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PARTNERSHIPS FOCUS OF SPRING CONFERENCE

WI State Farmer 3/20/13

Demand for Fish Spells Opportunity for Producers

By Jane Metcalf

With "Partnerships" as the main theme of this year's conference, several speakers highlighted relationships between the industry, university, agencies and local communities. Chancellor Cross gave an outstanding talk on Extension and Mike Staggs covered the subject of public and private partnerships for stocking Wisconsin waters. Other talks covered regulations, research and the usual nuts and bolts of running an aquaculture business. Ken Johnson, WDNR, and Scott Lyon, WDATCP, both gave overviews of the industry in relation to their agencies. WAA honored 4 people for their support and work for aquaculture. Two Friends of Aquaculture awards and two Winton Hall of Fame awards were given this year. Bob Robinson graciously made time in his busy schedule to be our luncheon speaker. More details and pictures can be found starting on page 8.

Why not Number One?

A UW official believes the Wisconsin aquaculture industry is swimming in a sea of opportunity and could become the Number One state in aquaculture.

Ray Cross, who has served as chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Colleges and UW-Extension since 2011, spoke at the Wisconsin Aquaculture Association's annual meeting here recently.

Cross called on the state's fish producers to collaborate by building partnerships and expanding their communications, education and support. They need to develop short- and long-term visions for the state's industry, and the state needs to do basic and applied research and have a legislative agenda that support that vision.

"We need to rally behind a vision that we share," he said.

Cross encouraged producers to dream bigger. He believes a Wisconsin aquaculture innovation center - a non-brick-and-mortar idea center - would help the industry,



Cont on page 6

Meeting Opens Possibility of Partnerships and Wisconsin Farm Raised Sturgeon

On March 8, a meeting to examine Lake Sturgeon options to benefit both the DNR management goals and for the private production took place. Those in attendance represented the WDNR, aquaculture industry, WAA, Sturgeon for Tomorrow, University WI - Extension, WDATCP, USFWS, and UW-Milwaukee/SFS. Ron Johnson, UW-Extension, gave an overview of sturgeon in other states and the 2000 report to the WI legislature; Ron Bruch, WDNR, covered WI law in regards to sturgeon and the different species; Ryan Koenigs, WDNR, explained current DNR management and status of sturgeon; and Leo Ray, Fish Breeders of Idaho, presented culture and management of sturgeon from a commercial producer's perspective. The afternoon was spent with breakout sessions. Five questions were discussed and recommendations/concerns made: *cont on pg 10*

Governor Scott Walker Announces Wisconsin Walleye Initiative

Following is a comment from Dave Gollon, Gollon Bait and Fish Farm, Dodgeville.

Wisconsin Aquaculture owes a special thanks to Governor Walker for his foresight and commitment to fishing in Wisconsin. We also must thank the WI DNR, in particular Deputy Secretary Matt Moroney, for their consideration and concern for our Industry.

*The Walleye Initiative will benefit Wisconsin Aquaculture by creating opportunities for all of us. That is, if we choose to participate and work with the DNR on this exciting opportunity. While this may not benefit every one of us in the Industry, we all have obligations to support many different and diverse parts of our Industry. It is from this that *cont on page 10**

The CREEL

June 2013 Volume 46* ** Number 2

WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

www.wisconsinaquaculture.com

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WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSN. COMMITTEES

The following are committees that were formed at the June meeting. If you are interested in joining any committee, please contact any committee member. The effectiveness of our committees and our organization are based on membership participation.

Committee

Members

Business Development

Peter Fritsch

Creation, review and development of business development tools for aquaculture

Research & Education

Dan Gruendemann

Coordination and review of research, training, educational programming

Jim Held

Regulatory Policy

Dave Gollon

Coordination, review and impact assessment of regulatory actions

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Budget

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Active (voting): \$50/ year, Associate (non-voting): \$25/ year
Group(1 vote): \$75/ year, All memberships RUN FROM January to
December and include annual subscription to *The CREEL*

The CREEL reaches many potential customers four times per year. If your business involves the growing or selling of any aquaculture product or any necessary equipment, feed or services, advertising will be a great benefit to you.

The CREEL goes to press the 1st of February, May, August, and November. Please submit photo-ready ad copy and payment to the Secretary/Editor 1 week prior to this for inclusion in the upcoming issue. Rates per issue are as follows:

1/8 page: \$30; 1/4 page: \$40; 1/2 page: \$60; Full page: \$100

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MIKE KELM - QUIET SPRINGS FISH FARM

I hope that by the time you are reading this, spring has arrived. It seems like it is taking a long time for the ponds to thaw out. Most years, we are knee deep in water by mid-April to mid-March (time of this writing). The weather is only one of the many challenges facing Wisconsin Fish Farmers, this year. We are trying to *not* lose our Extension Agents, and there are still some struggles with continued over regulation. I hate to think of this industry without the assistance of extension. Being a member of WAA is one of the ways that you help with solving some of these issues.

Prior to my writing this, the Boston Marathon was bombed, and postal letters were tainted with the poison Ricin. Although these events were not targeted at our food sources, they do leave me thinking that raising and buying local is needed more than ever, and will most likely be one of the best sources of safe food for years to come.

I hope that you attended our conference this year. If you didn't, you missed one of the region's best opportunities to network with farmers and researchers in the aquaculture industry. Not to mention the vendors that can provide equipment and services to make your farm more successful. The conference focus was on partnerships. As with any good partnership, each partner is making an effort to look for the WIN-WIN in their relationship. By doing so, both parties benefit greater than if they tackled the situations on their own. Look for the partnerships that can be developed on and around your farm. Then think of the partnerships that can be developed within your community and State. Where ever there is a challenge and a

service to meet that challenge, there is the possibility of a partnership.

This year we are saying good-bye to a long standing State Vet, Dr. Bob Ehlenfeldt, and hello to a new one Dr. Paul McGraw. Please welcome Dr. McGraw, and do your best to assist him, as we need good informed people in these positions.

Aquaponics is a word that is being heard in this industry, much more frequently than in the past. You may notice that aquaponics is ramping up not just in this State, but around the nation. If you are interested in aquaponics, please notice that there will be the First International Aquaponics Conference to be held at UW Stevens Point. We are quite fortunate to be a hosting State for an event like this.

On an ending note, don't overlook enjoying the summer with your family and friends. It seems like far too often we get caught up in our business and lose sight of the important people in our lives. We have a great association, along with a vibrant industry. Most of it based around family.

Until next time,
Mike

As the Creel was going to press an announcement was made by Governor Walker (see page 1). WAA has been involved with this and it is a historic moment and a great economic opportunity for the industry. I urge you to support this initiative and to call your legislators to let them know you support it.

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Correction:

In the 2012 December issue, in the article *WAA Member Chosen as Speaker at Woodland Way School Graduation Ceremony*, page 12, the Secretary of Correction was mis-identified. His correct name is Mr. Gary Hamblin

From the Editor

Well, the last month has been a challenge resulting with the Creel being late in getting out. Late in April, I found myself in the ER (2 times to be exact) - the 2nd time was in the middle of the snowstorm that hit us on Monday. Ended up being my gall bladder, which had to be removed the old fashioned way due to some complications. I have now recovered, but had a month's worth of work to catch up on. I can cross that off my medical "bucket list" and move on. Thank you everyone for your support and well wishes during that time!

