portion of an article which appeared in Florida Wildlife, January-February 1990)

NALMS: by Dan Canfield

Lakes mature and age naturally, but they need not be destroyed prematurely as a result of human activities. That is what the North American Lake Management Society is all about.

Because it was organized by those who study and manage lakes and reservoirs, NALMS understands how these bodies of water capture pollutants and sediment, concentrating their effects to influence more than the quality of the lake water - to impair the very quality of life of those who swim and boat and fish in that water.

NALMS also knows how to restore lakes and reservoirs affected by these stresses, and how to protect those not yet suffering from pollution.

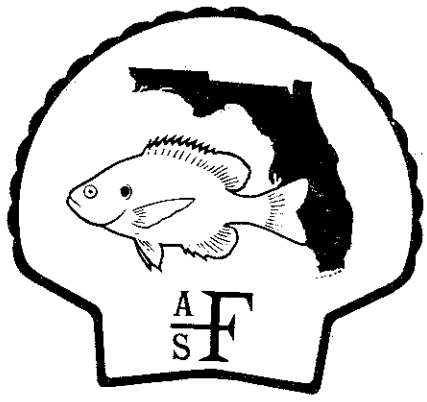
NALMS communicates this knowledge to all concerned about lakes through:

* Lake Line, a magazine
* Regional workshops
* Annual international symposia
* Specialty conferences
* Publications, videotapes, slide shows
* Expertise referral service
* Journal: Lake & Reservoir Management
* National office: contact for specific information
* Networking: Chapters, other organizations

NALMS works only because its members care.

Join this growing number of citizens, lake managers and scientists in caring for lakes and reservoirs. For more information, write or call: North American Lake Management Society, One Progress Blvd., Box 27, Alachua, Florida 32615. Phone: (904) 462-2554, FAX: (904) 462-2568. (The above text was extracted from the NALMS membership brochure)

The Florida Lake Management Society (FLMS) is the state NALMS Chapter. Current president is Vince Williams. For more information, he can be contacted at 390 W. Carroll Street, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. Phone: (407) 846-5220.



FLORIDA SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

a vision for Florida's coast

The Florida Sea Grant College Program is committed to enhancing the practical use and conservation of the marine resources in a state whose coastline stretches for over 1,300 miles. Now in its 19th year in Florida, Sea Grant represents a statewide research, education, and extension partnership of universities, state and federal agencies, and citizens working in a number of program areas.

Living Marine Resources

Florida is the number one state in the nation in terms of the economic value generated from the combined recreational and commercial use of its marine fish and shellfish. However, Florida's fisheries are threatened by multiple use conflicts, overfishing and coastline development which contributes to habitat loss. Florida Sea Grant has:

- Produced computer programs and investment guides to assist in evaluating the economic feasibility of various aquaculture options.
- Demonstrated how to produce compost from blue crab processing scraps and saved one rural, coastal county 1/4 of its yearly landfill operating costs.
- Provided economic values of coastal resources, which were used in the decision to delay offshore oil exploration and production off Florida.
- Aided many local communities in enhancing sport fishing by assisting in the location, design, and development of over 100 artificial reef sites.

Marine Industries

Florida has about 1,500 marinas and over 600,000 boats and vessels to complement many other segments of its marine industries. There is one boat for every 21 persons. Sea Grant has:

- Designed a method used by Monroe County to establish priorities for the removal of derelict vessels in the Florida Keys.
- Influenced changes in vessel lightning protection code guidelines to better protect vessels from potential damage.

Marine Education

Florida Sea Grant's marine education program is perhaps more comprehensive than any other university program statewide. Research projects train graduate and undergraduate assistants. Sea Grant Extension programs train youth and adult audiences statewide. Sea Grant communication efforts target the general public through the media. Significant accomplishments include:

- Participation by about 300 student assistants in Sea Grant projects.
- Serving as a catalyst for establishing the 4-H Marine Program in Florida. In 14 years, over 100,000 youth and 10,000 adults have participated.
- Providing environmental education training for over 1,600 teachers during the last year. This impact will multiply to about 50,000 students.

Coastal Processes and Development

Florida is the second fastest growing state and the fourth most populous. Over 80 percent of the residents live in coastal counties. Wetlands are threatened and coastal structures and the shoreline on which they sit contribute to and suffer from erosion. Florida Sea Grant has:

- Analyzed the economic characteristics of the Florida Keys boat "liveaboard" population with results used by Monroe County in growth planning.
- Produced a guide on salt-tolerant coastal vegetation now being used statewide in habitat design, planting and maintenance of selected marsh, mangrove, and dune areas.
- Developed the recent rate of erosion along Florida's shoreline in order to predict human and natural causes of erosion and how to manage the shoreline change.

