



The MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

Volume 21 No. 1

January 2003

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A Message from the President

It's hard to believe that 2003 is upon us. Are we ready for the challenges the New Year will bring? Are you planning to try some new treatment applications or vary old ones in hopes of getting better results at less cost? That's some of the thoughts I have as planning for the New Year is completed. I encourage you to think now about these and be prepared to present your results (good or not so good) at our 2003 meeting.

Having served as Program Chair for the 2002 meeting in Gulf Shores, I have a new perspective of the organization and our annual meetings. I hope there were some presentations at the Gulf Shores meeting that stimulated your planning for 2003. I have a goal for the 2003 meeting to have all the PowerPoint presentations without any computer or projector difficulties. If you are an expert with PowerPoint or digital projectors, offer to assist Eric Barkemeyer with the 2003 program.

At our annual meeting, guides Fred and Maureen Nation made the field trip to Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve very informative. They had great love and knowledge of this unique area. I saw more species of Pitcher Plants than ever in one small area.

The shrimp boil on Thursday night that Joe Z put together was outstanding – everyone had a great time and plenty of shrimp with all the fixings – thank you Joe Z and all the cooks!

Many others helped with this meeting and I owe them a great deal of thanks: Mary and Joe Jernigan were lifesavers – we wouldn't have had a place for the shrimp boil if not for their last minute help when our initial location cancelled less than two weeks before the meeting. Wes Anderson did a superb job with our door prizes and raffle ticket sales. Craig Aquillard's idea for the silent auction of some raffle items enhanced our scholarship fund and will likely be used for our next meeting. Don Morgan, Rene Beam and Donna Lofaso did an excellent job with registration. Last and most importantly, we need to thank all our sponsors – without them we would be a drastically different organization.

Eric Barkemeyer has begun planning for the next meeting. The Board meets in February and we will soon have a location for our next Annual Meeting. We are working with Auburn University to update our web site and will include this in our February Mid-term Board meeting.

Tom Broadwell
MSAPMS President

Board Members Don't Forget!

The **Midwinter Board Meeting** will be held on **February 7, 2003 at 10:00 AM** at the **Alabama Power Complex in Birmingham, AL**. Any issues or concerns to the MSAPMS chapter should be delivered to the president prior to this date. All topics will be brought to the attention of the entire board of directors at the meeting. If you need directions contact Wes Anderson.

Annual Meeting

We appreciate all those who attended the 21st annual MSAPMS meeting in Gulf Shores last fall. We are in the process of planning the next meeting and the location will be announced in the next newsletter. Thank you to all scholarship fund contributors through raffle ticket purchases or donations.

The MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society would like to thank the following corporate sponsors and contributors:

Advantis Technologies, Inc.
Alabama Power Company
American Sportfish
Applied Biochemists
Aquaservices, Inc.
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From the Editor

We are in the process of updating our web-site where members can access the newsletter and other pertinent information online. This should cut down on future postage costs by reducing the number of newsletter mail outs. I will be sending out this month's edition of the newsletter via snail mail to all MSAPMS members. I will also e-mail everyone, for whom I have an address, the link for the new web-site within the next month. We are lacking many e-mail addresses; therefore, if you do not get a message pertaining to the new web-site this means we do not have your e-mail address on file. All persons not receiving this message should forward their e-mail address to me as soon as possible. We appreciate David Cline's efforts to assist us with our web-site.

Chris Greene
MSAPMS editor

Web-sites of Interest

The University of Florida Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants:

<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Bureau of Invasive Plant Management (FDEP)

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/invaspec/>

Weeds Gone Wild: Alien Plant Invaders of Natural Areas:

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/>

USDA Plants Database:

<http://plants.usda.gov/>

Aquatic Plant Management Society:

<http://www.apms.org/>

Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc:

<http://www.homestead.com/fapms/main.html>

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council:

<http://www.fleppc.org/>

Aquatic Plant Control Research Program:

<http://www.wes.army.mil/el/aqua/>

Minutes from the Initial Board Meeting October 16, 2002

President David Franks called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

Attendees:

David Franks, Tom Broadwell, Joe Jernigan, Chris Greene, Renee Beam, Don Morgan, Craig Aguillard, Wes Anderson, and Maxie Gray

Old Business:

The minutes from the February 11, 2002 Board of Directors meeting in Birmingham Alabama were read. A motion was made to accept the minutes, seconded, and the minutes were accepted by voice vote.

Financial Report:

Renee Beam presented the financial report and a copy will be placed with official minutes' file. As of October 16, there was \$18,647.09 in the operating account. The MSAPMS Scholarship account contained \$14,926.40, and the Alabama Power Company Scholarship account had \$11,396.23. A motion was made to accept the financial report as read. The motion was seconded and accepted by voice vote.

Nomination Committee:

The nomination report remained the same as in the February minutes. *President:* Tom Broadwell, *President Elect:* Eric Barkemeyer, *Secretary:* Don Morgan, *Treasurer:* Renee Beam, *Editor:* Chris Greene, *Directors:* Greg Wall, Mike Maceina, Wes Anderson, and Joe Jernigan

Education Packets:

Thirty-six cases of aquatic plant management educational packets were available for distribution. It was recommended that each board member (including the incoming members) take three packets each and distribute them to various school systems. New packets will have the 5th grade level reference removed.

New Business:

A change was made to the program for Thursday afternoon. The safety rules and regulations workshop that was scheduled will be replaced with a trip to the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

The format for the scholarship fund activities was changed. The board agreed to have some selected door prizes sold in a silent auction.