At this writing, Dan, Ron & I are planning on doing hotel visits next week to choose the location for the 2014 conference. Right now the choices are in the Green Bay region.

I have conference photos on Facebook and will be getting the powerpoints from the conference online. Give us a like on Facebook to keep up with our postings, updates, events, etc.

Thanks to Joe Morris and Chris Hartleb, we have some hard copies of the NCRAC Sunfish Culture Guide for sale (\$20, incl S/H). The guide is online, but for those of you who like to have that hard copy in your hands, I have 16 left. When they are gone, they're gone.

We also are selling the RAS book by Timmons and Ebeling. This is "The Book" for RAS. It goes for \$125 and up. We have it for \$110, S/H included.

I am communicating with Ron Kinnunen regarding a possible Seafood HACCP workshop which will be held late this year in the UP. For those of you in food processing with new employees or planning to be in food processing, you should make plans to attend. The Seafood HACCP workshops that Ron offers are very reasonable compared to what others charge in other regions of the country.

Aquaculture Day is coming up on Saturday, July 20. Even if you can only be open for a few hours, consider being involved. Media, dignitaries and legislators have visited participating farms in the past and even if you gain nothing else, making these contacts is worth keeping your farm in business by letting others know of the value of aquaculture to the economy of your area, the state and the country. We accomplish nothing by being mushrooms.

Stay healthy and safe,
Cindy

I had many more submissions for the June issue of the Creel than I could fit in, due to the follow up for the Conference and especially the late breaking news about the Walleye Initiative. These articles were

- 1- Announcement of new Nelson & Pade employee - Mark Gustafson
- 2- 2 UW students looking for summer employment
Shane Cook, junior, major Fisheries, minor Aquaponics, 8142 N. Wilder Road. Evansville, WI 53536, Cell (608) 279-9147 scook376@yahoo.com

Hannah Wisth majoring in Soil/Crop Science and Ornamental Horticulture, minor in Environmental Science, Cell: (262) 627-0886, wisth@uwplatt.edu

- 3- Christine Lilek, WDNR, asked me to pass on this request:
The West Bend School District is starting up a charter

Hugo W. and Ruby J. Kettula
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school that will make use of the national career clusters concept (<http://www.careertech.org/career-clusters/glance/careerclusters.html>). She was wondering if a farm would be interested. Would involve mentoring, job shadow, intership. christine.lilek@wisconsin.gov, 920-387-7898

- 4- Brian Shepherd ARS/USDA-UWM Program Update, April 15, 2013 Results for the ARS/USDA-UWM Perch Program -- Published Papers (Since 2011). This will be online and in the September Creel

2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MEETINGS please note this change

Meeting place: River Island Park, Star Prairie, immediately adjacent on north end of Star Prairie Trout Farm, junction of Cty H and HWY 65

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------------|
| June 12 | WAA Quarterly Board Meeting, 8 - 9:30am |
| June 12 | WAIAC Summer Meeting, 9:30 - 11:30 |

AQUACULTURE DAY

July 20 Held at participating WAA members farms

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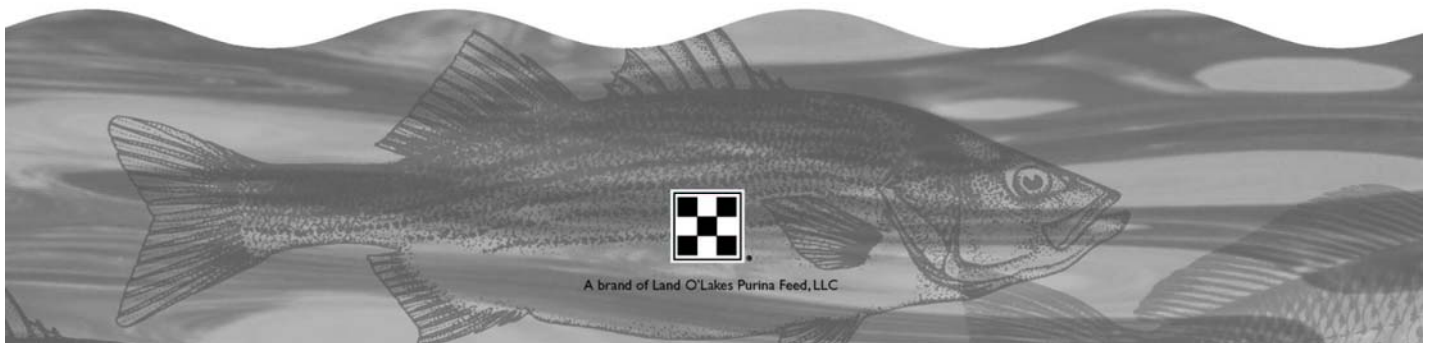


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Why Not Number One? Cont from page 1

that the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility needs to be enhanced and that the industry needs to find a chief spokesperson to promote Wisconsin fish, for example.

"I'm not sure we dream big enough," he stressed.

In the food sector, the demand for fish among U.S. consumers is high and increasing yearly, and farm-raised fish is the fastest growing segment of agriculture, Cross noted.

"I'm not sure we realize this. . . but the only way to meet the increasing demand for fish is through aquaculture," he said.

In 2008, aquaculture in the U.S. was a \$1.1 billion industry, and it was valued at \$14 million in Wisconsin. Even though demand for fish experienced a 25-fold increase between 1950-2012, Wisconsin today produces less than three percent of the total seafood consumed in the state, he noted.

Wisconsin ranks third in the value of its bait and game-fish industry in the U.S. Arkansas ranks first with a \$20 million value, followed by Minnesota at \$4 million and Wisconsin at \$3 million.

Of Wisconsin's 1.4 million anglers, 90 percent use live bait coming from Wisconsin aquaculture producers.

Cross sees opportunity in the "stocking gap" of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. He would like to see more aquaculture producers partner with the DNR to provide the 416,000-pound gap between what the DNR produces and what is needed to stock the state's waters.

Aquaponics is another area of opportunity, he stressed. The state currently has 12-15 aquaponic growers in the state, most of them relatively small. Small aquaponic businesses are the norm throughout the nation, but Cross noted that growing fish and vegetables within the same system is both a growing industry and growing opportunity.

