

Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

Newsletter

Volume 27 Number 1

January 2009

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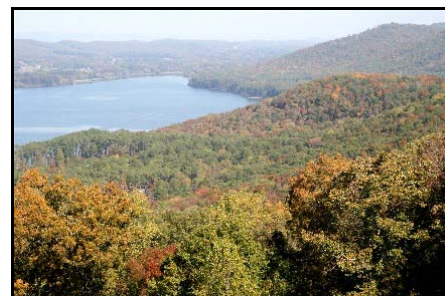
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VACANCY



28th Annual Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Meeting to be Held at Lake Guntersville State Park – Guntersville, AL



Renovations are complete! Please make plans to attend the 28th Annual Meeting of the Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society at beautiful Lake Guntersville State Park in Guntersville, Alabama. The meeting will be held October 13-15, 2009.

Newly renovated and once again open to the public, Lake Guntersville Resort State Park is located along the banks of the Tennessee River in NE Alabama. The park overlooks the majestic 69,000-acre Guntersville Reservoir, and ranges over more than 6,000 acres of natural woodlands. The park has an 18-hole championship golf course (entire renovation scheduled to begin January 2009), a beach complex, fishing center, hiking trails, nature programs and a day-use area. Modern campground and lakeview cottages on the lake, coupled with a resort lodge on the pinnacle of Taylor Mountain, and chalets on the ridge-tops provide a selection of overnight accommodations beyond comparison. <http://www.guntersvillestatepark.com/>

President's Report January 2009

I have the privilege of reporting to our membership on the Annual Meeting of the Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society in October 2008 and subsequent events. The annual meeting was held at the Renaissance Riverview Plaza hotel, Mobile, AL from October 21-23, 2008. I am deeply appreciative of the thirteen sponsors and fifteen exhibitors at the annual meeting – without their support, the meeting would lack a significant amount of luster and amenities! A list of folks was printed in the last newsletter, as part of the program for the annual meeting. We had twenty-three presentations, including eight graduate students from three different universities. I thank the presenters, and hope that they will be willing to contribute again when Jason Carlee requests presentations for the meeting next year.

During the annual business meeting, we recognized the outgoing board members for their contributions: President ('07-'08) Bryan Goldsby, Immediate Past President Bob Gunkel, Director Damon Abernethy (who will remain on the board one more year to fill a vacancy), and Treasurer Jeremy Slade. We were honored to present Bob Gunkel with the President's Award, for his more than two decades of work for the Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society and for aquatic plant management in general. We also presented Bob with an Honorary Membership, since he is retiring (exactly how retirees can work for the federal government is a mystery, but it happens) this year from the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center.

The Graduate Student Scholarship winner for 2008 was Joshua Cheshier. Joshua is a M.S. degree candidate in the Plant and Soil Science Department of Mississippi State University, studying weed science. His M.S. project is examining the phenology of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) in the Mobile Bay delta, as well as screening available aquatic herbicides for efficacy on common reed. We have opened another round of the scholarship competition, with an announcement in this issue. If you know of any university faculty or graduate students that might be interested in this program, please tell them directly or contact me, and I will send them information.

We welcome new board members Judy Shearer (Treasurer), Linda Nelson (Director), and Craig Aguillard (Director). At the first board meeting, we selected standing committee chairs, which are published separately in this newsletter. Please feel free to contact me (jmadsen@agri.msstate.edu), any other board member, or the appropriate committee chair if you have specific concerns or questions for the society.

Jason Carlee, the program chair for the 2009 meeting, is already hard at work identifying a location and theme for the meeting. I look forward to another great meeting next year. One issue we will be discussing for next year is the addition of a half-day workshop, to generate more CEUs for commercial applicators. If this would be of interest to you, please see the survey question later in the newsletter.

I look forward to a great year for the Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society.

John D. Madsen, Ph.D.
President ('08-'09), Midsouth APMS

**Visit the MSAPMS Website: www.msapms.org
The membership list can be viewed by using the following:**

User Name: msapms Password: lilypad

Too Many Weeds Spoil the Fishing



Exotic invasive aquatic plants such as Hydrilla, Eurasian Water Milfoil, Curlyleaf Pondweed, Water Chestnut and Water Hyacinth can be detrimental to a healthy fishery in lakes across the country.

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**Minutes from the Business Meeting
Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel,
Mobile, Alabama
October 22, 2008**

The Business meeting was called to order by President Bryan Goldsby at 4:36 p.m.

President's Report:

No report.

Treasurer's Report:

Jeremy Slade reported that the Society has 3 separate accounts. The accounts have the following balances:

Compass Acct: \$1200.00

Bank Trust Scholarship Acct: \$47,889.00

Bank Trust Operational Acct: \$32,444.37

Eight students will receive a \$100.00 check for presenting at the annual meeting.

