

The MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

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A Message from the President

Greetings to all! As I see it we are about halfway through the winter and probably looking forward to the spring! Many of you got a good snow recently and probably hope that is it. Surprisingly we missed it in northeast Mississippi. Maybe by the time this newsletter gets around we will see a bit of it too. I am thankful however that I don't live in Buffalo!

What a blessing it was to see so many of you at the October 2001 meeting at Plymouth Bluff on the Tenn-Tom at Columbus, MS. I do realize that many folks from Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee couldn't get out-of-state travel approval but for many of us that is just a career problem to which you adapt. As we say around here - wait until next year. And next year is here. Already, Tom Broadwell, our Program Chairman and President-Elect, is preparing for the October 2002 meeting. Where will it be? Wait and see. Please give some serious thought to preparing a presentation for the fall meeting as you begin your season's aquatic management work. I know Tom would appreciate an early commitment from many of you as he begins to outline an agenda.

I would like to reminisce for a moment. For me the 20th annual meeting of the MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society was something of a milestone. I enjoyed getting to visit with each of you that were able to attend. We certainly enjoyed fellowship and renewing old friendships. Again, to each of those that prepared and presented a talk to the group, I extend my heartfelt thanks! I was proud of the quality of the many presentations, and especially the student presentations from Mississippi State and Auburn Universities. As program chairman I don't deserve any credit for that. It is the membership of this chapter and your professionalism that makes the quality of our annual meetings.

For those of you that were not able to attend, you were truly missed. In 20 years, I have made many personal friendships among this group and I truly look forward to seeing you each year. In 20 years some of our members have retired, and some I've known have been called into eternity. The October 2001 meeting was such a short time after the 9-11-2001 terrorist attacks on our country that many of our personal conversations would ultimately come back to where we were and what we were doing on that date. I was enroute to a state fisheries lake to do some fall electrofishing. With you, I watched in horror from the lake manager's office as the news continued to unfold before our eyes on a small TV as the towers collapsed. Still, an image I will not to forget! How trivial fisheries data collection seemed for the rest of that day and the days that followed. The truth is each of us is but a heartbeat away from eternity and I would like to simply say thanks to all of you in the MidSouth chapter for enriching my life over these many years.

David Franks
MSAPMS chapter president

From the Editor:

Some of you may or may not have noticed that Scott Hendricks is no longer the editor of the MSAPMS newsletter. I have agreed to take on this responsibility for the next few years – what was I thinking! Scott did a fantastic job during his time as editor, and I hope I can follow in his footsteps and provide an informative and quality newsletter. If anyone has anything to submit for an upcoming newsletter, please feel free to phone or e-mail me at your convenience. My contact information is listed on the front page and I would be more than happy to include any tidbit of news that any of you have. I'll probably be contacting some of you for input, especially if I'm deficient on information for any of the upcoming newsletters; however, please don't wait on me to contact you if you have something to submit. Also, if anyone notices corrections to any newsletter that needs to be mentioned in future mailings, please let me know – constructive criticism only (grin).

J. Chris Greene
MSAPMS editor

Board Members Don't Forget!

The **Midwinter Board Meeting** will be held on **February 11, 2002 at 10 a.m.** at the **Alabama Power Complex in Birmingham, AL**. Any issues or concerns to the MSAPMS chapter should be delivered to the president prior to Friday, February 8, 2002. These topics will be brought to the attention of the entire board of directors at the meeting.

The MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society appreciates the following sponsors and contributors:

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Minutes from Initial Board Meeting October 24, 2001

The meeting was called to order. Members present were: Ken Weathers, David Franks, Renee Beam, Craig Aguillard, Eric Barkemeyer, Marty Brunson, and Tom Broadwell.

Minutes from the Feb. 7, 2001 board meeting were presented.

Scholarship

A \$1,500 scholarship was awarded to Steve Sammons for work on movement of LMB during fluridone drip application on Lake Seminole. There are no applicants for this year's scholarship.

By-Laws

At the October 2000 meeting, a voice vote indicated support to change the by-laws to split secretary/treasurer into 2 positions (secretary and treasurer), but allow 1 person to hold both if desired. At the February 2001 board meeting, the board established the language for the changes. The proposed changes were published in the June 2001 newsletter. A vote was delayed till the business meeting.