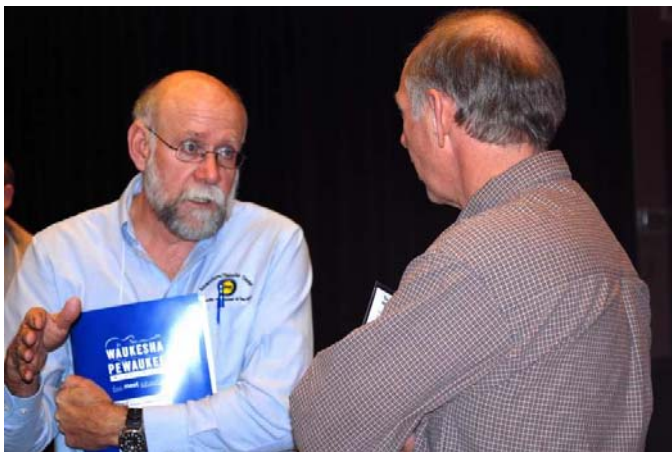
He recognizes aquaponic production presents some challenges in nutrient management and biosecurity, "but it has tremendous potential if we can figure some of this stuff out," he stressed.

Aquaponics Courses

A unique partnership between a private business and UW-Stevens Point is working to help people interested in aquaponics.

Chris Hartleb, professor of fisheries biology at UW-SP and Rebecca Nelson, co-owner of Nelson & Pade of Montello, teamed up to describe to WAA members collaborative aquaponics education programs offered by the university and company. They announced the availability of a new two-credit course in aquaponics.

Nelson & Pade has been working in aquaponics - which combines soil-less plant production and fish production -



for about 20 years, and interest in aquaponics has seen tremendous growth over the last five years, Nelson said.

"The interest is to the point where it's about to explode," she noted.

Driving the aquaponics industry are individuals who want to raise their own fresh food, entrepreneurs, educators, governments concerned about food safety, grocers and social groups.

Aquaponics operations use about 10 percent of the water used in traditional aquaculture production, plus they require relatively small spaces, make efficient use of labor and are valued by people who desire local food production.

Nelson & Pade has offered three-day aquaponics workshops on an every-other month basis for many years. People from over 30 countries have participated in Nelson & Pade's workshops, and partnering with UWSP a year ago has taken aquaponics education to a "whole new level," Nelson said.

UW-SP and Nelson & Pade launched its first collaborative three-credit aquaponics course in 2012. The semester-long course includes online lectures and discussions and an intensive, hands-on three-day program at the end of the semester, with students participating in labs on building aquaponic systems, water quality, fish production, plant production, marketing and business operations. A total of 27 students took the first course.

New to the course line-up is a two-credit course, Hartleb noted, and UW-SP is working to develop an aquaponics certificate program that would include several courses.

UW-SP began offering a minor in aquaculture seven years ago.

In addition, the International Aquaponics Society, which was established through UW-SP, is hosting an International Aquaponics Conference on June 19-21, at Stevens Point. The conference will feature speakers from around the world and include information and research on the industry, biosecurity and a global view of aquaponics.



Aquaculture Overview

Bob Robinson, a fisheries biologist with Kasco Marine, a company that manufactures pond aerators and other equipment, noted the U.S. aquaculture industry creates 250,000 jobs and currently is a \$1.2 billion industry at the farm gate that generates a \$7 billion value to the U.S. economy.

With wild populations of fish shrinking, Robinson said fish farms provide a consistent supply of fish to U.S. consumers, add healthy Omega 3 to diets and can achieve feed conversion rates of 1:1, higher than the swine, cattle and poultry industries.

Robinson said Wisconsin has over 2400 registered fish farms, with about 125 of them earning more than \$1000 annually.

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 Dan Gruendemann
 Ron Johnson



Paul Zajicek, Dave Gruendemann, Jeff Crooks



Dani always has a wide array of fish dishes for us to sample



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Fritz and Dave Gollon Chillin' Out Between Sessions



Dani & Peter hamming it up



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Terry Hogan doing a great job as auctioneer!



Discussing FSA Programs



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Lining up for some great food - no one goes away hungry!



Some of the Cooks - Ron Johnson, Dani Klontz, Dan Gruendemann

WAA Hands Out 4 Awards at Aquaculture Conference

WAA awarded 2 Friends of Aquaculture awards to Representative Howard Marklein and Senator Neal Kedzie. Representative Marklein and Senator Kedzie worked together spearheading the Aquaculture Bill in their respective houses last year. Due to their strong support of the aquaculture industry, the bill easily passed in both houses with no opposition in record time, a major feat considering the state of politics last year. This bill is a major milestone for the industry in Wisconsin. Thank you Representative Marklein and Senator Kedzie!

WAA also gave their highest award to 2 people who have determinedly pursued the advancement of Wisconsin aquaculture. Will Hughes, former assistant administrator of DATCP-DAD, was very instrumental in getting our industry support, assistance and advancement in the state. He tirelessly worked to help the industry get on its feet. Dave Gollon, Gollon Bait and Fish Farm, has given the industry his determination, bull doggedness, and knowledge to keep ahead of regulatory and political issues. He has worked closely with legislators and agencies to ensure the industry is fairly dealt with. Every one in the industry in this state has benefited one way or another from their involvement. Thanks to both of you for your commitment in advancing the industry.



l. to r. Dave Gollon, Representative Howard Marklein, Senator Neal Kedzie, Will Hughes

Sturgeon Workshop, cont from page 1

- 1) How can partnering with the private aquaculture industry benefit sturgeon management in the State?
 - Disease mitigation - balance of disease risk by spreading brood stock at a number of locations
 - Independent mitigation facility for collection of brood stock on annual basis
 - Knowledge – expansion of the number of people working on sturgeon production and conservation
- 2) What does the private industry want, if allowed to rear lake sturgeon?
 - Permission to rear/raise for educational display, food fish and fee fishing
 - Access to brood stocks/genetics

continued

Sturgeon, continued

- 3) What are the risks to native lake sturgeon stocks and how do we minimize them?
 - Disease
 - Exploitation concerns - Laundering of poached fish and creation of black market activities
 - Escapees and intermingling with wild strains and decrease of gene pool
- 4) What are the economic benefits with a sustainable sturgeon commercial aquaculture industry?
 - Jobs
 - Provide additional profit centers for fish farms
 - Sturgeon is a species from which multiple products may be generated
 - Investment in additional facilities
 - Desire to create US domestic production
 - Added tourism potential, restore sport fishing
 - Enhance reintroduction into state waters
 - Increased education and awareness
- 5) What partnerships can be formed between resource agencies, researchers, sturgeon groups and private aquaculture to promote sturgeon awareness and conservation?
 - Knowledge generation and exchange, on farm research, education and outreach
 - Greater access to university research
 - Ability to stretch the limited resources held by each group into a common goal
 - Diversity – private farms would have a reserve of all age classes in event of needing to restock public waters
- 6) What recommendations can the group offer on the role of the private industry possessing lake sturgeon?
 - Provide meat and caviar to public utilizing commercial production
 - Need to have sound rules in place
 - Need to maintain safeguards for the natural population
 - Put Shovelnose Sturgeon Pilot in effect
 - DNR does spawning, private farms possess broodstock, eggs, fry, fingerlings.

A working group will be formed to further explore these recommendations.

Walleye Initiative, cont from page 1

we all grow and become prosperous.

I have been involved in the Association and Industry for over 30 years. This is, without a doubt, the best administration I personally have worked with. I am asking and would advise everyone to let their respective legislators know of our support for this and to send a note of appreciation to Governor Walker and the DNR.