Jeremy reported that the books were audited by Harry Knight and Neal Coulter and the books were found to be in order.

Secretary's Report:

Sherry Whitaker reported that there were 82 delegates registered for the meeting, of which four did not attend.

There are a total of 148 members in the database from 2006-2008. Since membership dues are included in the delegate registration, Sherry will be sending out letters to those members who did not attend. This will allow them to keep their membership up-to-date.

Sherry asked that each member make sure that they provide the most up-to-date e-mail addresses to insure they receive all Midsouth correspondence.

Sherry stated that the program agenda was sent to surrounding states for consideration for Continuing Education Credits (CEU's) or re-certification points toward the Aquatic Pesticide Applicator Permit. Those members that have a permit and

want to register should do so for their particular state at the registration desk

Editor's Report:

Ryan Wersal reminded the membership that each person should be receiving a copy of the Aquatics magazine as part of their MSAPMS membership. Make sure that the Society has an up-to-date e-mail address.

Business card and other ad space is now available in the newsletter. If interested contact Ryan. He will be sending out letters to sustaining members.

Also, the editor encouraged others to become sustaining members.

A motion was made by Linda Nelson to accept the officer reports, Jason Carlee seconded, voice vote by all to accept.

Membership Committee Report:

No report.

Scholarship Committee Report:

John Madsen reported that 8 students participated this year. Matt Spickard was unable to attend. Each will receive a \$100.00 check.

Graduate scholarship is now \$2,000.00. There were 2 applicants this year, both from MSU. Five people were on the committee that judged. The winner will be announced at the awards banquet. Need to solicit for more interest in the scholarship.

Program Committee Report:

John Madsen thanked all of the Sponsors for the meeting. \$12,500 in sponsorships was raised. Thanks also to those who donated raffle prizes and the exhibitors for their participation.

Website Committee Report:

Bob made suggestions of changes to be made on the site. Will be voting on a bylaws change to

make the website committee a standing committee. The committee will then address the changes.

Jeremy Slade made a motion to accept the by-laws change to make the Website Committee a standing committee, John Madsen seconded, voice vote by all to accept.

Nomination Committee Report:

Bryan Goldsby (for Bob Gunkel) presented the list of nominations for the 2008-2009 Board of Directors for consideration by the membership:

President-Elect: Jason Carlee

Treasurer: Judy Shearer

Director: Linda Nelson

Director: Craig Aguillard

Damon Abernethy will be filling in the remaining year for the director position vacated by William White.

The floor was opened for additional nominations. None were presented for consideration. A motion was made by John Madsen to accept the nominations as presented and Cliff Young seconded. The motion was accepted by a unanimous voice vote.

Linda Nelson made a motion to accept the committee reports, Greg Wall seconded, voice vote by all to accept.

A motion was made by Linda Nelson to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Craig Aguillard, and the motion was unanimous.

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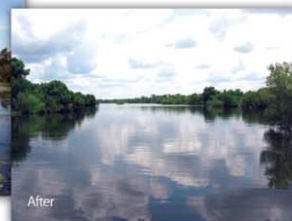
For more information contact your SePRO aquatic specialist,

Larry Hartmann at (210) 274-3626.



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2008 27th Annual Meeting Photos from Mobile, Alabama



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Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society 2008-2009

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Bryan Goldsby - Immediate Past President
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Jason Carlee - President
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Sherry Whitaker - Secretary (2nd year)
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Judy Shearer - Treasurer (1st year)
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Ryan Wersal - Editor (2nd year)
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Neal Coulter - Director (2nd year)
ncoulter@cygnetenterprises.com

Linda Nelson - Director (1st year)
linda.s.nelson@erdc.usace.army.mil

Damon Abernethy - Director (2nd year)
damon.abernethy@dcnr.alabama.gov

Director position currently vacant

Committee Chairs

Program Committee - Jason Carlee
Editorial - Ryan Wersal
Internal Audit - Judy Shearer
Scholarship - John Madsen
Membership - Sherry Whitaker
Nominating - Bryan Goldsby
Web Site - Ryan Wersal



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MSAPMS 2009 Conference
Call for Papers
October 13-15, 2009
Lake Guntersville State Park
Guntersville, Alabama

Oral presentations will be 15 minutes, including questions. Posters will be mounted in the main meeting room. Presentations are encouraged on all aspects of aquatic and wetland plant management, biology, and ecology. Presenters are requested to register for the conference.

Please e-mail the Title Form, attached below, and a brief abstract (250 words or less) by July 31, 2009:

Jason Carlee
Alabama Power Company
600 North 18th Street / GSC #8
Birmingham, AL 35291
Email: jcarlee@southernco.com

A computer and projector to handle Power Point presentations will be provided. No other presentation format will be supported. Please bring your presentation on a USB compatible flash or CD.