Nominations

President – Elect: Tom Broadwell
Treasurer: Renee Beam
Secretary: Don Morgan
Editor: Chris Greene
Directors: Wes Anderson and Joe Jernigan

Membership

52 Inactive, 146 current members

Web Site / Newsletter

The Web site, which will include the current newsletter, has been off-line for revisions. Mississippi State University Extension Service has changed their method of operations and is no longer maintaining our site. To go through the national APMS and use their web designer would cost a minimum of \$50 per month plus \$35 per month for ISP plus \$35 per year domain name registration, which totals \$1055+ per year. Marty called Dan at MSU-ES and offered to pay a fee to help defray costs of site maintenance. This was accepted by Dan and he expected to have the site up and running by Mid-November. We spend \$700- \$800 per year printing and mailing the newsletter. The newsletter will be posted on the

website. Members with e-mail addresses will be notified when the newsletter is on the site. Others will receive a hard copy. Savings from postage and printing should cover the fee to MSU-ES. The board will follow up at the February board meeting to be sure this is going smoothly. Ken will send a letter to MSU-ES requesting their services.

Financial Report

As of October 23, 2001, there was \$17,145.90 in the operations account, \$11,396.23 in the Alabama Power Scholarship Fund, and \$14,926.40 in the MSAPMS Scholarship Fund.

Other Business

Board members discussed whether to continue contributing \$500 to Kids Journey to Understanding Weeds. The national APMS has asked chapters to support Understanding Invasive Weeds. This 2-year initiative is geared toward 5th graders and will be distributed through Sea-Grant, which already has a presence in 8,000 schools. The board voted to give \$500 per year for 2 years to Understanding Invasive Weeds. At the February 2001 board meeting, we committed \$1,000 to the scholarship fund of AERF (Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation). AERF conducts and supports applied research on aquatic weeds, focusing on invasive exotics.

The National APMS has asked chapters to support RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) at \$250 per year. RISE addresses the needs of pest management industry (nurseries, golf courses, highway right of way, and basically everyone else except production agriculture). The board deferred the decision on joining RISE to the winter board meeting so the issue of joining a political group and how it would affect our members' ability to stay in MSAPMS could be discussed. Ken will check on the state employee aspect for the winter board meeting.

The Plymouth Bluff meeting rooms were provided at no charge. This allowed the society to cover Wednesday sodas and dinner and Thursday's lunch. David contacted all 36 certified applicators in Mississippi and invited them to join us; however, we had only 2 responses. The meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Submitted by: Renee Beam
Former MSAPMS Secretary

**Business Meeting
October 24, 2001**

At 4:08 p.m. President Ken Weathers called the meeting to order. Renee presented the minutes from the final business meeting October 2000.

Financial

Renee reported that as of October 23, 2001 MSAPMS had \$17,145.90 in operations, \$11,396.23 in the Alabama Power Scholarship fund and \$14,926.40 in the MSAPMS scholarship fund. The financial report was accepted unanimously.

Scholarship

Ken reported that last years scholarship was awarded to Steve Sammons and that there are no current nominees for next year.

By-Laws

David discussed the steps taken to amend the by-laws to split secretary and treasurer into two positions. This recommendation was unanimously accepted.

Nominations

Nominations were made for the new slate of officers with Tom Broadwell for President elect, Rene Beam for treasurer, Don Morgan for secretary, Chris Greene for editor, and Wes Anderson and Joe Jernigan for Directors. Ken asked for nominations from the floor; however, none were made and Eric moved to close nominations (several seconded the motion). The officers were accepted unanimously by voice vote.

Other business

Update from the board meeting discussions concerning our web site, financial contributions to Understanding Invasive Weeds and AERF. Joe Jernigan asked if the board had made any further decisions on getting a professional to manage the scholarship funds – the board had not.