*Dave Gollon
Gollon Bait and Fish Farm, Dodgeville*

Continued on page 11

Walleye Initiative, cont from page 10

May 22, 2013

Madison – Governor Scott Walker announced the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative today. The initiative, developed by the Department of Natural Resources, will dramatically increase the number of walleye in Wisconsin by expanding production at state, private, and tribal fish hatcheries.

“Fishing is such an important part of Wisconsin’s sporting heritage, and demand for walleye continues to increase,” Governor Walker said. “With this historic investment, we are making long-term improvements to Wisconsin’s lakes and our state’s fishing and tourism industries. I thank Senator Joe Leibham (R-Sheboygan) and Representative Dan LeMahieu (R-Cascade) for their work on this issue.”

The Wisconsin Walleye Initiative includes the following:

- \$8.2 million in existing unencumbered bonding authority to expand hatchery capacities.
- \$1.8 million for operating costs over the biennium.
- \$2 million over the biennium for a competitive grant program for private organizations to expand walleye production and to cover operational costs.
- \$160,000 in one-time funds for the UW Extension to continue their work with private aquaculture through the end of Fiscal Year 2014.
- \$500,000 annually beginning in Fiscal Year 2015 to contract with organizations to acquire additional walleye fingerlings.
- \$250,000 annually to expand the summer Tribal Youth Program. The program is a state-tribal partnership giving high school-aged tribal youth the opportunity to work on natural resource-related projects.

Under this initiative, production is estimated to increase from 60,000–120,000 large walleye fingerlings to well over 500,000 by 2016.

Statement from DNR Sec. Stepp on Wisconsin Walleye Initiative

MADISON - *In response to Gov. Scott Walker’s announcement today unveiling the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative, making available significant funding for use by state, tribal, and private fish hatcheries to produce additional walleye for Wisconsin’s lakes, Department of Natural Resources Sec. Cathy Stepp has issued the following statement:*

I am very pleased that the Department of Natural Resources was able to work with Governor Walker and the legislature to develop and now announce the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative, a funding mechanism that will allow for substantial investment in

the state’s walleye fishery, economy, and our ability to enhance our partnerships with tribes in the improvement of a shared resource.

Through the initiative we were able to follow through on discussions held recently with the Chippewa tribes, where ideas for improving the walleye fishery were shared. I value the opportunity to work with the tribes to utilize allocated funds to improve infrastructure at tribal aquaculture facilities to enhance stocking capabilities.

I am also very excited that \$250,000 will be available annually to expand the summer Tribal Youth Program, a successful ongoing state and tribal partnership project engaging tribal and nontribal youth in recreational outdoor activities together. In doing so, the initiative goes beyond walleye and supports the future of conservation and collaboration.

“The Governor’s plan is a great opportunity for the private aquaculture industry to partner with the state of Wisconsin, and help to improve Wisconsin’s fisheries. The industry should support this effort, as it will eventually improve revenue in the state, for our industry, and related industries.”

Mike Kelm, President
Wisconsin Aquaculture
Association

One can’t talk about walleye in Wisconsin without also talking about the economy. The initiative aims to have a positive impact on both. For one, it supports private businesses by expanding our capability to work with the private aquaculture industry to purchase walleye for stocking.

Additionally, it recognizes that angling is a major industry for Wisconsin, with walleye being the most sought after game fish.



Mike Staggs spoke at the 2013 Conference on private/public partnerships

Nearly 1.4 million licensed anglers fish in Wisconsin each year.

These anglers contribute greatly to local economies and the tourism industry in the state.

Those who enjoy, harvest and depend on the walleye fishery seem to agree that we need more fish, especially in the north. We look forward to partnering on the initiative to meet that need for the benefit of all.

Winners of the 2013 Wisconsin Schools Aquaculture Poster Contest Picked at Aquaculture Conference



The theme of this year's contest was "Partnerships for the Future of Aquaculture". The theme, which was the same for the 2013 Wisconsin Aquaculture Conference, emphasizes that aquaculture is a vital part of the economic future of Wisconsin. This contest was open to all Wisconsin schools.

The posters were voted on by attendees at the 18th Annual Wisconsin Aquaculture Conference held in Pewaukee, Wisconsin. The winners

were announced by Rochelle Ripp, the 65th Alice in Dairyland, Wisconsin's Agriculture Ambassador. Ripp stated that "The Wisconsin School Aquaculture Poster Contest boosts student awareness of Wisconsin aquaculture and the importance of farm raised fish." The Wisconsin Aquaculture Association supports agricultural education programs around the state to grow farm raised fish within the classroom and to provide students with hands on learning, showcasing the diversity of Wisconsin's \$59 billion agriculture industry.

Three winners were chosen based on originality, artistic appeal and understanding of Wisconsin Aquaculture. The winning posters will be on display at the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility in Red Cliff during the coming year.

The winners are:

First Place \$100- Taya Netz, Stratford High School, Agri Science 7, Mrs. Wirkus, Teacher

Second Place \$50 - Mitchell Thompson, Hannah Clark, and McKenzie Hall, Cornell High School Aquaculture Class, Richard Erickson, Teacher

Third Place \$25 - Agri Science class, Belleville High School, Melissa Skogen, Teacher

Photos of winners will be posted on Facebook

2013 SAE Grant Recipient Update

Dakota Turk, Big Foot Union High School, Walworth, was one of the recipients of this year's SAE Aquaculture grant. He gave an overview of his project at the conference which is presented below.

My Aquaculture SAE started at the end of last *continued*

SAE Update, continued

year when my brother and I built the 1800 gallon hydroponic system. I have been stocking fish in it ever since. My goals are to harvest 200 or more fish every semester and it looks like right now by the end of the year I can potentially harvest 100 or so bluegill. These will all be donated to the local food pantry as a part of another program ran through our FFA. So far the fish part of the hydroponics is doing great, the plants not so much. When I presented this project at the WAA conference I discussed the plants not growing and the algae problem and got lots of great advice and the plant beds are now clear and I'm doing an agriscience fair project for state FFA convention again. All in all my SAE is still growing as we are in the process of building a second hydroponic system. Hopefully someone will take over after I graduate and it will continue to grow but for now I am still working to improve the system and the program and maximize the fish and plant output to the ones in need in my community.



NADF Employee Takes Position at Bayfield State Hatchery



Nate Martin has accepted a full-time fisheries technician position at the Les Voight State Fish Hatchery located near Bayfield, WI about 5 miles from the UWSP-NADF location. He was a dedicated and

knowledgeable part of our team at the facility for almost 3 years. We will miss him greatly, but our loss is the DNR's gain.

Our Congrats and Good Luck to Nate, from the entire staff of the UWSP-NADF - Thanks for all the hard work and dedication.