Academic Leadership

Florida Sea Grant produces numerous publications annually for both academic and lay audiences, holds 150 workshops per year and provides academic leadership among the state's universities in setting coastal research, education, and extension priorities. For over two decades, Sea Grant has been NOAA's principle entree to both the academic research community and the coastal public for education activivites.

On the Horizon

Florida Sea Grant is a program heading for the 21st century. Some current efforts that will impact on Florida's coastal future include:

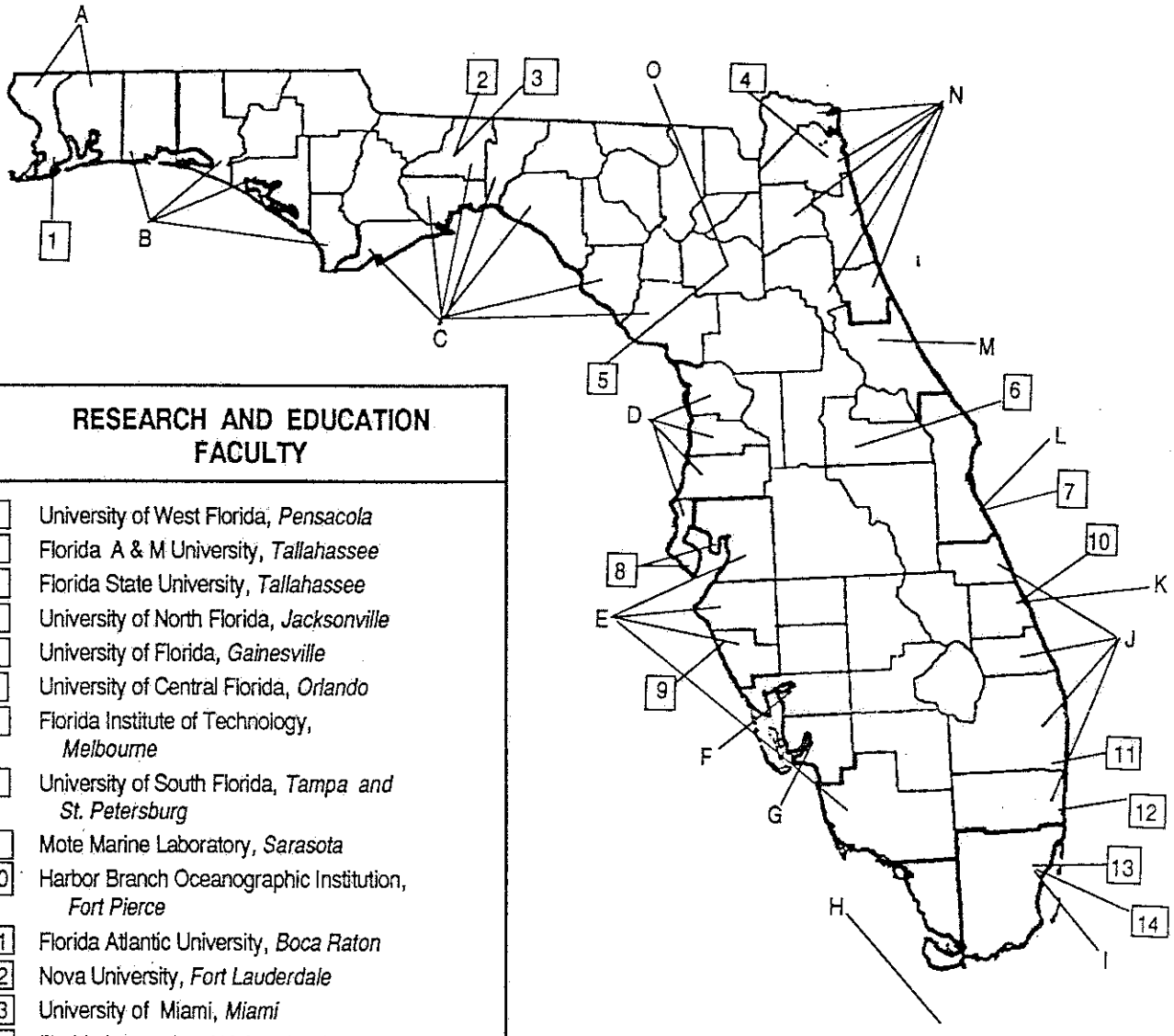
- A weekly series of 52 environmental news videos to be used in Florida's television markets during 1991 to educate 13 million residents and 40 million tourists.
- Developing promising aquaculture resources such as shrimp and clams to keep pace with the growing demand for seafood.
- Assessing the responses of Florida seagrasses to environmental stresses as a way to restore the coastal ecosystem.
- Exploring ways to forecast population levels of sport and commercial fish species.
- Investigating methods to depurate oysters and clams in order to produce safe seafood for the consumer.
- Developing a statewide program to encourage utilizing and conserving Florida's recreational fisheries through management and education.