There was a discussion of how much money is in the operating account. In general, the funds in the operating account are not earning interest. The board wondered if some of the money should be moved from the operating account into the MSAPMS scholarship fund? The issue of transferring money from the checking account to the CD was tabled until the final board meeting.



Minutes from the Final Board Meeting *October 18, 2002*

Attendees:

David Franks, Tom Broadwell, Eric Barkemeyer, Renee Beam, Don Morgan, Chris Greene, Greg Wall, Wes Anderson, and Joe Jernigan.

Financial Report:

To this point, expenses for the meeting totaled \$2,779.32. Tom Broadwell was thanked for a very good program and local arrangements.

New Business:

There was a discussion on the location and length of the 2003 MidSouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting. The discussion consisted of having a two-day meeting, instead of the usual three-day, and an earlier start time. Further discussion was tabled until the February board meeting. Board members were encouraged to get input from society members.

Website:

It was agreed the newsletter was the official announcement of the society. If the newsletter is placed on a web-site and members notified by e-mail, the newsletter would still be considered the official document for announcements. All members need to make sure Secretary Don Morgan has your current email address.

Financial:

Discussion involved the amount of money in our operational checking account. A suggestion was to move some of the money from the operating account into the MSAPMS scholarship fund. One of the goals is to have enough money in the scholarship fund so the interest will cover the scholarships. A motion was made to move \$10,000.00 from the operational account to the MSAPMS scholarship account. The board of directors passed the motion. There was another discussion in reference to the current charges assessed by the banking institute that the MSAPMS is using. A motion was made to investigate the possibilities of moving the

operational accounts to another banking institution. Renee Beam will investigate banking rates and report back to the board via e-mail for a decision before the next board meeting. Eric Barkemeyer will research investment alternatives for the scholarship funds and report back to the board during the winter board meeting.

The mid-winter board meeting was tentatively scheduled for February 7, 2002 in Birmingham at the Alabama Power facility.

AERF Status:

Renee Beam will confirm all commitments to the AERF for membership and for the educational booklets have been fulfilled.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.



Changes in Behavior, Movement, and Home Ranges of Largemouth Bass Following Large-scale Hydrilla Removal in Lake Seminole, Georgia

Steve M. Sammons, Michael J. Maceina, and David G. Partridge

ABSTRACT

About 1,800 ha of hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata* L.f. Royle) was eliminated in the Spring Creek embayment of Lake Seminole, Georgia, using a drip-delivery application of fluridone (1-methyl-3-phenyl-5-[3-(trifluoromethyl) phenyl]-4(1H)-pyridinone) in 2000 and 2001. Two groups of 15 and 20 largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides* Lacepede) were implanted with 400-day radio tags in February 2000 and 2001 to determine changes in movement and behavior before and after hydrilla reduction. Fish were located approximately every 10 days beginning two weeks after tag insertion; beginning in May 2000 diel movement was assessed once a month, and on each sampling date the fish were located every 4 hours for 24 hours (six locations per sampling date). Only fish that were at large in the lake for at least 200 days and with at least 35 locations were used for analysis; 19 fish met these criteria. Locations were grouped into two treatment levels based on the amount of hydrilla present in the system, a pre-treatment period (May to August 2000) when hydrilla coverage in Spring Creek was 72%, and a post treatment period (June to October 2001) when coverage was 22%. Most largemouth bass remained in the treatment area and maintained similar home range sizes during both treatment periods. However, fish exhibited greater movement, inhabited greater depths, and switched from using hydrilla to large woody debris after hydrilla was reduced. Fish may have responded to better foraging conditions by changing feeding strategies from ambushing to searching, which should increase foraging success. Decreased water clarity and increased threadfin shad abundance may have precipitated the increased

daytime movement we observed in this study. Our data demonstrated that while largemouth bass do not leave an area when hydrilla is reduced with fluridone, their behavior does change. Lake managers involved in aquatic plant removal programs can exchange this information with anglers concerning the effects of hydrilla treatment and potential impacts to the fishery.

This article has been accepted to appear in a future issue of the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management.

Roundleaf toothcup (*Rotala rotundifolia*) new to Florida and Alabama.

First reported as introduced to North America in 2002, at a pond in northern Alabama (Reese and Haynes 2002), *Rotala rotundifolia* (roundleaf toothcup) has simultaneously appeared along urban canals in southern Florida. In Florida, plants display both terrestrial and aquatic growth forms and produce many small seeds within capsules. *Rotala rotundifolia* originates from Southeast Asia, southern India and Japan. It has been well received in the water garden trade for its brilliant, rose colored flowers and lush, creeping perennial growth. Belonging to the loosestrife family (Lythraceae), it forms expansive, colorful displays reminiscent of its cold hardy cousin, *Lythrum salicaria* (purple loosestrife). *Rotala rotundifolia* produces flowers on terminal spikes (racemes) and differs from a previously introduced species, *Rotala indica*, which is an annual species with shorter, lateral flower spikes. *Rotala indica* was introduced with rice seed and has not strayed much from rice regions of California and Louisiana. *Rotala rotundifolia* might be expected from a much broader range of mild climate states, if plants are found to escape from home water gardens.

For more information on nonindigenous aquatic plant species or to report a siting visit

the U.S. Geological Survey web-site at:

<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/plants/index.html>



**THE MIDSOUTH AQUATIC
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