Ashland High School Students Get Hands on Experience at NADF

AHS Aquaculture and FFA students traveled to the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF) on Wednesday, April 10 for a hands on experience with aquaculture research. The NADF is an extension of UW - Steven's Point campus where research and demonstrations in fish production for food are done. NADF staff gave the students a tour of the facility and then put them to work sampling 25-50 fish in two tanks and taking weights and measurements. *Cont on pg 13*

International Aquaponics Conference: Aquaponics and Global Food Security June 19-21, UW-Stevens Point

Wisconsin is holding the first ever International Aquaponics Conference. This conference will bring together national and international experts, offering great learning & networking opportunities for those wanting to have an impact on food quality, security and sustainability using aquaponic methods. If you are in aquaponics or considering this area, make plans to attend. Industry experts include:

John Pade, Nelson and Pade, Inc.
 Dr. Edoardo Pantanella, University of Tuscia/
 Janeil Owen, NW Haiti Christian Mission
 Joel Salatin,
 Kara Berlage, NorthStar Homestead Farms, LLC
 Dr. Bradley Fox, University of
 Dr. James Ebeling
 Rick Decker, Purina Animal Nutrition
 Dr. Gene Giacomelli, U of Arizona-Tucson
 Carlos Leon, Bofish
 Dr. Chris Hartleb, UW-Stevens Point
 Susan Miller, U of Hawaii Center on Disabilities Studies
 Pierre Beauchamp, Del Oro Aquaponics
 Dr. Edouardo Pantanella, University of Tuscia
 Ryan Dale, Great Taste, LLC
 David Ellis, Greens & Gills, LLC
 Rebecca Nelson, Nelson and Pade, Inc
 For more information go to <http://www.uwsp.edu/conted/ConfWrkShp/Pages/AquaponicsConf.aspx> or call 715-346-3838

NADF Happenings, continued



The information will go into a study about fish densities in aquaculture systems. The students also had the opportunity to dissect fish and practice identification of internal and external parts

of fish. They also stopped at the Wisconsin DNR Les Voigt State Fish Hatchery where students learned about aquaculture production for conservation and sport fishing.

The AHS Aquaculture program is in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Department and part of Career & Technical Education. The department was recently awarded a grant from the AgStar Program for upgrades to their aquaculture system. The students are now constructing the new *continued* system and when completed, they will have 2 - 350 gallon

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NADF Happenings, continued

tanks with clarifiers, biofilters, an in-line heater and UV sterilizer and sand filter with the capability to do aquaponics (growing plants for food using fish waste). Students are learning and practicing first-hand sustainable local food production, learning about systems and state of the art techniques used to raise healthy aquatic species. More information about the Agriculture, Food & Natural Resource Department can be found at <https://sites.google.com/a/sdak12.net/ahs-ag-natural-resources/>.

For more information, contact Sandra Dee Naas Teacher & FFA Advisor, 715-682-7089

Bayfield School Combines Engineering with Aquaculture

The Bayfield School Technology and Engineering Education 7th grade Class has teamed up with the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF) in Red Cliff, to design and build a Recirculating Aquaponics system.

Students in Mr Doering's 7th grade class used traditional tools and modern problem solving skills to finish this project. This is a great example of the current state of Technology and Engineering Education Curriculum. Mr. Doering says "Students still use power tools and have to understand *Cont on page 14* working drawings, but instead of building a small shelf, their

NADF Happenings, continued from page 13



applying their newly acquired skills to grow plants and fish." In addition, "The skills and information will help them to make career decisions for the future."

The project included a trip to the NADF where Greg Fischer (project Mentor) showed the students biofilters, explained the nitrogen cycle, and all kinds of fish - perch, lake herring, and a student favorite - lake sturgeon. This *continued*



NADF Happenings, continued

project is another example of how Mr Doering uses Engineering to expand the boundary of traditional shop class.

Students also researched their favorite fish and the Ojibwe word for them. They are now working on designing an automatic fish feeder, so during Spring Break next month, the fish can be continued to be fed. This project is a good example of how problem solving skills are learned when students work on "real-world" problems and collaboration between school and community resources.

For more information, contact David Doering, 715-779-3201 ext 300, ddoering@bayfield.k12.wi.us

Troutlodge achieves GLOBALG.A.P. certification for its trout egg production in the USA

Troutlodge, Inc. (Sumner, WA, USA) recently received certification under the **GLOBALG.A.P.** aquaculture standard. This program, covering the company's production of eyed Rainbow trout eggs in the USA, examines all aspects of the company's operations - including environmental stewardship, animal welfare, traceability, worker health and safety, and community relations. The rigorous standards serve as a practical manual for Good Agricultural *cont on pg 15*



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Troutlodge receives certification, cont from pg 14

Practice (G.A.P.) and are designed to assure consumers of the quality and sustainability of the products they are purchasing.

Troutlodge is the first aquaculture company in North America to achieve this certification. This achievement comes on the heels of the company's Chilean operations obtaining GlobalGAP certification of their production of eyed Atlantic salmon eggs. All eggs produced by Troutlodge's operations in Washington State, USA will be certified under this program, as the company believes demand for GLOBALG.A.P.-certified eggs will continue to grow in the coming years.

"This is important for us and for our customers," says Andrew Barfoot, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Troutlodge. "We began this process at the request of two key customers in Turkey who are certified under this GLOBALG.A.P. program, and thus require that their egg supplier also obtain the same levels of certification. *Cont pg 15* We are glad to be able to meet their needs, as well as the needs of a growing number of our customers who are considering certification under this and similar programs."

In addition to meeting customer demands, Troutlodge also views this program as another means of continual improvement in the company's operations. For exam-

ple, the company recently became the first trout egg producer to implement the FishTalk production management software program from the AKVA Group. This was key to providing the levels of traceability and reporting required by GLOBALG.A.P.

Global Trust served as the independent certifying body. Troutlodge will now undergo annual inspections by Global Trust in order to maintain this certification. The company also plans to have its Idaho (USA) and Isle of Man (British Isles) sites certified within the next year.

SIGN UP FOR AQUACULTURE DAY - JULY 20

Elections Results and Appointments

At the Annual Membership Meeting the following were elected as board directors: Jeff Taylor and Tim Gollon.

At the WAA Annual Board Meeting the following were presented as appointees: Mike Kelm for President, Terry Hogan for Vice President, Dan Gruendemann for Board Chairman and Cindy Johnson remaining as the Secretary /Treasurer. All board members present approved these appointments.

Due to Mike Kelm being appointed President, his director position was open. Ben Gollon appointed to fill it.



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New State Veterinarian Appointed

MADISON- Dr. Paul McGraw has been appointed State Veterinarian and Administrator for the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's (DATCP) Animal Health division.

DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel made the announcement saying, "Dr. McGraw has served the people of Wisconsin well as Assistant State Veterinarian for the past nine years and I look forward to his leadership in the years ahead. He's very familiar with our animal health rules and regulations and he has already established good working relationships with partners, stakeholders and counterparts in other agencies."

"I am honored by this appointment and humbled to be following in the footsteps of Dr.

Bob Ehlenfeldt who did a great job in this role for 27 years," said Dr. McGraw. "We have a great team in the Animal Health division and we will keep working to protect the health of the state's \$34-billion livestock industry."