Florida A & M University - Florida Atlantic University - Florida Institute of Technology - Florida International University - Florida State University - Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution - Mote Marine Laboratory - Nova University - University of Central Florida - University of Florida - University of Miami - University of North Florida - University of South Florida - University of West Florida

Contact: Dr. James C. Cato, Director
Florida Sea Grant College Program
Building 803, University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611
(904) 392-5870
Fax: (904) 392-5113

FLORIDA SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

FLORIDA'S ACADEMIC COMMUNITY OF MARINE RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND EXTENSION



RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FACULTY

1. University of West Florida, *Pensacola*
2. Florida A & M University, *Tallahassee*
3. Florida State University, *Tallahassee*
4. University of North Florida, *Jacksonville*
5. University of Florida, *Gainesville*
6. University of Central Florida, *Orlando*
7. Florida Institute of Technology, *Melbourne*
8. University of South Florida, *Tampa and St. Petersburg*
9. Mote Marine Laboratory, *Sarasota*
10. Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, *Fort Pierce*
11. Florida Atlantic University, *Boca Raton*
12. Nova University, *Fort Lauderdale*
13. University of Miami, *Miami*
14. Florida International University, *Miami*

SEA GRANT EXTENSION FACULTY

A) Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties, *Pensacola*

B) Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, and Gulf Counties, *Panama City*

C) Franklin, Wakulla, Leon, Jefferson, Taylor, Dixie, and Levy, Counties, *Tallahassee*

D) Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties, *Largo*

E) Manatee, Sarasota, Hillsborough, and Collier Counties, *Palmetto*

F) Charlotte County, *Punta Gorda*

G) Lee County, *Fort Myers*

H) Monroe County, *Key West*

I) Dade County, *Miami*

J) Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, and Indian River Counties, *Palm Beach Gardens*

K) St. Lucie County, *Ft. Pierce*

L) Brevard County, *Melbourne*

M) Volusia County, *Deland*

N) Nassau, Duval, St. Johns, Flagler, Clay, and Putnam Counties, *St. Augustine*

O) Statewide Specialists, *Gainesville*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards: Chuck Cichra

We had an excellent Annual Chapter Meeting in February 1991 in Brooksville, Florida. Once again, I was in charge of judging the 31 presentations given by our members. Fellow judges included Robbie Lovestrand of the Florida Department of Natural Resources, Bureau of Aquatic Plant Management, and Jeff Isely of the NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service. Three "Best Presentation Awards" were awarded. These were:

Best Presentation:	Steven Miller, Comparisons of Wegener ring and 0.08-hectare block net samples of fishes in vegetated habitats.
Honorable Mention:	Ron Taylor, Protandric hermaphrodism in the common snook, Centropomus undecimalis.
Best Student Presentation:	John Chick, a comparison of four enclosure fish traps and methods in two species of aquatic macrophytes.

After much discussion and comments from more than 20 members of the Chapter, Jerry Krummrich was unanimously awarded an "Honorable Mention" award for his presentation on "The Jacksonville Urban Fishing Program" at last year's Annual Chapter Meeting in Brooksville.

Five "Student Travel Awards" were given. This is the first year that this type of award was given in our Chapter. Churchill Grimes chaired the selection committee which chose the recipients for this year's awards. John Chick, Janet Ley, Frank Jordan, M.D. Tringali and Joao Paulo Viana were the recipients.

Anna Avrigian was awarded our "Chapter Service Award" for her outstanding efforts in composing and producing this year's Annual Meeting Program and Abstracts. According to Churchill Grimes, Anna did much of the work on her own time.

Grass Carp: David Clapp

The following is a summary of the first meeting of the Florida Chapter Grass Carp Committee held on 16 May 1991:

John Cassani provided a brief summary of the national AFS Grass Carp Symposium and national Introduced Fish Section Grass Carp Committee activities. The national symposium was titled "Grass Carp: Evolution of a Resource Management Tool", and included papers summarizing state and national grass carp programs, discussing the impacts of grass carp in various lakes, describing advances in predictive capabilities, and reviewing advances in grass carp culture techniques. The national Introduced Fish Section Grass Carp Committee is beginning the process of producing a guide to using the grass carp in managing aquatic plants. Some members of the Florida Grass Carp Committee will probably be active in this effort, but we hope to keep

Florida committee activities on a regional level and not overlap to any great extent with activities of the national committee.