Title Form

Presentation Format: Oral Presentation _____ Poster _____

Title: _____

Corresponding Author: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND, PRESENT, AND PARTICIPATE IN THIS CONFERENCE. INVITE THOSE YOU ASSOCIATE WITH TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT AS WELL!

Editorial Guidelines

The Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society

Font: Times New Roman, size 12

Title: Bold, upper case. Align Left. End with period.

Author: Name follows Title, sentence case. Underline name of presenting author. Separate authors with commas. End with semicolon.

Affiliation: Sentence case. Include author's affiliation, address with zip code, e-mail address. If needed, insert semicolon and follow with second author's information. If there are three or more authors, add superscripts for clarity (for example, John Smith¹). Justify.

Body of Abstract: Leave one blank line between title/author/affiliations and the body of the abstract. No indentation; one paragraph only. Justify.

Scientific Names: For plants, animals, and microbes, etc., use the WSSA approved common name followed by the genus and species names in italics, wherever possible (for example, diquat dibromide).

Scientific Units: Use of Metric or English units are acceptable. Use of standard abbreviations is acceptable.

See example below:

LITTORAL ZONE PLANT COMMUNITIES IN THE ROSS BARNETT RESERVOIR, MS.

Wersal, R.M.¹, J.D. Madsen¹ and M.L. Tagert²; ¹GeoResources Institute, Mississippi State University, Box 9652 Mississippi State, MS 39762-9652, rwersal@gri.msstate.edu. ² Mississippi Water Resources Research Institute, Mississippi State University, Box 9680 Mississippi State, MS 39762-9680

The Ross Barnett Reservoir is a 33,000 acre surface water impoundment created on the Pearl River near Jackson, Mississippi. The Reservoir is the primary source of potable water for the city of Jackson. It provides recreational opportunities in the form of fishing, boating, water sports, and onshore camping and hiking. In recent years, non-native aquatic macrophytes have increased in distribution, impeding navigation, fishing, and reduced the aesthetics of waterfront properties. We conducted a whole-lake survey in June 2005 to assess the distribution and abundance of plant communities in the Reservoir to serve as a starting point for a long term management plan. In October 2006 a survey of the littoral zone (water depths of ≤ 10 feet) was conducted based on the points sampled in 2005. A plant rake was deployed at each of 508 points visited. Species presence was mapped using handheld computers outfitted with GPS receivers, and data stored in database templates using Farm Site Mate software. A total of 21 aquatic or riparian plant species were observed growing in or along the shoreline of the littoral zone. American lotus and water primrose were the most common plant species observed in the littoral zone (17.7 % and 7.4% respectively). Non-native plants included alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) (3.9%), waterhyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) (2.9%), and hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) (0.6%). Bladderwort (*Utricularia vulgaris*), a native submersed aquatic plant was also observed (0.4%) for the first time. Overall, species occurrence was lower during in 2006 than in 2005.

2009 Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society Scholarship Opportunity

The MSAPMS is seeking applications for the 2009 graduate student scholarship to be awarded at the 28th annual meeting at a place to be determined. One scholarship of \$2,000 will be awarded to a qualified student applicant.

To apply, The Scholarship Committee should receive the following information on or before June 12, 2009:

1. A cover letter which includes the applicant's previous, current, and future relationship to the aquatic plant management industry, and a comment on the importance of their proposed research to aquatic plant management.
2. Copies of official transcripts of undergraduate and any graduate work completed to date;
3. A letter from the student's major professor recommending the student for the scholarship, indicating that the student is currently enrolled and in good standing and has had their research proposal approved by their graduate advisory committee;
4. A copy of the research proposal; and
5. Two letters or recommendation (other than the major professor)

To enter an application or request more information, contact:

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**Court Cancels EPA Clean Water Act
Exemption for Pesticides Cincinnati, Ohio,
January 7, 2009**

Environmental groups today celebrated their victory as an appeals court vacated a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rule that has allowed pesticides to be applied to U.S. waters without a Clean Water Act permit.

On November 27, 2007, the EPA issued the final rule, which states that pesticides applied in accordance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, or FIFRA, are exempt from the Clean Water Act's permitting requirements.

The Clean Water Act regulates the discharge of pollutants into the nation's waters by, among other things, requiring entities that emit pollutants to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, NPDES, permit.

For nearly 30 years before adoption of the rule, pesticide labels issued under the FIFRA were required to contain a notice stating that the pesticide could not be "discharged into lakes, streams, ponds, or public waters unless in accordance with an NPDES permit."

Two different groups of petitioners, one representing environmental interest groups and the other representing industry interest groups, for different reasons opposed the rule as exceeding the EPA's interpretive authority. The EPA defends the rule by arguing that the terms of the Clean Water Act are ambiguous and that the rule is a reasonable construction of the Clean Water Act.