After completing undergraduate studies at University of Wisconsin-River Falls and his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at the Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine, UW-Madison, Dr. McGraw worked in private veterinary practice for sixteen years before coming to DATCP as Assistant State Veterinarian in 2004. During his time at DATCP, Dr. McGraw has served as Program Manager for the state's Livestock Premises Registration program and the state's Animal Dealers, Animal Truckers and Animal Markets programs. He is the USDA's Designated Brucellosis Epidemiologist for the State of Wisconsin and an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the School of Veterinary Medicine at UW-Madison. The State Veterinarian is Wisconsin's chief of regulatory veterinary medicine. He oversees surveillance, prevention and response to diseases in the state's multi-billion animal agriculture sector. As administrator of the Division of Animal Health, his oversight also includes the local humane officer training program, rabies epidemiology, and the dog sellers' licensing program. The Division works closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Veterinary Services and Wildlife Services and the Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources, as well as other state and federal agencies, private practice veterinarians, and local law enforcement.

Dr. McGraw began his new duties April 22.

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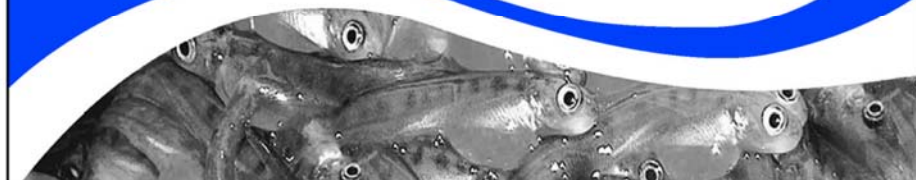
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A G E N D A S / M I N U T E S

Wisconsin Aquaculture Association Quarterly Board Meeting June 12, 2013

Location: River Island Park, next to Star Prairie Trout
Farm, Star Prairie, WI

AGENDA

Minutes from 02-28-13 and 03-01-13 meetings and approval
Treasurer Report and approval

Secretary Report

Committee Reports -

Regulatory

Business Development

Research & Education

Upcoming Workshops

Other Old Business

New Business

Adjourn

All board minutes were emailed out and votes & motions confirmed

WAA Quarterly Board Meeting Feb 28, 2013 Country Springs Hotel & Waterpark 2810 Golf Road, Pewaukee, WI

The meeting was called to order 1:06 by Board Chairman, Dan Gruendemann

Board & Officers Present: Terry Hogan, Vice President; Dan Gruendemann, Board Chairman; Peter Fritsch, Director; Rebecca Nelson, Director; Fred Gollon, Director; Mike Kelm, Director; Cindy Johnson, Secretary.

Not present: Jeff Taylor, Rick Decker.

Others present: Ron Johnson David Gollon, Jeff Crooks, Ben Gollon, Bill West, Jim Held, Bud Gollon, Dave Gruendemann.

2012 Financial Report

There were credit card sales of \$11,024 in 2012 with the processing fees totaling \$691.69. There was discussion about investigating using a smart phone for processing credit cards and reducing the processing fees.

Cindy stated she had a \$500.69 difference between the bank statement and Quickbooks and after the conference will find and correct it.

Based on correcting this difference, Dan made the motion to accept the 2012 Financial Report, 2nd by Mike.

2013 January-February Financial Report

Dan made the motion to accept the Financial Report, Peter 2nd.

December 7, 2012 Minutes

Peter made the motion to accept the minutes, Dan 2nd.

Old Business

•International Aquaponics Conference

Rebecca Nelson discussed the International Aquaponics Conference which will be June 19-21 at UW-Stevens Point. There was discussion on collaboration with WAA in regards to some aspects of the upcoming conference.

Terry accepted the motion from Dan and the 2nd from Mike on the following:

Each organization offers complimentary vendor space to the other at their respective conferences *Cont pg 19*

Networking at the conference



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Mike Clark – Farm Manager for Keo Fish Farms, the world's largest producer of hybrid Striped Bass fingerlings.



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Steve Abernathy – Owner of Til-Tech Aquafarm, which produces Tilapia fingerlings in an indoor recirculating facility.



"I use and sell Kasco Aerators because they have always been dependable and have served us well in our small ponds."

Paul Williams – Owner of Owen and Williams Fish Farm, producers of game fish, grass carp, and catfish.



"We have a bunch of Kasco units and find them to be efficient, dependable, and portable. They are a good choice for our farm!"

Peter Fritsch – Farm Manager for Rushing Waters Trout Farm, the largest Rainbow Trout producer in the Midwest.

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Need we say more!

WAA Quarterly Board Meeting, cont from pg 17

(IAC will not have a formal vendor fair this year, but WAA will participate at the conference), WAA combines their poster contest with the IAC poster contest, WAA will be an in-kind sponsor and help to promote the event, such as - sending out notices on list serv, put on event calendar, put in Creel, promoting poster contest. All were in favor, passed.

A discussion of possible registration discounts for members of both organizations' conferences will be brought up at a later date.

The first meeting of the International Aquaponics Foundation will be on the last day of the IA Conference and WAA board members are invited to attend.

•2014 conference

Terry made the motion that the first choice of dates is March 7 & 8, 2nd choice is March 21 & 22, 2nd by Dan.

•HACCP workshop

We will look into having a 1 day HACCP workshop in Sept or Oct. Anticipated Board participation at the workshop - Peter can send 3 people, Rebecca 1-2, Star Prairie 1. *Continued*

•FFA-SAE grant

The board members were in agreement that we continue this sponsorship. It was suggested we need to do more publicly with the grant such as: see what FFA does (and when) in regards to presenting the grant, do they have a special function to present the grants, get a local farmer or WAA to present the check, get the media to attend, go to the school to see the project that is funded. Jim Held has been helping to review the SAE proposals for several years and we will work with him on this. Dan made the motion that we increase the amount of the grant when WAA's income increases, Terry 2nd.

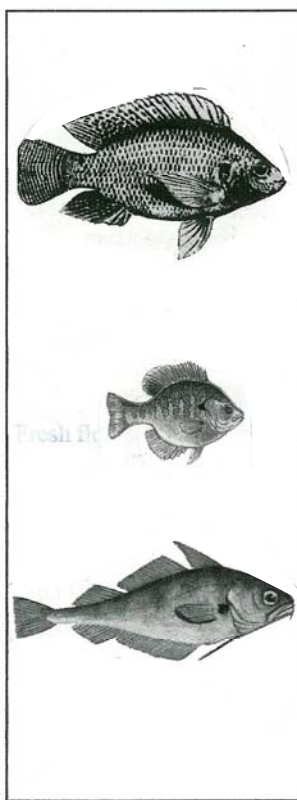
New Business

•A suggestion was made that the board considers allowing WAA officers and board members have a free booth at the conference.

•e-DNA issues. It was brought up that the board needs to listen to Nathan Stone's talk before making any decision on this due to "false" positives - ex. fish DNA showing up in places where the fish don't exist such as sewers, drains, bird droppings, etc. We need to be concerned if enforcement will be based on these kinds of results.

•Funding for extension

Have a Hatchery stamp - use this money to buy fish from private facilities to help DNR with their stocking quotas, have the aquaculture extension agents manage this program and part of the stamp money goes towards funding their positions. This would need legislative and DNR approval. *Cont on page 20*



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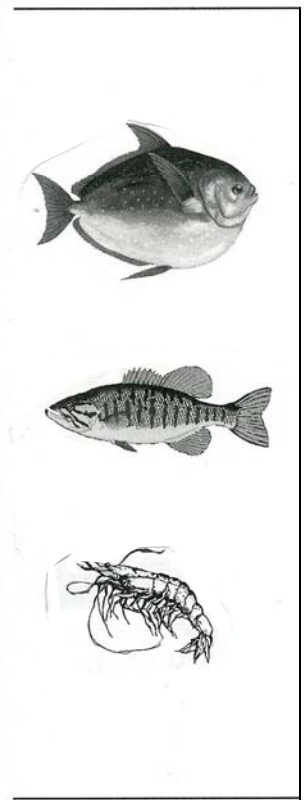
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WAA Quarterly Board Meeting, cont from page 19

Aquaculture Innovation Center (WAIC). Chancellor Cross is interested in this concept and had Ron write up a concept paper, which was handed out. This concept grew out of the Aquaculture Roundtable meeting in October of 2012 and the need to find permanent funding for the Aquaculture Extension Specialists positions. This center would be housed at UW-SP, but be a virtual center, staffed in part by the aquaculture extension specialists. Its function will include:

- DNR/Industry Partnership Stocking Needs
- NADF Applied Research
- On Farm Research
- Extension Service,
- Regulation Clearing Center
- Food Production

Funding will come from several sources:

- A proposed hatchery stamp
- A newly formed Wisconsin Aquaculture Association non-profit foundation
- Tribal gaming funds which support the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF)
- Federal, regional and State grants
- UW-Systems, UW-Extension and UW-Stevens Point in kind service and support funds
- Development/Diversity and Buy Local Initiatives

Additionally, WAIC would have an industry panel of experts that would be paid consultants contracted to provide business planning, product development and marketplace assessment for companies wanting to do aquaculture business in Wisconsin; these consulting fees would help support WAIC.

Discussion followed on the pros and cons of creating the WAIC with the board agreeing that this concept should be pursued and more details acquired.

•St Croix County 4-H is holding a Clover (the 4-H symbol) College event for all kids, grades 1-6, and activities include the sciences, arts & crafts, gardening, photography, etc. As an extension agent, Ron was asked to participate, and he thought doing fish prints would be an interesting workshop. He would need molds and asked WAA for \$200 for rubber fish molds which are reusable. WAA would own the molds. The board agreed to authorize this purchase.

•June date for WAA/WAIAC meetings.

It was suggested that with Rushing Waters having the opening of their restaurant in June to have the meetings after the opening and tour the new additions.

Meeting recessed at 3p for WAIAC meeting and then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Cindy Johnson

WAA Annual Board Meeting March 1, 2013 Country Springs Hotel & Waterpark 2810 Golf Road Pewaukee, WI

The Annual Board Meeting called to order by Dan Gruendemann following the WAA Annual Members Meeting.

Present: Terry Hogan, Vice President; Dave Gruendemann, Board Chairman; Peter Fritsch, Director; Mike Kelm, Director; Cindy Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer.

Others Present: Ben Gollon, Cate Rahmlow, John Pitts, Jason Krueger, Doug Fuller, Dan Reynolds, Dave Luety II, Matt Rogge, Dave Gollon, Dave Reto, Chris Weeks, Dave Gruendemann, Jeff Crooks.

The following were presented as appointees: Mike Kelm for President, Terry Hogan for Vice president, Dan Gruendemann for Board Chairman and Cindy Johnson remaining as the Secretary /Treasurer. All board members present approve these appointments.

Due to Mike Kelm being appointed President, his director position is open. Dan made motion to appoint Ben Gollon to fill it, 2nd by Peter. Peter then made the motion to accept *cont pg 21*

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WAA Members Annual Meeting, cont from pg 20

all appointed positions, Dan 2nd.

UW-Extension Chancellor Ray Cross then addressed the members. He talked about creating the Wisconsin Innovation Aquaculture Center.

It would be a virtual center and would continue what extension already is doing.

UW- School of Freshwater Science does basic research but there is a need for on farm application of research.

Farmers need to define what their problems are.

The industry needs to consider this concept. *Cont*

Funding needs to be pursued if this concept is to be put in operation.

The University has to help make this happen.

Those present expressed appreciation for extension and NADF and the work they have done. The comment was made that they are like an extra employee helping the farmers and looking out for their farms.

Chancellor Cross said that Governor Walker lined out money for NADF and the University lined out money for aquaculture extension. He emphasized that it is up to the industry to let their legislators know this is important to fund.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24am

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Johnson

WAA Members Annual Meeting March 1, 2013

Country Springs Hotel & Waterpark 2810 Golf Road, Pewaukee, WI

Present: Terry Hogan, Peter Fritsch, Ben Gollon, Cate Rahmlow, John Pitts, Jason Krueger, Doug Fuller, Dan Reynolds, Dave Luety II, Matt Rogge, Dave Gollon, Dave Reto, Chris Weeks, Mike Kelm, Dave Gruendemann, Jeff Crooks, Cindy Johnson,

WAA Board Chairman, Dan Gruendemann opened the meeting at 8:04am.

2012 Overview

An overview of 2012 was handed out and Cindy Johnson went over it.

Membership

Our membership reached 294 this past year. WAA continues to work to encourage public awareness of aquaculture in the state, expand the industry's influence and expand participation with other aquaculture stakeholders.

Events

WAA participated in the following events in 2012: *continued*



◆ Dressed and Smoked Rainbow Trout

◆ Gift Boxes

◆ Retail and Wholesale

◆ Fee Fishing

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Conference, Legislative Brunch at the state capitol, Walworth County Fair, Kids Fishing Day at Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, Farm Technology Days, Wisconsin Association of Agriculture Educators Conference, and Wisconsin Schools Aquaculture Poster Contest

WAA hosted the statewide Fish Farm Open House on Aquaculture Day. Six farms participated; the farms had visits from 2 US representatives, 2 Wisconsin senators, DATCP Sec Brancel and Alice in Dairyland. There were 4 newspapers that did feature articles and 3 TV stations aired interviews.

Sponsorship

WAA contributed \$600 to the FFA-Supervised Agriculture Experience Aquaculture grant. There will be a presentation on this later this afternoon.

Meetings

The Aquaculture Working group had several meetings focusing on issues that included stocking permits, fisheries co-op program, sturgeon culture, and the Great Lakes Compact. Mike Staggs will be giving a talk on Saturday on public/private partnerships.

An Aquaculture Roundtable meeting that explored partnerships between the industry and key university administrators was held in October. Chancellor Ray Cross will be giving a talk on extension and partnerships.

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Annual Meeting Minutes, cont from page 21

Legislative

Aquaculture Bill signed into law on April 2.

DATCP overhauled their administrative rules including fish health.

Workshops and Research

Two Beginning Aqua Workshops were held.

NADF Field Day focused on the hybrid walleye (saugeye) project and offered hands on sessions.

At the Annual Member's Picnic at Northside Enterprises, Dan Gruendemann showed off his planned expansion into the retail food fish market and the next step of the hybrid walleye project, which is being conducted on his farm. Jim, Greg and Dan are giving a talk on this project.

2012 Financial Report

Financial report for 2012 passed out. There were no questions.

Board Positions

Two Board director positions open. Dave Gollon made the motion to nominate Tim Gollon and Jeff Taylor, 2nd by Peter. The floor was opened for other nominations, there were no additional nominations. Tim and Jeff were accepted and passed as directors.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11am

Respectfully submitted
Cindy Johnson

Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry Advisory Council February 28, 2013 DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Country Springs Hotel, 2810 Golf Road, Pewaukee, WI
3:00 – 5:00 pm

WAIAC Voting Members Present: Peter Fritsch, David C. Gollon, Dan Gruendemann, Mike Kelm and Bill West.

Others in attendance: Mike Bandli (DATCP), Fred Binowski (UW-Milwaukee), Jeff Crooks (Northside Ent.), Greg Fischer (NADF), Ben Gollon (Gollon Bros. Wholesale Bait), Bud Gollon (Gollon Bait & Fish), Fritz Gollon (Central Wis. Fish Farms), Dave Gruendemann (Northside Ent.), Chris Hartleb (UWSP), Jim Held (UW-Ext), Terry Hogan (Hayward Bait), Cindy Johnson (WAA), Ron Johnson (UW-Ext), Phil Moy (UW-Sea Grant), Rebecca Nelson (Nelson & Pade), Cate Rahmlow (WEDC), Brian Shepherd (USDA/ARS), Bob Wakeman (DNR).

Continued

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

Minutes from June 8, 2012:

Dave Gollon made a motion, with a second by Peter Fritsch to approve the December 7, 2012, WAIAC meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously by the Council.

Work Team Reports:

- Business Development – None

Regulatory Policy –

Bill West discussed issues regarding his mobile retailer license and the possible need for a warehouse license if product is held for more than 24 hours. We will seek clarification from DATCP Division of Food Safety.

Great Lakes Compact – Bill West is still having issues on the interpretation of Great Lakes Compact and the cumulative pumping of water in excess of 70 gallons/minute being considered water withdrawal. There is a need for an exemption of registered water (water used on a registered fish farm) and clarification of the definition of water diverted out of a water basin. Dave Gollon asked Bill to outline the issues surrounding the Great Lakes Compact and forward to Ron Johnson and the WAA Regulatory Policy Committee to address through legislative action.

Asian Carp Situation-

Bob Wakeman, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for the Wisconsin DNR attended to request input from the aquaculture industry. Bighead Carp found in a Chicago Public Park Pond have been tied to importation of Channel Catfish for stocking between 1995 and 2005. The DNR is proposing a letter (provided as a handout) to survey fish farmers as a way to scan the potential ponds where Asian carp may have inadvertently been introduced. DNR Law Enforcement indicated the inadvertent introduction would have been past the statute of limitations for enforcement and the intent of the action was to identify water bodies with a risk of establishment of Asian carp and eradicate any Asian carp found. Bob said the DNR approached DATCP to review import permits for catfish in that timeframe, but they were not able to gain any helpful information.

Industry representatives said the letter was well written, but cooperation was not very likely because trust has not been established between the industry and the DNR [law enforcement] as indicated by the DNR seeking to view import permits without the industry's knowledge.

There were suggestions if Asian carp were introduced, the State would have already seen issues. It was also suggested that the DNR may want to look at the movements of fish outside the normal *Cont on pg 23*

industry standards for importation of fish, importing done by non-Wisconsin Residents, and if those that did the stocking in Illinois did any stocking in Wisconsin. One challenge is that Illinois and Michigan allow private location sales (such as Farm and Fleet) for fish coming from riskier places like Arkansas. These are not allowed in Wisconsin. The general view is that these efforts are not a high value use of time or resources.

Research and Education –

Update on Sturgeon Workshop – Ron Johnson gave an update on the workshop scheduled for March 8th at Camp Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells. The workshop will include presentations by Ron Bruch (Wis. DNR) and Leo Ray (ID) and will be a roundtable discussion to look at concerns, opportunities and problem mitigation for developing public/private partnerships in the commercial production of sturgeon. The group intends to develop a report to the DNR and DATCP Secretaries and Governor by June.

Dan Gruendemann reported they are nearing completion of the phase 1 SBIR Grant and starting to get harvest data. A presentation will be made at the conference.

Aquaculture Roundtable Teams:

Funding for Aquaculture Extension Positions – Chancellor Ray Cross

No definitive sources have been established.

Chancellor Cross will be speaking at the conference and is looking at various concepts, including greater partnerships with DNR and dollars that may need to be matched from industry.

Brian Shepherd raised concerns about including money for extension on each aquaculture research proposal. It may place research institutes at a significant disadvantage *Cont pg 23* with funding agencies. He asked if it was possible 1) to tap into the indirect overhead charges established by the Universities or 2) use Hatch Act Funds to support these extension positions.

Research on feed and nutrition – Dean David Garman

No update was provided by Dean Garman, but Brian Shepherd provided a quick overview of research being done at UW-Milwaukee including experiments on micronutrient requirements for yellow perch; a farm-based comparison between fish meal diets and fish meal-free diets; a study on novel probiotic use in fish; and continued genetic studies. *continued*

Greg Fischer expressed concerns that the focus was on yellow perch with little effort on other species and he wasn't included as part of this team. The work teams are open to all those that have interest in a particular area and Greg is now considered part of feed and nutrition team and is expected to be participate in the discussions of the team from this point forward.

On-farm Research – Peter Fritsch

Peter had provided Ron an overview expressing the need for ongoing research at the farm level. There may be an opportunity to do a nutritional study at Rushing Waters.

Farm Modeling – Dean David Garman

No update was provided by Dean Garman, but he will attend the conference.

Industry/government partnerships – Cate Rahmlow

Efforts to expand partnerships are continuing and include industry and DNR efforts to realize opportunities to help meet unmet stocking needs, unspecified genetic stocking needs and urban put and take programs.

Better partnerships/communications:

Integrated meetings – As demonstrated by the Sturgeon Workshop and DNR work team meetings.

Integration of public/private partnerships – As demonstrated by DNR work team meetings and industry/government partnerships discussion.

Online Education – Dean Chris Cirimo

No update was provided by Dean Cirimo, but Chris Hartleb suggested they continue to provide this through the online aquaponics class and the generalized online fish health class provided in partnership between UW-SP, UW-Madison and DATCP.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 13, 2013, 10:00 am – 12:00pm at Rushing Waters, Palmyra, Wisconsin. (*ed note: Date and location have been changed to June 12, Star Prairie.*)

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Dave Gollon and seconded by Dan Gruendemann. Voting membership unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Bandli.

Wisconsin Aquaculture Association, Inc.

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