Mark Hoyer gave us some information on the Florida LAKEWATCH program and the results of an informal survey of LAKEWATCH participants on "grass carp" lakes. Those surveyed seemed to be evenly split (pro and con) on their opinion concerning the success of grass carp in their particular lake, but Mark thought that much of the negative reaction might have been averted by providing better pre-stocking information to homeowners concerning the possible consequences (good and bad) of grass carp use. The LAKEWATCH program may provide us with an opportunity for some cooperative work with homeowners, with possible parallels to John Cassani's Lee County public relations program. Public perception is one of the keys in the successful use of grass carp. Members of the committee could not agree that there was enough knowledge to predict what the grass carp will do in a given situation, only that we could inform people of the different scenarios that might possibly occur.

One of our committee objectives was to increase communication among those interested in grass carp use and research; the public (as described above), and among aquatic resource professionals. Ideas discussed for increasing communication included production of a video (for possible distribution through homeowner groups), and news release-type publications to make known that the committee exists as a body of knowledgeable professionals for those in need of information.

Other items of discussion included the need for and importance of increased monitoring of grass carp use, and the possibility of the committee making recommendations concerning grass carp use to various governmental agencies (state and county in particular). This could include recommendations against the use of grass carp in certain situations. Our plans for an August meeting include the compilation of data from triploid grass carp lakes from which committee members have <u>good</u> knowledge (plants, water chemistry, fish, etc), completing a listing of "experts" on various aspects of grass carp biology, ecology, and management application as part of our effort to increase the amount and effectiveness of communication, and to develop a list of triploid grass carp research priorities.

<u>Membership</u>: David Clapp

Membership committee activities for the period March 1 - June 1, 1991 included maintenance of membership records, collection of dues and redistribution of checks to the secretary-treasurer, recruiting, and continued work on a membership directory. The directory, which should be completed by late July - early August, will include a listing of officers and committee chairpersons, descriptions of fisheries organizations in Florida, a listing of chapter members (with organization or agency, address, and phone number), and an index of members by their respective area(s) of expertise. Our hope is that this directory will be widely used by chapter members in their day-to-day work with Florida's aquatic resources.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Southern Division AFS Annual Meeting, Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies - The 45th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies will be held in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, 3-6 November 1991. For more information contact Ray Knotts, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, Box 38, French Creek, West Virginia 26218. Phone: (304) 924-6211.

SETAC '91 - The 12th Annual Meeting of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, Environmental Interfaces: Scientific and Socioeconomic, will be held 3-7 November 1991 in Seattle, Washington. For more information contact Bill Williams, Program Chair, USEPA-ERL, 200 SW 35th Street, Corvallis, Oregon 97333. Phone: (503) 757-4679, FAX (503) 757-4799.

World Fisheries Congress - Because of the war in the Persian Gulf, the World Fisheries Congress has been rescheduled for mid-April 1992, in the same location. The program will be essentially unchanged. For more information contact Glen Contreras, Executive Director, World Fisheries Congress, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Suite 110, Bethesda, Maryland 20814. Phone: (301) 897-8616, FAX: (301) 897-8096.

ALTERNATIVE LODGING FOR THE SEAFWA:

Several Southern Division AFS members have been concerned that lodging at the Greenbrier will be prohibitive, given current agency and industry budget woes. Everyone is encouraged to stay at the Greenbrier and support the meeting if possible. However. if you budget precludes you staying at the Greenbrier, please support the meeting by attending and utilizing alternative lodging. The following alternative lodging is available in the White Sulphur Springs area:

* All State Motel (304) 536-1731
30 units - summer
24 units - November

* Brier Inn (304) 645-7722
10 minute drive from Greenbrier
On I-64 & U.S. 219 $46.11 (double rate??)
10 miles East of White Sulphur Springs
160 units

* Greenbrier State Forest (304) 536-1044
3 miles from Greenbrier; makes reservations by July for fall

	Fri/Sat
2 persons - $55/night + $38 each additional night	$55/55
4 persons - $65/night + $48 each additional night	$65/65
6 persons - $75/night + $58 each additional night	

+ 6% sales tax

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

It has taken me longer to get out the first issue of the Shellcracker than I had expected. I would like to mail the next issue during late July/early August. If you have something that you would like included in the next issue, please get your information to me no later than 18 July 1991. I hope to have future issues mailed during January, April, July, and October.

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS:

Future newsletters will regularly contain:

1) Chapter Committee reports.

2) Information from APIRS, FCES, LAKEWATCH, NALMS, and SeaGrant. Other organizations will be added as contacts are located.

3) New publications, including abstracts.

4) Upcoming meetings of interest.

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