In their decision, a three-judge panel of the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals wrote, "We cannot agree. The Clean Water Act is not ambiguous. Therefore, we hold that the EPA's Final Rule is not a reasonable interpretation of the Act and vacate the Final Rule."

"The decision today is a victory for clean water, and for fish and wildlife," declared Charlie Tebbutt, Western Environmental Law Center attorney and lead counsel for the environmental

organizations and organic farms that challenged the rule.

The organizations bringing the case include Baykeeper, National Center for Conservation Science and Policy, Oregon Wild, Saint John's Organic Farm, Californians for Alternatives to Toxics, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, Waterkeeper Alliance, Environment Maine, Toxics Action Center, Peconic Baykeeper and Soundkeeper.

"This decision is another in a long line of rebukes to the Bush administration policies that overstepped their statutory authority and to the chemical manufacturers who peddle their poisons without concern to the effect on human health and the environment," said Tebbutt. "We look forward to working with the new EPA to protect the environment rather than the chemical industry."

The industry petitioners were the Agribusiness Association of Iowa, BASF Corporation, Bayer CropScience, CropLife America, Delta Council, Eldon C. Stutsman, Inc., FMC Corporation, Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association, The National Cotton Council of America, Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment, Southern Crop Production Association, and Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.

With the intention of broadening the EPA exemption, they argued that the EPA rule is "arbitrary and capricious" because it treats pesticides applied in violation of the FIFRA as pollutants, while it treats the very same pesticides used in compliance with the FIFRA as non pollutants. The court denied their claim and ruled that pesticide residues and biological pesticides constitute pollutants under federal law and therefore must be regulated under the Clean Water Act in order to minimize the impact to human health and the environment.

"This decision will help ensure, in communities across the country, that aquatic pests are addressed in ways that protect both water quality and the public health," said Chuck Caldart of the National Environmental Law Center, one of the attorneys representing the plaintiffs.

"We're thrilled by the court's decision - particularly in providing clarity on the aerial applications of pesticides over navigable waters for mosquito control," said Peconic Baykeeper Kevin McAllister. "Ensuring that the required discharge permits have been obtained provides for greater protection of our water resources."

"Time and again during these past eight years EPA has walked into federal courts and tried to defend absolutely indefensible rules like the one vacated today," said Waterkeeper Alliance Legal Director Scott Edwards. "And time and again they've been sent back to the drawing board to rewrite these unlawful rules. Hopefully, EPA's days of pandering to industry and other polluters and wasting taxpayers' dollars in illegal rulemaking are drawing to welcome close."

"This is a significant victory for our nation's waters. More than eight million pounds of pesticides are applied each year in the Bay Area alone," said Sejal Choksi, program director for San

Francisco Baykeeper. "These toxic chemicals enter our creeks harming numerous species of fish, frog and other aquatic life and will now be regulated under the Clean Water Act." "Pesticides have been documented as the most pervasive group of toxic pollutants in our waterways. This decision is a significant step forward in protecting and restoring our seriously degraded fisheries," said Bill Jennings, chairman and executive director of the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance.

Steve Pedery, Oregon Wild conservation director, said, "When it comes to toxic pesticides and their effects on our rivers and salmon, we need to be certain that good science is being used and those resources are protected. This ruling is a victory for clean water and fish, and a victory for Americans who care about healthy rivers and streams."

To view the article follow the URL Ling:
<http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/jan2009/2009-01-07-093.asp>



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Calendar of Events

February 9 – 13, 2009
49th Annual Meeting of the Weed Science Society of America
Orlando, Florida
<http://www.wssa.net/Meetings/WSSAAnnual/Info.htm>

February 18, 2009
MSAPMS Mid-winter Board of Directors Meeting
Starkville, Mississippi

February 22 - 27, 2009
National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week
Washington DC
<http://www.nawma.org/index.html>

March 1 - 4, 2009
29th Annual Meeting of the Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society
Lisle, Illinois
www.mapms.org

March 30 - April 1, 2009
Western Aquatic Plant Management Society Annual Conference
Waikiki, Hawaii
<http://www.wapms.org/>

April 15 - 17, 2009
2009 FVMA Annual Conference
Daytona Beach, Florida
<http://www.fvma.info/conference.html>

May 4 - 7, 2009
2009 Aquatic Weed Control Short Course
Coral Springs, Florida
www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aw

May 26 - 30, 2008
29th Annual Meeting of the Society of Wetland Scientists
Washington, D.C.
<http://www.sws.org>

July 12 - 15, 2009
Aquatic Plant Management Society 49th Annual Meeting
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
<http://www.apms.org>

Midsouth APMS Newsletter

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