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m. pending final business meeting on October 26, 2001

Submitted by: Renee Beam
Former MSAPMS Secretary

**Final Business Meeting
October 26, 2001**

Financial

Renee Beam presented the treasurers report. Tom Broadwell stated the books were audited and in good order. Mike Eubanks made a motion to continue the AERF scholarship fund (Harry Knight seconded) and the motion carried by voice vote.

By-Laws

Ken Weathers stated copies of the new by-laws were available.

Other Business

David Franks presented a presidential award to Ken Weathers. Certificates of appreciation were presented to outgoing Directors Eric Barkemeyer and Dr. Marty Brunson, / and outgoing editor Scott Hendricks. David Franks recognized our corporate sponsors.

No other business was available for discussion; therefore, Harry Knight made motion to adjourn. Craig Aguillard seconded the motion and a voice vote adjourned the 2001 business meeting.

Submitted by: Don Morgan
MSAPMS Secretary



**Final Board of Directors Business Meeting
October 26, 2001**

David Franks opened the meeting. Members present included: Tom Broadwell, Renee Beam, Don Morgan, Chris Greene, Ken Weathers, Craig Aguillard, Wes Anderson, and Joe Jernigan

Financial:

David stated that we did not have a bill from the caterer. It was decided that MSAPMS would pay the caterer for services rendered and invoice the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks for their portion. This would speed the payment to the caterer.

It was brought up that the checking account had approximately \$17,000. The question was raised - did we need that much money in the account. Discussions centered on having a professional money manager. Further discussions were tabled until the February meeting.

Ken Weathers brought up a proposal to provide the student presenters with financial assistance to cover out of pocket expenses. Joe recommended \$50 be given to the student presenters and a discussion followed on student paper presenters. The general consent was to present them with \$50 per paper. Renee Beam made a motion to give the presenters \$50 to defray personal out of pocket expenses and the motion carried by voice vote.

David Franks presented the directors with some of his personal expenses. These were incurred because of the isolated location of the meeting site. The expenses covered beverage refreshments and the barbecue expenses for Wednesday night. The Wednesday night meal was approximately \$5 per attendee. David Franks would give Renee the receipts for reimbursement and the board agreed to reimburse David.

There was an added expense for the presentation equipment provided by the Plymouth Bluff Environmental Center. There were no charges for the meeting rooms.

There was a discussion on door prizes and ways to increase the donations to the scholarship fund. There was also a discussion to explore the possibility of higher value door prizes. The idea of creating a door prize committee was discussed. Any further discussion was deferred until the

February meeting.

It was decided that the February 2002 board meeting would be in Birmingham at the Alabama Power location. Wes Anderson will coordinate the meeting with Alabama Power. The group decided to contact David Franks concerning a tentative date around the second week of February.

The total cost of the Wednesday board luncheon was \$60. MSAPMS would cover the cost and then invoice the state for their participation.

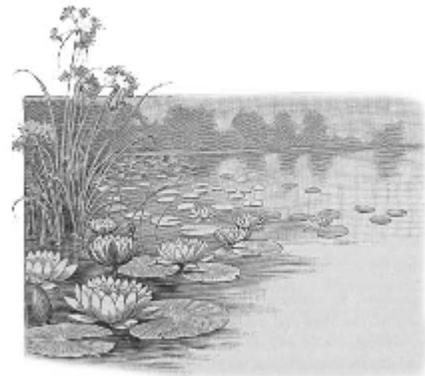
There was a discussion on local arrangements for the next meeting - in particular the golf tournament. Board members discussed ways of increasing participation by society members and corporate sponsors. This discussion was deferred to the February meeting.

The new by-laws were handed out which included the updated duty list for the separate offices of Secretary and Treasurer.

Wes Anderson would send in the letters for state certification points.

Chris made a motion to adjourn and Renee seconded the motion. By voice proclamation, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Don Morgan
MSAPMS Secretary



2002 MEMBERSHIP DUES

NAME:
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TELEPHONE:
E-MAIL:
AFFILIATION:

Make checks payable to:
MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

Full Membership \$10
Student \$5
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Remit to: Renee Beam
Dept. of Fisheries and
Allied Aquacultures
203 Swingle Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849

Amount Enclosed \$



**THE MIDSOUTH AQUATIC
PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY**

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TO: