

# WAA The CREEL

Published by *The WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION*

Volume 48 Number 4 [www.wisconsinaquaculture.com](http://www.wisconsinaquaculture.com) December 2015

## PLANS FOR 2016 JOINT NCRAC/WAA NORTH CENTRAL AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE MOVING ALONG

Ames, Iowa --- Planning is coming along for the 2016 North Central Regional Conference to be held on March 12 & 13 at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport in WI. Topics and speakers are being confirmed with nine concurrent sessions to be offered covering the wide range of species and culture found throughout the region. Joe Morris, Director of North Central Regional Aquaculture Center (NCRAC) and conference committee member, is looking forward to the conference. Joe indicated that, "This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> regional conference that NCRAC will be hosting in partnership with regional state aquaculture associations. We are excited to help support the aquaculture industry throughout the region by bringing well known, knowledgeable farmers, researchers and others in for presentations." Over 30 talks are scheduled and will be offered under sessions such as: Ask the Expert, Business Planning, Coolwater Species, Real World Experiences, Source to Table, Pond Culture and Management, Aquaponics, BMP's, and Non-Coolwater Species. Attendees will have opportunities throughout the conference to network and gain access to resources and knowledge to improve their operations. To complement the industry relevant presentations, there will also be a large tradeshow at the Conference where the attendees can interact with industry leaders.

At this time a draft schedule includes WAA Board meetings, WAA Annual Members meeting and WAIAC meeting on Friday, March 11, with the conference schedule running from Saturday *continued* →

### Large Turnout for Annual Picnic & Farm Tour at Gollon Bait & Fish Farm

The 2015 Annual Members Picnic was one of our best attended picnics in recent years with well over 50 people in coming out for the picnic and farm tour. DATCP Secretary Ben Brancel, DNR Assistant Deputy Secretary Mike Bruhn, Senator Howard Marklein, and Representative Todd Novak were present as well and addressed the WAA board and WAIAC council at their meetings. Prior to the picnic, Teyanna Loether, 68th Alice in Dairyland, talked to the crowd about the importance of aquaculture. Members were treated to a great meal - Tim fried up excellent catfish, Greg brought Atlantic salmon from NADF and served it both grilled and deep fried and Peter brought smoked fish and spread from Rushing Waters - thank all of you for donating fish! Jim Held (who retired Oct 31) and Ron Johnson (who retired August 1) were surprised with a Happy Retirement cake - many thanks to Sue Gollon for making the cake! Afterwards, tours were given of the farm, hatchery and new walleye ponds.

morning to midday on Sunday. As in past WAA conferences, the Evening Networking and Silent Auction will be part of the conference events, as well as the Taste of Wisconsin Aquaculture Cooking Demo, all slated for Saturday evening. NCRAC will be holding their business meetings preceding the Conference Thursday afternoon and Friday. Members of the NCRAC community will discuss current project activities and future programs for the Center. Conference attendees can sit in the NCRAC deliberations but cannot participate in discussions. They are encouraged to present their views to their state association representatives to the NCRAC Industry Advisory Council.

**LODGING INFORMATION & CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**  
Our conference hotel is the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport. *Please see pages 12 and 13 for lodging information and a conference registration form.* You may also register on line on WAA's website, [WisconsinAquaculture.com](http://WisconsinAquaculture.com) (on the left nav bar, under Online Registration, Events and Seminars). Complete conference information and the schedule - as it is confirmed - will be posted on WAA's website, under the conference Events listing.

This promises to be Wisconsin's largest conference in recent years and we hope that you will be able to attend. If you are in the food service business and have the chance to come in a few days early, the Midwest Foodservice Expo wraps up on March 9 (check out their website for more information <http://www.wirestaurant.org/expo/>) and there are plenty of attractions in Milwaukee to see. The hotel has a complimentary shuttle to points within a 5 miles radius (downtown not included). Families are also welcomed and can join in meals (additional fee).



Dave Gollon giving tour of hatchery explaining their system

# The CREEL

December 2015 Volume 48\* \* \* Number 4

WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

www.wisconsinaquaculture.com

## OFFICERS, terms expire in 2017

**President:** Peter Fritsch, Rushing Waters Fisheries, Palmyra, WI  
262-495-2089 [PeteF@rushingwaters.net](mailto:PeteF@rushingwaters.net)

**Vice President:** Terry Hogan, Hayward Bait & Tackle, Inc. Hayward, WI  
715-634-2921 [TLH001@netzero.com](mailto:TLH001@netzero.com)

**Chairman of the Board:** Dan Gruendemann, Northside Enterprises,  
Black Creek, WI 920-858-5055 [DanGFish@yahoo.com](mailto:DanGFish@yahoo.com)

## STAFF

**Editor:** Cindy Johnson, 1165 Riggles Gap Road, Altoona, PA 16601  
814-515-2570 [info@wisconsinaquaculture.com](mailto:info@wisconsinaquaculture.com)

**Secretary:** Cindy Johnson, 1165 Riggles Gap Road, Altoona, PA 16601  
814-515-2570 [info@wisconsinaquaculture.com](mailto:info@wisconsinaquaculture.com)

**Treasurer:** Kathy Foster, PO Box 175, New London, WI 54961  
920-250-1037 [treas@wisconsinaquaculture.com](mailto:treas@wisconsinaquaculture.com)

## DIRECTORS

### Term expires 2016:

Tim Gollon, Gollon Bait & Fish Farm, Dodgeville, WI  
608-935-2098 [gollon@hughes.net](mailto:gollon@hughes.net)

Vacant position

### Term expires 2017:

Jim Augustyn, Augustyn Springs, Antigo, WI  
715-627-4034 [JamesAAugustyn@gmail.com](mailto:JamesAAugustyn@gmail.com)

Brandon Pigott, AquaTerra Farms, Bristol, WI  
[bpigott@aquaterrafish.com](mailto:bpigott@aquaterrafish.com)

### Term expires 2018:

Tim Winkel, Silver Moon Springs, Elton, WI  
715-882-8176 [timwink2@gmail.com](mailto:timwink2@gmail.com)

Ben Gollon, Gollon Bros Wholesale Live Bait, Stevens Point, WI  
715-344-9843, [bengollon@gmail.com](mailto:bengollon@gmail.com)

## LIAISONS & REPRESENTATIVES

### North Central Regional Aquaculture Center (NCRAC)

NCRAC Wisconsin Aquaculture Liaison

Bill West, Blue Iris Fish Farm LLC., Black Creek, WI  
920-730-0684 [blueirisem@gmail.com](mailto:blueirisem@gmail.com)

NCRAC Technical Committee/Research Subcommittee

Dr. Chris Hartleb, 167 CNR Bldg., 800 Reserve St., Stevens Point, WI  
54481, 715-346-3228, [chartleb@umsp.edu](mailto:chartleb@umsp.edu)

Bill West, Blue Iris Fish Farm LLC., Black Creek, WI  
920-730-0684 [blueirisem@gmail.com](mailto:blueirisem@gmail.com)

### National Association of State Aquaculture Coordinators (NASAC)

Ron Johnson, 1165 Riggles Gap Road, Altoona, PA 16601  
814-515-2570 [Ron@jvatrout.com](mailto:Ron@jvatrout.com)

### US Trout Farmers Association Board Member

Peter Fritsch, Rushing Waters Fisheries, Inc., Palmyra, WI  
262-495-2089 [PeteF@rushingwaters.net](mailto:PeteF@rushingwaters.net)

### Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force - Aquaculture Member

Ron Johnson, 1165 Riggles Gap Road, Altoona, PA 16601  
814-515-2570 [Ron.Johnson@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:Ron.Johnson@ces.uwex.edu)

# WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSN. COMMITTEES

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
<b>Business Development</b> Creation, review and development of business development tools for aquaculture	Peter Fritsch
<b>Research &amp; Education</b> Coordination and review of research, training, educational programming	Dan Gruendemann
<b>Regulatory Policy</b> Coordination, review and impact assessment of regulatory actions	Dave Gollon Terry Hogan
<b>Budget</b>	Terry Hogan Dan Gruendemann Cindy Johnson Kathy Foster

## NAA

Bob Robinson, Kasco Marine, Inc., [bob.r@kascomarine.com](mailto:bob.r@kascomarine.com)

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Active/Business (voting): \$75/ year, Associate (non-voting): \$35/ year  
Group(1 vote): \$100/ 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

## WEBSITE ADVERTISING OPTIONS AND RATES

WAA now has 2 hot link categories to choose from:

**Industry Links**, with subcategories of **Aquaculture Product, Live Fish and Misc.**

**Consumer Links** with subcategories of **Fee Fishing and Fresh/Smoked Fish, etc.**

**Cost is \$20 a year for members, \$30 for non members.**

**Don't Have a Web Site?** WAA has a special price of \$100 for a 1 page web site—includes 1-2 pictures, text description of your farm and contact info, your own stand alone domain name and your logo can be added. After the first year, maintenance with changes is \$55/year.

**Want a more descriptive listing of your online directory?** Get an Enhanced Listing - for \$20/year you will get a map, photos, narrative.

**Banner Ads:** \$100/year

**Web classifieds** are free

The Wisconsin Aquaculture Association is a 501(C)(5) organization

# MESSAGE FROM TIM GOLLON BOARD DIRECTOR

Last week WAA had its winter board meeting and the following day several of us testified at hearing in Antigo before the Senate committee on Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry on how our farms and business were being regulated and fee'd out of existence. There were lots of important items on the board's agenda, but mainly the bill we are trying to draft. This is one of the most significant legislative challenges the industry had taken on since moving aquaculture to DATCP. What we want to do is correct regulations that have allowed loopholes by which the industry had been hamstrung. We have hired Axley Law Firm and Ron Johnson to produce a White Paper and then a draft bill. We still have some challenging legal language to take on. What I are telling you now is – without this bill, every one of you are going to face roadblocks to expanding your fish farm or becoming economically sustainable. I am telling you from my own experiences and others, we have been doing our best to be compliant, but every single time we do, another new regulation is pulled out of a hat and handed to us. These regulations and interpretations fish farms are facing are doing nothing to improving the resource, but are making it hard to stay in business. Our farmers have been the most persistent, stubborn, determined people that I know of - they have a passion for what they do. They also have a passion to protect the natural resources because their livelihoods depend on it. Not only do they have the dream of

having a successful fish farm, but there are others who consider starting up a fish farm in Wisconsin (but end up taking their business to other states that have less stringent regulations).

The industry has supporters in the legislature – Senator Vinehout strongly supports agriculture and authored the Aquaculture Day resolution and Senators Marklein & Tiffany and many others have and continue to support the farms in their districts, but we need to have a bill that they can vote on. WAA has committed practically all of their monetary resources to this effort, but we will fall short to see this through to the end. WAA has not increased its dues for over 10 years, but has done so much since then to promote, advocate and educate for this industry. At our meeting we voted to increase dues, but this won't make ends meet. We are at a crossroads, I am asking every WAA member and fish farmer in the state to contribute whatever you can.

I don't know what else to say except to consider whether you want to be in business in the next 5 years or you want to pass on your farm to your children - or, you just want to have an expensive hobby in your back yard. I hope you decide to help us fight.

Tim Gollon,

WAA Board Director,  
Co-owner Gollon Bait and Fish Farm

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<p>Plans for 2016 Joint NCRAC/WAA North Central Aquaculture Conference Moving Along 1</p> <p>Large Turnout for Annual Picnic and Farm Tour 1</p> <p>WAA Board Members, Committees and Industry Contacts 2</p> <p>Board Director Message - 3</p> <p>From the Editor - Cindy Johnson 4</p> <p>A Note of Thanks - Jim Held 4</p> <p>Proposed Aquaculture Bill Can Have Far Reaching Impact on Wisconsin Farms - Cindy Johnson 4</p> <p>Paying a Visit - Emma Wiermaa 5</p> <p>WAA Members Meet at Gollon Bait and Fish Farm - Loether 7</p> <p>WAA Annual Picnic and Farm Tour Photos and Thank You's 9</p> <p>Fall Stocking Well Underway During Third Year of Wisconsin Walleye Initiative 10</p> <p>WFB Testifies in Favor of High Capacity Wells 10</p> <p>WOTUS Update 11</p> <p>2016 NC Aquaculture Conference Lodging Information 12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>15</p> <p>15</p> <p>17</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>23</p>	<p>2016 NC Aquaculture Registration Form</p> <p>Bits &amp; Pieces</p> <p>Thank You, Wisconsin Aquaculture Association</p> <p>WAA Fall &amp; Winter Board Meeting Minutes</p> <p>2016 Calendar of Events</p> <p>WAIAC Fall Meeting Minutes</p> <p>Cooks Corner - Baked Perch Au Gratin</p> <p>The CREEL is published quarterly, March, June, September and December; WAA welcomes input and involvement from all interested parties.</p> <p>Unless otherwise indicated, all articles are authored by <i>The CREEL</i> editor and/or WAA editorial committee. Editorial comments pertinent to other submissions are italicized and noted in parenthesis (ed.)</p> <p>All opinions expressed in <i>The CREEL</i> are those of the contributor/author and not necessarily those of the Wisconsin Aquaculture Association, its officers or directors.</p> <p>Creel contributors Teyanna Loether, 68th Alice in Dairyland Emma Wiermaa, Aquaculture Outreach, UW-SP NADF</p>
--	---	--

**JOIN US IN 2016 FOR THE NORTH CENTRAL AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE!  
OVER 30 PRESENTATIONS, LARGE TRADE SHOW, NETWORK WITH FARMERS,  
RESEARCHERS AND OTHERS FROM THE MIDWEST REGION**

## From the Editor

It was a sad day on October 30 - Jim Held's last day as a UW-Extension Aquaculture Specialist. Jim was the last of our Aquaculture Specialists and we had high hopes that at least 1 of the original 3 positions would be retained. I am highly disappointed that the industry lost one of their most valuable assets. The cumulative 50+ years of aquaculture experience that Jim, Ron and Sarah offered - species, culture, feeding, regulatory, and more - was an invaluable resource that will not be readily or easily replaced.

The WAA board has retained the services of the Axley Law Firm and Ron Johnson in order to take care of regulatory issues/loopholes that have plagued the industry for years. WAA has tapped their money resources and is able to foot the bill up through January, but it will take about 2 more months to finish the job. WAA is looking to its members and other fish farmers for monetary to help get the bill drafted and to the legislature. Wisconsin has a strong aquaculture presence in the upper Midwest and people keep looking at Wisconsin to open new fish farms here, however the regulations scare the most of them away and they take their business to another state. The demand for farm raised fish will continue, it has already overtaken beef. Wisconsin has the resources to provide safe, sustainable healthy fish, it would be regrettable for the state to not join in this economic opportunity. Please read the Message from Tim Gollon on page 3, the article on this page and the WAA minutes from Sept and Dec starting on page 17 for more information.

Our 2016 North Central Aquaculture Conference is going to be an outstanding conference. In addition to NCRAC members from the 12 state region, there will be other experts and fish farmers giving over 30 talks on a wide variety of topics. Please see pages 12 & 13 for more information on the conference, registration and lodging. This is a must attend event for all!

Cindy



**Seasons  
Greetings**

**THE WAA BOARD  
AND OFFICERS  
WISH YOU**

**A MERRY CHRISTMAS  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



## A Note of Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to my colleagues and members of the Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry for their support and friendship throughout the years. It is hard to believe that I have been involved with the Wisconsin industry for 27 years (time flies when you're having fun). It's a rare gift to be able to smile on your way to work each day, and I've had plenty of smiles.

Looking forward, I anticipate a retirement filled with fishing and woodworking. I expect that I will continue my interest in aquaculture and from time to time participate in projects that interest me. At least for the time being I will use the e-mail [james.held@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:james.held@ces.uwex.edu) and will be open to questions you might have. Whether I go into consulting in the field will depend on availability and compensation, but I am always interested in talking about your ideas.

Once again, thank you for an enjoyable and satisfying career.

Keep the fish wet!  
Jim

## Proposed Aquaculture Bill Can Have Far Reaching Impact on Wisconsin Farms

By Cindy Johnson

The industry has had successes on the past 2 years in regards to ACT 207 and the Walleye Initiative. However not all roadblocks have been overcome. Several of our farms are still having serious issues. They are facing new TDML regulations which will cost tens of thousands of dollars to comply with; are being stymied with arbitrarily imposed compliance demands (on the farm, which has been in operation for over 50 years and has had no negative impact on the river); and one farm has finally been able to add ponds after a 15 year permit process, and still are shackled by the definition of wetlands in regards to their ponds.

These are issues which all farms in the state will eventually face if they want to move forward to expand and become economically successful. These are also a major impediment to potential new aquaculture businesses who have considered conducting business in Wisconsin. Demand for safe farm raised fish is growing and Wisconsin cannot keep up and be a major player if regulations in regards to aquaculture are not addressed.

As a result, at the September board meeting, the board approved to hire the Axley Law Firm and Ron Johnson to tackle these impediments and others, to give the aquaculture industry the same footing as other agricultural industries in the state. A White Paper was drafted outlining obstacles to the industry and reviewed by the board. Work then proceeded on legal language to draft a bill. Parts of the draft bill are very complicated and involve not only Wisconsin statutes, but also federal, and, at this writing, are not finalized yet. On Wednesday, Dec 9, several farms, Ron Johnson, Buck Sweeney and Mike Hahn testified before the Senate committee on Sporting Heritage, Mining and Forestry on these issues. Several of the committee members showed amazement and displeasure at the amount of regulations that have been specifically imposed on the aquaculture industry in this state.

At this point the Axley Law Firm is working on the *cont on page 5*

legal language needed to make this proposed bill acceptable for passage by the legislature. This bill is not designed to give aquaculture any special treatment or privileges, rather it is a clean up bill designed to give aquaculture equal status as an agricultural industry in the state of Wisconsin. It needs to address the following:

- Aquaculture defined as agriculture throughout all statutes NR 19, freeze out ponds, pond maintenance
- Dams used by fish farms
- Great Lakes Compact – clarification of withdrawal
- Wetlands
- Discharge
- Mitigation

A significant amount of WAA's financial resources has been invested in this effort, several of these issues are legally very complicated. Most of the language has been sorted out, but there is not a final draft yet. The goal is to have a draft ready to present to the committee in January in order to get it in front of the legislature for a vote this spring. The industry absolutely needs this bill to be drafted and brought forth for a vote this spring.

These issues are industry wide and WAA is working to address these for the benefit of all fish farms in the state. In the past, the association members have given support when needed but at this point what the association is going to need from the entire industry, is financial support. Later on, when the final draft bill is done, WAA will reach out again and will ask for support to get it passed.

If you want further information on the regulations that are being addressing, please contact Ron Johnson (ron@javatrou.com, 814-515-2570) or Peter Fritsch (PeteF@rushingwaters.net, 262-495-2089).



## Paying a Visit

By Emma Wiermaa  
UW-SP/NADF Outreach Specialist

This summer University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility has been providing fish deliveries, technical assistance, information, and support to a variety of fish farms that have partnered with us.

Yellow perch initially reared at UWSP-NADF were transferred to Coolwater Farms, LLC to finish grow-out in indoor systems as part of a NOAA Sea Grant Research Project. This project involves the production and economic evaluations of new technologies for raising yellow perch fingerlings. *Continued on page 6*



Greg Fischer, left, and Dave Northey at Coolwater Farms, Deerfield, WI. Yellow perch were provided to the farm this summer from UWSP-NADF due to a study funded by USDA-NCRAC.

# YOU KNOW FISH WE KNOW AERATORS

Our COMPLETE LINE OF AERATORS delivers much needed oxygen for fresh and salt water fish in ponds, lakes, and during transport. Their proven dependability results in better production, reduced loss, and improved growth rate for your fish.



See all our products at  
[www.freshflo.com](http://www.freshflo.com)

3037 Weeden Creek Road, Sheboygan, WI 53081  
920-208-1500



Our grader will make your job easier since sizes can be adjusted without juggling multiple baskets. The grader floats and has larger bars so fish pass through with little chance of gill damage. Perfect for fresh or salt water, choose either the 30 or 50 settings model.

## Paying a Visit, continued from page 5

These perch were correlated with another ongoing study at UWSP-NADF, funded by the USDA-North Central Region Aquaculture Council, on developing systems and diet strategies to reduce yellow perch larval mortality rates.

In addition to yellow perch, intensively reared and feed trained walleyes were transferred from UWSP-NADF to Northside Enterprises in Black Creek for extended fingerling grow-out in indoor systems. This project was part of the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative as well as a USDA Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) grant (Phase II).



Intensively raised, feed trained walleye fingerlings reared at UWSP-NADF were transferred to Northside Enterprises as part of the partnership.

A few more examples of farms visited by the UWSP-NADF to provide insights, ideas and technical assistance included Silver Moon Springs, LLC near Elton and Rushing Waters Fisheries in Palmyra,

among others.

Greg Fischer and Emma Wiermaa attended and presented at the US Trout Farmers Conference in September, which was held in Whitewater and Palmyra, Wisconsin. The UWSP-NADF presented water reuse technologies at the conference in response to stricter water usage and effluent regulations in Wisconsin. Part of the presentation focused on the facility's 14,000 gallon Atlantic salmon-



Satiation feeding demonstration at Rushing Waters Fisheries for the US Trout Farmers Conference

on partial recirculation system which is reusing 70-80% of the system water. The presentation also highlighted a new tank design for partial recirculation with built in radial flow settler to conserve water and concentrate solids without the use of a drum or biofilter. Due to UWSP-NADF demonstration, this new tank design is currently being utilized by several farms in Wisconsin.

The conference ended with a behind the scenes tour of Rushing Waters Fisheries led by Peter Fritsch, which *continued on page 7*



# TROUTLODGE

THE WORLD'S LEADING SUPPLIER OF  
Eyed Salmonid Eggs

Rainbow trout eggs

Silver steelhead eggs

Coho salmon eggs

Arctic charr eggs

All female eggs

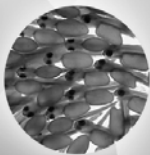
Triploid eggs



Comprehensive genetic selection program



Personalized customer and technical services



Internationally accepted independent disease-free certifications



Eggs are available every week of the year

Since 1945

[www.troutlodge.com](http://www.troutlodge.com)

T +1 (253) 863-0446 F +1 (253) 863-4715 E [trout@troutlodge.com](mailto:trout@troutlodge.com)

PO Box 1290, Sumner, WA 98390 USA

## Paying a Visit, continued from page 6

included hands on demonstrations of satiation, various trout feeds, aeration systems, partial water recirculation and aquaponics.

### Outreach

UWSP-NADF has been featured in the recent October issue of Aquaculture North America (ANA) magazine regarding the commercial production for walleye and saugeye using new aquaculture techniques at the larval stage and utilizing heated recirculating aquaculture systems for grow out at the facility. Earlier, ANA also featured UW-Stevens Point aquaculture education as well as student research using a eugenol based sedative to decrease stress and mortality during transportation of various species. These articles and more can be found on “News Stories Archive” off the UWSP-NADF homepage.

The facility also recently participated in the “Wisconsin Science Festival”, an event featuring hundreds of events across thirty communities around the state to get people of all ages excited about science and discover a new way to look at the world. UWSP-NADF partnered up with Bayfield High School to get kids handling, seeing, and exploring science interactively. The facility exposed students to aquaculture at the high school with a live display of aquaponics, a surface area demonstration regarding biofilters, and an introduction *cont.* →

to the eight species currently being raised at the facility. Over 200 kids and families participated in the event.

So far this year, over 300 people have traveled for a tour of the UWSP-NADF. Tours range from one to three hours and may consist



Interactive tours at UWSP-NADF. Photo showing kids from Red Cliff's Headstart Program.

of aquaculturalists, researchers, students, kids, or the general public visiting from across the nation as well as international. For every tour, we are dedicated in creating a positive experience and outlook on sustainable aquaculture that can be applied to people of all ages. This may be anywhere from a technical tour of the facility's equipment or systems to giving students and kids the ability to touch, hold or feed the fish. Everyone leaves the facility with an experience and story to tell.

For more information on facility activities, projects or partnerships visit [aquaculture.uwsp.edu](http://aquaculture.uwsp.edu).

## YOUR PARTNER IN A CHANGING WORLD

Pentair Aquatic Eco-Systems offers solutions and expertise to improve growing conditions in any environment from recirculating aquaculture systems to improving water conditions in pens. Pentair AES can help you improve results in any part of the growing cycle.

Pentair AES employs experts in coldwater aquaculture—pioneers in the industry who earned their knowledge by running operations of their own—to provide the best possible solutions for cold-water aquaculture facilities, from hatcheries to grow-out and everything in between.

From new builds, retrofits or even troubleshooting, Pentair AES has expertise and solutions to help your cold-water operation.



### AQUATIC ECO-SYSTEMS™

Online Orders: [PentairAES.com](http://PentairAES.com)

Phone Orders and Tech Advice: 877.347.4788

© 2014 Pentair Aquatic Eco-Systems, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

## Wisconsin Aquaculture Association Members Meet at Gollon Bait & Fish Farm

Teyanna Loether, 68<sup>th</sup> Alice in Dairyland

The first thing that catches your eye when you enter Gollon Bait & Fish Farm is the new, hand-painted sign. While it has the name of their family business featured, there is much more to the story. There are also two gamefish reaching for bait, while on the other end of the pole is the silhouette of a father and his daughter fishing in a boat.

The family owned and operated Gollon Bait & Fish Farm wanted to capture the essence of their farm and Wisconsin aquaculture in their sign. The game fish featured are two of the species raised at their farm, and the Gollon's happen to operate the largest baitfish farm in the state. “The father and his daughter fishing represent the future of aquaculture,” Tim said.

The Gollons' are certainly looking to the future of their farm and Wisconsin aquaculture, as they recently finished constructing eight new walleye ponds. Their family fish farm began as a single pond behind David Gollon Sr.'s house. His sons Dave, Tim, and Mike have carried on the legacy.

*continued on page 8*



**Members Meet at Gollon's** continued from page 7

Dave is the business manager, while Tim oversees production and Mike is in charge of sales. The third generation is now involved in the family business as well. Nowadays, the Gollon's manage approximately 50 ponds at their site in Dodgeville and rent numerous



ponds throughout the state to raise baitfish in. The Wisconsin Walleye Initiative has been integral to the implementation of new ponds on farms throughout the state such as the Gollon's. This initiative was developed by the Department of Natural Resources and government officials to increase the numbers of walleye by expanding production of large fingerling. Over three years, the funding commitment of this initiative will provide \$12 million for infrastructure improvements and modernize fish farms. These fingerling from state, private, and tribal hatcheries will be used to stock waters accessible to the public. In 2014, more than

500,000 walleye were stocked into public waters. A stocking strategy has been developed based upon fingerling survival, history of natural reproduction, public access, and tourism impact.

To celebrate the progress of the Walleye Initiative and the efforts of fish farmers throughout the state, the Wisconsin Aquaculture Association held their annual member picnic at Gollon's farm on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>.

Complete with a classic Wisconsin Friday fish fry, members were able to share new insights and hear from local representatives on the progress of Wisconsin aquaculture. Following the member picnic, a grand tour of the Gollon's farm was offered. The Gollon's farm showcases the diversity of fish raised, which is one of the strengths of Wisconsin aquaculture compared to our neighboring states. Not only is the Gollon's farm Wisconsin's largest baitfish operation, they also raise muskies, walleye, perch, northern pike, bass and bluegills, just to name a few.

Each species of fish in Wisconsin prefers slightly different pond conditions in order to thrive. Fish farmers keep *continued on pg 9*



a xylem brand



they  
**Thrive**  
with **YSI**

YSI offers **Optical Dissolved Oxygen (ODO)** sensing with the easy-to-use handheld, **ProODO**. No membrane changes, no warm-up time, no stirring, low maintenance and fewer calibrations. Just one more reason your livestock will thrive with YSI.

For more information about YSI products, contact Darrin Honious at [dhonious@ysi.com](mailto:dhonious@ysi.com) or (937) 767-7241 ext. 246.



YSI ProODO



**YSI.com/proODO**  
**+1 937 767 7241**

YSI Incorporated is a brand of Xylem, whose 12,900 employees are addressing the most complex issues in the global market.  
©2015 Xylem Inc.

**xylem**  
Let's Solve Water



## Members Meet at Gollon's continued from page 8

a close eye on temperature and oxygen levels, especially during the summertime. As the air warms, oxygen levels decrease and it becomes important to supplement oxygen or aerate the ponds.

Fish farmers are constantly testing their waters for proper nutrient balance and sustainably managing water use. The Gollon's obtain their water from wells, and they've installed a system that controls water use by dropping the horsepower of the well pump once optimal levels have been achieved. This decreases excess water use and conserves energy as well.

While on the tour that showcased the farm's success in providing top-quality game and baitfish, Tim Gollon reminisced about catching his very first fish, a small bluegill, in a neighbor's pond when he was five years old.

"Little did I know I'd spend my life producing millions and millions of fish," Tim said.



**Attendees enjoying a great meal of fresh fish!**



**l-r: Tim Gollon, Peter Fritsch (eating catfish!), Fred Binkowski, Dave Gollon, Senator Marklein**



**Bud Gollon sharing fish stories**

## ANNUAL PICNIC AND FARM TOUR PHOTOS



**Jim Held and Ron Johnson with their Retirement Cake**



**Smoked Trout Spread, French Fries, Fried Catfish and Fried Salmon**

**THANK YOU - DAVE SR, DAVE, TIM AND MIKE FOR YOUR DONATION OF FISH AND HOSTING THE 2015 PICNIC AND FARM TOUR; RUSHING WATERS AND NADF FOR DONATING SMOKED TROUT & SPREAD, AND ATLANTIC SALMON; AND SUE GOLLON FOR MAKING THE RETIREMENT CAKE!**

## Fall stocking well underway during third year of Wisconsin Walleye Initiative

**Contact:** Dave Giebtbrock, DNR fisheries culture section chief, [David.Giebtbrock@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:David.Giebtbrock@Wisconsin.gov), 608-266-8229

MADISON -- Fall walleye stocking is well underway as part of the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative, with some 355,000 of the 6 to 8 inch extended growth walleye now distributed primarily in northern lakes. Dave Giebtbrock, fisheries culture section chief for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, said plans are on track to distribute 760,000 fish this year, eclipsing last year's stocking record of 720,000 extended growth walleye. To date, 68 of 128 state waters have received the large fingerlings, with the scheduled deliveries now progressing to lakes in southern Wisconsin.

"The stocking continues to go extremely well this year, with most of the fish measuring in at more than 7 inches," Giebtbrock said. "These larger fish have an increased chance of survival and we are already seeing positive results from the previous two years of increased stocking. Depending on local conditions and forage availability, fish from the first year class of the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative should be approaching legal size limits in most waters in the next two years - a real win for Wisconsin anglers."

An important part of the story in 2015 has been the growing *cont.*

## Fall Stocking, continued

bution of private and tribal fish farms to the pool of fish available for stocking. During the first year of the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative, private and tribal fish farms contributed just under 22,000 fish. That number rose to nearly 213,000 fish in 2014 and should be even higher this year, Giebtbrock said.

In addition to fostering growth in the private aquaculture industry, the stocking also represents a win for the broader economy. Wisconsin remains one of the top three fishing destinations in the U.S. with resident and nonresident anglers generating an economic impact of nearly \$2.3 billion per year, according to the American Sportfishing Association.

"Walleye remain a top objective for many recreational anglers and a large part of the tourism industry in the state is driven by anglers pursuing walleye," said Justine Hasz, DNR fisheries bureau director. "The Wisconsin Walleye Initiative is part of our overall management strategy to help restore reproducing populations in lakes that formerly supported native populations and improve the numbers in lakes that need regular stocking to maintain good fisheries."

While stocking the larger, extended growth fingerlings makes sense in some lakes, this year's stocking schedule also calls for distribution of 1.4 million small fingerlings and 15.2 million fry. Giebtbrock said DNR's fisheries biologists develop stocking plans for the different sized fish based on specific lake conditions; in some lakes the fry and smaller fingerlings perform very well and are more cost effective than the larger fish.

In 2013, Gov. Scott Walker and the Legislature approved the Wisconsin Walleye Initiative with \$8.2 million for state hatchery infrastructure improvements, \$1.3 million additional funding for annual state hatchery operating costs, along with a one-time allotment of \$2 million for private sector and tribal infrastructure improvements and \$500,000 for the annual purchase of extended growth walleye from non-DNR hatcheries. Funding totaling \$500,000 was approved earlier this year to continue the effort for 2015 and 2016.

During the first three years of the initiative through 2015, some 255 lakes will be stocked with more than 1.5 million extended growth walleye. Prior to 2013, the state produced about 40,000 extended growth fingerlings per year.

To learn more, visit [DNR.wi.gov](http://DNR.wi.gov) and search "[Wisconsin Walleye Initiative](#)."

## WFB testifies in favor of high capacity wells

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Published on October 8th, 2015  
MADISON, Wis. — The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation supports legislation that will provide certainty to farmers with existing high capacity wells on their farms. Senate Bill 239 authored by State Senator Rick Gudex (R-Fond du Lac) relates to the replacement, reconstruction and transfer of ownership of existing high capacity well permits.

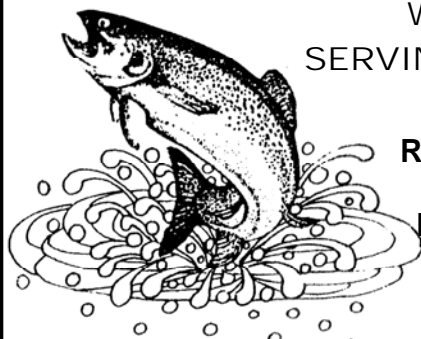
Current law requires a person to obtain approval from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) before constructing a high capacity well. A high capacity well is defined as a well and all other wells on the same property that together have the capacity to withdraw more than 100,000 gallons of water per day.

Due to the 2011 State Supreme Court decision in Lake Beulah Management District vs. State, the DNR now has *continued on page 11*

Hugo W. and Ruby J. Kettula  
Living Trust

## SEVEN PINES FISHERY, INC.

WHOLESALE  
SERVING THE MIDWEST



Rainbow and Brown  
Trout  
Fry Now Available  
Fingerling to  
Catchable

For Information

**RICHARD & DAVID KETTULA**

1029 Clam Falls Drive, Frederic, WI 54837-4705

Phone 715-653-2271

Fax 715-653-4129

[sevenpinesfishery@hotmail.com](mailto:sevenpinesfishery@hotmail.com)

interpreted its authority to require the environmental review process for all high capacity well permit applications, including those for replacement, reconstruction and transfer of ownership of existing high capacity well permits.

Prior to the Court's decision, the DNR used the environmental review process for new high capacity well permit applications that met one of the following conditions: 1) may impact the water supply of a public water utility; 2) may impact an outstanding resource water body or an exception resource water body; 3) is to be used to withdraw water for bottling purposes and; 4) may impact larger scale springs.

Due to the Court's decision, the DNR lacks certainty of how to regulate farmers who need to repair or replace an existing well, or want to purchase or sell land with a high capacity well.

SB 239 clarifies state law by directing the DNR to restore certainty to previously issued high capacity well permits. SB 239 states that no additional approval is needed for an existing high capacity well to repair or maintain the well, to construct a replacement high capacity well of substantially the same depth within a 75-foot radius of the existing high capacity well, to reconstruct the existing high capacity well, or to transfer the approval of a high capacity well as part of the sale of land where the well is located.

"It should be noted that in these instances no new water withdrawals are being approved; but rather, existing wells are either being repaired for continued use, replaced for continued use or being owned by a different person for the same use," Zimmerman said. "It is important for farmers with high capacity wells to have financial and regulatory certainty, and to know they will be able to water their livestock and irrigate their crops as previously approved by the DNR."

### Federal Appeals Court: Waters of U.S. Rule on Hold Nationally

AGWed <http://www.agweb.com/article/federal-appeals-court-waters-of-us-rule-on-hold-nationally-NAA-alison-rice/>  
October 9, 2015 10:20 AM

A federal appeals court on Oct 9 said that the U.S. government could not begin implementing the controversial "Waters of the U.S." rule that governs what waterways are subject to federal Clean Water Act permits and which waterways are not.

In September, a federal court in North Dakota issued an injunction against the rule in 13 states just as it was ready to go into effect. That decision applies to the 13 states involved in that particular case, and many expected it to cover the other 37 states that have lawsuits pending on the very same regulation. But the EPA said in August the hotly debated rule would go into effect on Friday, Aug. 28, as planned everywhere but those 13 states.

Today's ruling applies across all 50 states, leaving EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers legally unable to implement the rule until the federal courts determine just where the many pending WOTUS cases will be consolidated and eventually decided.

### Farm Bureau asks court to stop EPA

Published on November 8th, 2015

[https://www.morningagclips.com/farm-bureau-asks-court-to-stop-epa/?utm\\_content=articles&utm\\_campaign=NLCampaign&utm\\_source=Newsletter&utm\\_term=newsletteredition&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.morningagclips.com/farm-bureau-asks-court-to-stop-epa/?utm_content=articles&utm_campaign=NLCampaign&utm_source=Newsletter&utm_term=newsletteredition&utm_medium=email)

WASHINGTON — The American Farm Bureau Federation and a coalition of agricultural and builder groups today *cont on pg 15*

 PURINA  
**AQUAMAX**  
PREMIUM FISH FOOD



**GROW BIG FISH**

For more information on AquaMax® Premium Fish Food  
go to [www.PurinaMills.com/fish-feed](http://www.PurinaMills.com/fish-feed)

Purina® AquaMax® fish foods are 100% nutritionally complete diets, formulated for optimum nutrient delivery, and designed to feed a variety of species.

#### AQUAMAX® STARTER DIETS

A highly digestible, high energy, nutrient-dense diet excellent for all starter and fingerling species.



#### AQUAMAX® POND FISH DIETS

Diets that are formulated for omnivorous fish that don't demand the higher protein levels or nutrient densities required by carnivores.

#### AQUAMAX® SPORT FISH DIETS

High protein, nutrient-dense diets that promote healthy growth in carnivorous fish.



# 2016 NORTH CENTRAL AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### Friday, March 11

#### Pre Conference Farm Tour and Lunch at Rushing Waters Fisheries

\$29 pp, includes tour, lunch with beverage & dessert and gratuity

Get a behind the scenes of the largest Trout farm in WI, then enjoy a fresh caught trout lunch.

Tour starts at 10:30am, lunch at 11:30a. Call 262-495-2089 to register or for more information.

We are located 1 hour from Milwaukee at N301 County Road H, Palmyra, WI

LOOK AT ALL THESE  
GREAT TALKS!

### Friday Afternoon, March 11

#### WAA Spring Board Meeting (2-3p), WAIAC Meeting (3-5p),

#### WAA Annual Members Meeting(5p), WAA Annual Board Meeting

### Saturday & Sunday, March 12 & 13

#### Conference Sessions & Topics

Session times are subject to change. For up-to-date information, go to [WisconsinAquaculture.com](http://WisconsinAquaculture.com)

### Saturday

#### *"Ask the Expert" Q/A*

Aquaponics De-mystified/Aquatic Plant Management/Aeration/Recirculation Aquaculture Systems

#### *Business Planning for Aquaculture*

Getting Started in Aquaculture/Aquaculture Economics/Agri-tourism & Value Added Products/Live Haul Marketing Aquaculture Marketing and Advantages of Collective Sales

#### *Aquaculture Best Management Practices*

Quality Feeds and Quality Fish: BMP for Feeds & Feeding/Fish Health: What You Need to Know/Science of Stocking/Water Quality Management

#### *Farmer/Culturist Real World Experiences*

Aquaponics Startup/On Farm Production of Coolwater Species-Production & Marketing Considerations/Affordable Application of Pond Side Tanks to Increase Production of Coolwater Species/Modifying RAS to Better Manage Operations and Increase Economics for Perch Production

#### *Seafood Tech: Source to Table*

Seafood in the Diet; benefits and Risks/Major Seafood Issues in Review: Analysis, Communication Skills and Methods/US Seafood Industry: Fisheries & Aquaculture Situation and Outlook/Seafood Safety, Processing & Regulations

#### *Pond Culture and Management*

Managing Ponds for Sportfish Stockings/Aquatic Plant Management in Ponds/Coolwater Fry Culture in Ponds/Stocking & Harvesting Fish in Ponds

### Saturday Evening

**Silent Auction**-Array of great items donated to support the conference and the WI FFA aquaculture grant. We are looking for items for our Silent Auction. Just bring them with you and see our staff at the registration table.

**Aquaculture Retail Showcase**-a display of what other farms are producing & selling.

**Taste of Wisconsin Aquaculture Cooking Demo & Tasting and Social**-This has been a part of Wisconsin Aquaculture conferences for years. You don't want to miss this experience! Enjoy a variety of fish dishes while relaxing and networking.

We encourage you to participate in making these events a success. If you want to donate an aquaculture product for use in our Cooking Demo or you want to show off in the Retail Showcase, please contact Cindy no later than February 29.

### Sunday

#### *Aquaponics*

Aquaponics System Design & Management/Aquaponics Innovation Center/Aquaponics in a Cold Flowing Water System/Fish Management in Aquaponics

#### *Coolwater Aquaculture*

Advanced Fingerling Walleye Culture/Commercialization of Walleye and Hybrids for Aquaculture/Ways to Improve Sunfish/LMB Production & Sales/Yellow Perch and Soybean Based Diets

#### *Non Coolwater Species*

Marine Shrimp Culture/Arctic Char Culture/Michigan Netpen Experience/Lake Sturgeon for Commercial Production

## 2016 AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE LODGING & AREA INFORMATION

Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport  
6401 South 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221  
414-764-5300

<http://www.crowneplazamilwaukee.com/>

### Lodging Information

Mention Wisconsin Aquaculture Association for conference room rates  
Check in time is 3p, checkout time is 11 am. A credit card is needed to  
guarantee your reservation. Cancellation is day of arrival by 6pm for a  
refund, cancellation penalty is 1 night's lodging. Please reconfirm poli-  
cies when you book your room. Sales tax is currently 15.1%.

### Pricing

Standard Room King or 2 Queens: \$107.00 Single \$107.00 Double, plus  
tax

### Cutoff Date

Room block and rates are valid from Wednesday, March 9 checking out  
Sunday March 13 and will be released on February 24, 2016. Additional  
reservation requests will be honored on a space and rate available basis.

### Travel Information:

Flights - the hotel is 2 ½ miles for the Milwaukee Airport, complimentary  
shuttle service. Complimentary parking at the hotel. Please note that  
this shuttle service is only for a 5 mile radius (does not include down-  
town)

### Directions

Driving - the Crowne Plaza is located off I-94, near the General Mitchell  
International Airport (MKE).

### Crowne Plaza Offers

- In room coffee maker
- Free wireless
- 32" flat screen HD television
- Health and Fitness center
- Indoor pool and hot tub
- Innovation Restaurant and Lounge
- Complimentary shuttle to local businesses within 5 mile radius
- Business center

Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities and limitations  
should be made prior to the date of this event. Please do so as early as  
possible so that proper arrangements can be made. Requests are kept  
confidential.

### Area Events, Attractions, Restaurants, Shopping

- The Midwest Foodservice Expo will run from March 7-9 at the Wiscon-  
sin Center
- Milwaukee County Zoo
- Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin: interactive exhibits exploring tech-  
nology
- Mayfair: this newly expanded mall features over a 180 upscale stores,  
a 16-screen movie theatre, eateries and a kids play area
- Domes at the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory - three glass  
greenhouse: a tropical, and an arid dome, and a floral show dome with  
changing exhibits
- Harley Davidson Museum
- Betty Brinn Children's Museum
- Potawatomi Bingo & Casino

Milwaukee and the surrounding area offers museums, breweries a zoo,  
and for shopping experience there are chocolatiers, antiques & collecti-  
bles, gourmet foods, cheese shops, indoor public market, and more. No  
matter what your dining tastes are, cuisines range from Italian, Asian,  
French, Indian, South American, and Mexican to seafood, steak, and  
American.

## 2016 North Central Aquaculture Conference, March 12-13, 2016 REGISTRATION FORM

If needed, use extra sheet or form for additional attendees - you may also register  
online.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration fees are per person.** Includes: Conference, Saturday lunch,  
Saturday Taste of Wisconsin Aquaculture Cooking Demo, breaks & Saturday  
evening reception

	/person fee			
	Before 2/29	After 2/29	# people	Total \$
Yourself	\$115	\$165	x _____	_____
Spouse	\$85	\$135	x _____	_____
Student (High School or College - full time)	\$85	\$135	x _____	_____
Saturday lunch only (for family not attending conference)	\$25	\$75	x _____	_____
Sat Taste of Aqua only (for family not attending conference)	\$25	\$75	x _____	_____
			Total \$	_____

**Refunds: Up through Monday Feb 29: \$25/person penalty, after Monday  
Feb 29: no refund**

### PAYMENT

You can pay by check, made out to WAA, OR pay by credit card - the following  
information must be completed:

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address, include zip \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card name - MasterCard, Visa, Discover

Credit card number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

3 digit security code on back of card \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail to:

Wisconsin Aquaculture Association  
1165 Riggles Gap Road, Altoona, PA 16601  
Phone: 814-515-2570

# Best Aeration Products, Best Aeration Expertise

Properly aerating your pond or lake for aquaculture purposes can be a science, and nobody can beat Kasco's scientific knowledge and depth of experience. With nearly 50 years in business and more than 90 years of combined industry experience, our company will deliver the results you need. Couple that expertise with our complete line of aeration products including **surface aerators, diffused aeration, aerating/decorative fountains, circulators, de-icers, beneficial bacteria and dye** - all designed and built to the highest standards - and you have the best source for water quality solutions possible. Put the industry's best team and best products to work for you. Contact us today about your aquaculture aeration needs.

## Meet our sales management staff:



### Bob Robinson - *Director of Sales & Marketing - Fisheries Biologist*

- Started at Kasco in 1999
- Over 30 years of industry experience, with expertise in water quality, aeration & aquaculture applications
- Worked for Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources, Bureau of Land Management in Colorado, State of Wisconsin, Aquatic Eco-Systems & Purina-Rangen Fish Feeds
- Holds Bachelor of Science degrees in water resource management - fisheries & biology from UW-Stevens Point



### Joe Holz - *Outside & International Sales*

- Started at Kasco in 2002 as inside sales & customer service support
- Helps customers in a wide area of uses & unique applications including aeration needs in backyard ponds, intensive aquaculture, golf & irrigation applications, water treatment & processing, mining, & lake front property management
- Worked at Rushing Waters Fisheries in Palmyra, Wisconsin in fish rearing, fish health, culling, sorting & processing
- Holds Bachelor of Science degrees in environmental science & geography from Carroll University



### Andy Gillis - *Outside Sales*

- Started at Kasco in 2005
- Currently the product manager for de-icers & circulators
- Previous owner of an aquatic supply business where he was the aquaculture consultant & helped customers with aeration projects in ponds, lakes & open water
- Attended University of Maryland & Johns Hopkins University



### Ken Rust - *Outside Sales*

- Started at Kasco in 2009, but previously sold Kasco products for more than 20 years working in the industry
- Currently the product manager for Kasco's Robust-Aire diffused aeration system
- Helps customers design proper aeration layouts for ponds & lakes to improve & protect the health of their ponds
- Holds a Master of Science degree in Aquaculture & Fisheries from LSU



## Common Aquaculture Aeration Applications Include:

**Raceways & Ponds:** Increase stocking density or feed rate to shortened time to harvest

**Tanks:** Obtain densities of up to 1/2 gallon of H<sub>2</sub>O. Vent CO<sub>2</sub>

**Emergency Aeration:** 3.0 lbs. / O<sub>2</sub> / hp / hr. 12 volt option available

Email: [sales@kascomarine.com](mailto:sales@kascomarine.com)

Web: [www.kascomarine.com](http://www.kascomarine.com)

Phone: 715-262-4488



## WOTUS UPDATE, continued from page

asked the U.S. Supreme Court to review a lower court ruling that allows the Environmental Protection Agency to micromanage local land use and development decisions under the guise of implementing the federal Clean Water Act.

The lawsuit arose in the context of EPA's so-called "blueprint" for restoring the Chesapeake Bay, but Farm Bureau points out that the issue at stake is national in scope.

"It's about whether EPA has the power to override local decisions on what land can be farmed, where homes can be built, and where schools, hospitals, roads and communities can be developed," said AFBF President Bob Stallman.

According to today's court filing, the greatest practical, local harm of the Bay blueprint is that it "locks in" decisions made in 2010 and "deprives state and local governments of the ability to adapt their plans to take account of changes in societal needs, developing technologies, or new information. Implementation of the blueprint is expected to cost roughly \$28 billion to \$30 billion in Maryland and Virginia alone.

## DON'T MISS OUT ON THE 2016 AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE!

Check out these sessions!

Ask the Expert, Business Planning, Coolwater Species, Real World Experiences, Source to Table, Pond Culture & Management, Aquaponics, BMP's, and Non-Coolwater Species

## BITS AND PIECES

### Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Awarded USDA VAPG

258 businesses in 47 states, Puerto Rico and the western Pacific will benefit from the 2015 round of awards from the Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG) program. Included in this list is the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. Red Cliff plans on developing a feasibility study of value-added fish products including fresh fish fillets, smoked fillets, fish spread and herring caviar.

### Lochner joins DATCP Farm Center

Published on October 15th, 2015

MADISON, Wis. — The Wisconsin Farm Center is pleased to announce Michael Lochner has joined its staff as an agriculture economic development consultant specializing in business, financial and estate planning issues for Wisconsin farmers. Lochner brings more than 20 years of agricultural business experience from his previous work in banking, farm credit and farm services. Lochner has worked on business plans and credit needs across all types of Wisconsin farms and businesses.

The Farm Center can be reached at 1-800-942-2474. There is no fee to the farmer and all information is kept strictly confidential.



Established 1856

◆ *Dressed and Smoked Rainbow Trout*

◆ *Gift Boxes*

◆ *Retail and Wholesale*

◆ *Fee Fishing*

*Bring this ad & receive*

*10% off fee fishing*

400 Hill Ave, Star Prairie, WI 54026

888-545-6808 ← toll free

INFO@STARPRAIRIETROUT.COM

www.starprairietrout.com

## THANK YOU Wisconsin Aquaculture Association!



I teach a summer school fishing class in Milton, WI. A year ago or so, you sent some posters down to us. We wanted to say "thank you" and send a picture of some happy students to you. We really appreciate your generosity. We are always looking for donations and we really appreciate them.

Thanks again!  
Andrew Gross

a nutreco company

Photo: Getty Images

## Balancing the intricate world of fish feed



### **MicroBalance™ takes the evolution of fish feed one step further**

Intensive research has revealed new knowledge of micro-nutrients and how they interact in the fish. By balancing the micro-nutrients we are able to introduce a raw material flexibility never seen before. At the same time feed performance, fish welfare and quality are maintained at optimal levels. Balancing fish nutrition for a sustainable future. [www.skretting.com](http://www.skretting.com)

**Feeding your passion for fish**

**SKRETTING** 



# MINUTES

## **WAA FALL BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 11, 2015 GOLLON BAIT AND FISH FARM DODGEVILLE, WI**

The WAA Board meeting was opened at 8:47 am by Peter Fritsch.

### **Board members/staff present:**

Peter Fritsch, President, Terry Hogan Vice President, Tim Gollon, board member,  
Staff: Cindy Johnson, Secretary; Kathy Foster, Treasurer

### **Board members not present:**

Dan Gruendemann, Board Chairman; Jim Augustyn, Jeff Taylor (Jeff has stepped down as board member), Ben Gollon, Brandon Pigott, Tim Winkel.

(Dan, Jim, Ben and Tim all voted via email or phone on the motions regarding the minutes, treasurer report, hiring Ron Johnson; hiring a lobbyist and Axley Law Firm; and to give Ron approval to talk to the WAA board and members in developing a whitepaper)

### **Others Present:**

Buck Sweeney, Axley Law Firm; Mike Hahn, Axley Law Firm; Bill West, Blue Iris; Mike Foster, Wilderness Springs; Fritz Gollon, Central WI Fish; Jacob Bush, Central WI Fish; Jim Held, UW-Extension; Kim Wall, Bensch Food Products; Ron Johnson

Peter had a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of 9/11

### **Minutes from 3-5-15 and 3-7-15**

Peter made the motion to approve the minutes for the WAA Quarterly Board Meeting, WAA Members Annual Board Meeting, Annual WAA Board Meeting and the reconvened WAA Annual Board Meeting, 2nd by Terry, approved by members present, **Dan Gruendemann, Jim Augustyn, Tim Winkel and Ben Gollon voted yes via email.** Passed

### **Treasurer Report**

Kathy Foster went over the Treasurers Report from April 1-August 31, 2015. The question was asked what our bottom line was – it is \$37,665.02. Peter made the motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Terry, approved by members present, **Dan Gruendemann, Jim Augustyn, Tim Winkel and Ben Gollon voted yes via email.** Passed

### **Discussion on Hiring of Ron Johnson**

Peter proposed that WAA hires Ron Johnson on projects that the board votes and decides on. The following points were made:

New legislation is needed for aquaculture, the industry is not growing. Ron has helped farmers understand legislation so his knowledge is needed. Ron would be working for WAA and not for individual farms. Ron can do research and coordination that can then be passed on to the attorneys, this is a savings rather than have the attorneys do this. In addition to the new legislation we need ideas and issues for Ron to work on if he is hired. Everything will be voted on by the board.

It was discussed that a budget needs to be set taking into

account money WAA has.

Tim asked about Jim Held's position. Jim has been an asset and we need to keep his extension position. Jim said that as of this moment the position will end the end of September. A request had been sent last Wednesday to Ray Cross's office.

**Peter made the motion that WAA hires Ron Johnson as a private consultant for \$30 per hour to work on assigned projects approved by the board. The BOD sets the amount of hours or pay for any one assignment, Ron reports to the BOD as a whole with all communications and WAA pays him on the same time basis as Cindy and Kathy. WAA will cover Ron's travel expenses if needed.**

**Tim Gollon 2<sup>nd</sup>, all members present approved unanimously, Dan Gruendemann, Jim Augustyn, Tim Winkel and Ben Gollon voted yes via email and phone.**

### **Discussion on proposed new aquaculture bill & hiring Axley Law Firm**

The following points were brought up:

WAA needs to grow, we need to deal with issues that are holding us back

One issue is interpretation of laws. Ex. The Clean Water Act – each state interprets this act differently and how it affects aquaculture

Legislatively, aquaculture has not been part of agriculture in Wisconsin

Need to address water dependency

WAA will need to spend money in order to address these issues and others and move the industry forward

Peter introduced Buck Sweeney, Axley Law Firm, who is currently working with several farms.

Buck went over what has been done up to this point. The firm has developed a White Paper that addresses CAAP facilities, agricultural water quality protection to aquaculture and limit the WDNR ability to adopt water quality standards exceeding the federal standards, and the should move forward on this. (This White Paper was passed out, but since this meeting it has been further refined and will be sent to the board at that time). Water dependency needs to be included in this as well. This is an urgent project and ideally should be started by this coming Friday (Sept 18) and he needs input on the White Paper

Expenditures would include:

WAA needs to register to lobby (\$1500) and a lobbyist (\$250)

Fee to move forward with legislation - \$5,000/month, it will take about 3 months to accomplish this.

Total costs including attorney and lobbyist around \$18,000.

There was a discussion on issues that need to be addressed: water dependency is interpreted differently in different situation, we need to look into addressing fish as livestock (one issue to keep in mind is that livestock are not allowed to be released into the wild), aquaculture is missed in 3 areas in the definition of agriculture (so we need to have it defined as agriculture), NR19, freeze out ponds, artesian flow, and pond maintenance all need to be addressed.

It was explained that the original code was NR16, some farms missed applying for Chapter 30, so NR 19 *continued on pg 18*

was created

Other things to look into is that farms are not getting credit for creating wetlands - currently if you create a wetland and it gets recognized as such, you then end up losing access and control over this land and it becomes public property. You also can't maintain any structures that are in a wetland. Getting water dependency will eliminate this issue. These things need to be done now if any farmer wants to continue farming. WAA may need contributions from it's members and farms to see this through.

Buck was asked to explain backsliding in regards to legislative rules. He explained that even if a state repeals a legislative rule, the feds won't revert back their rules. To avoid this, we need to make sure the state doesn't make legislation stricter than what the feds have.

There was a discussion on TDML and phosphorus which has been a major issue for some farms; the next thing coming will be nitrogen levels. The industry needs to have a variance to prevent backsliding from kicking in. Another problem is if water from your farm is good quality, the stream it discharges into will be upgraded and then your farm will be put in jeopardy. The White Paper will need to be reworded to include this.

Due to upcoming elections, this needs to be done now before the spring if we want to get anything passed. Everything will be channeled through Peter - he will be the contact, rather than the attorneys, for fielding questions and Ron needs to be copied on everything.

Peter made the motion

**WAA hires a lobbyist and the Axley Law Firm to move ahead with developing legislation to address aquaculture issues in Wisconsin. The expenditures are not to exceed \$18,000 over 3 months.**

**Terry Hogan 2<sup>nd</sup>, all members present approved unanimously, Dan Gruendemann, Jim Augustyn, Tim Winkel and Ben Gollon voted yes via email and phone.**

Peter will be the point person and Ron will be the liaison

**Peter made the motion**

**Give Ron approval to talk to the WAA board and members to help determine what needs to be done in developing a white paper with the help of the Axley Law Firm for this new legislation. Expenses not to exceed \$3000.**

**Terry Hogan 2<sup>nd</sup>, all members approved unanimously, Dan Gruendemann, Jim Augustyn, Tim Winkel and Ben Gollon voted yes via email and phone.**

## **Old Business**

### **Extension Funding**

We need to keep Jim. A pot of money in the University has been found and a request has been sent in. WAA will look into any statues that may involve this aquaculture extension position. It was discussed to perhaps add the aquaculture extension position to the new legislation.

Jim recapped where things stand now:

As of this moment the position will terminate the end of September. A request had been sent last Wednesday to Ray Cross's office. This included the Extension Chancellor's request to Ray Cross of \$100,000, and letters from Extension, UW-SP and the industry. If

this position goes away, it may be very hard to get it reinstated. Chris Hartleb also included a statement that this position is an important part of UW-SP and NADF. Jim is not sure how long this money request would cover - 1 year, 2 years?

It was mentioned that it is vital that members need to keep in contact with their legislators to help move this industry forward.

## **2016 Conference Update**

Cindy quickly went over what has been done:

A draft schedule has been drawn up

A list of topics is being assembled - looking for more input for topics.

Vendor registration categories and fees have been set - there will be 4 categories based on manned or literature only and on level of sponsorship.

Conference registration categories and fees have been set - there will be 2 categories of registration: full and spouse/student.

Peter offered to have a tour and lunch at Rushing Waters on Friday.

## **New Business**

### **Request for assistance with study on aquaculture associations benefits and services**

This request came from Carole Engle, Engle-Stone Aquatic\$ LLC.. Members present agreed to work with her on this.

There was no other new business to bring up at this meeting.

Peter made the motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim, passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:36am

Respectfully submitted by

Cindy Johnson, Secretary

## **WAA Board Winter Board Meeting December 8, 2016 Swartzendruber's Supper Club 1315 Forrest Ave. Antigo, WI 54409**

Dan Gruendemann call the meeting to order at 12:07 pm. Peter Fritsch later took over as Dan had to step out.

### **Board Members present:**

Chairman, Dan Gruendemann, Northside Enterprise; Board Directors, Ben Gollon, Gollon Brothers Wholesale; Tim Winkel, Silver Moon Springs; Jim Augustyn, Augustyn Springs; Tim Gollon, Gollon Bait and Fish Farm; President, Peter Fritsch, Rushing Waters Fisheries; Vice President, Terry Hogan, Hayward Bait. Staff: Secretary, Cindy Johnson; Treasurer, Kathy Foster, Wilderness Springs.

### **Others present:**

Ron Johnson; Mike Hahn, Axley Law Firm; Dan Hilger, RJ Hilger and Sons; Chris Lilek, DNR; Bill West, Blue Iris; Mark Hilger, RJ Hilger and Sons; Paul Hilger, RJ Hilger and Sons.

### **Minutes from 9/11/15**

Peter Fritsch made the motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ben Gollon, passed.

### **Treasurer Report**

Terry Hogan made the motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peter Fritsch, passed.

*Continued on page 19*

## WAA Minutes, continued from page 18

At this time there is \$1,412.99 in checking, \$10,110.32 in savings and \$20,000 in 2 cd's, for a bottom line of \$31,523.31. The current bill from Axley for services from this September through November is \$16,506.50, with an additional \$5,000 due for December.

### Old Business and Current Issues

#### Extension of Axley's contract

This contract originally was for 3 months. An extension was added to the contract, but we need to discuss additional extensions to complete what we set out to do. There are still things that need to be addressed and we have to make sure the proposed legislation will completely do this.

Axley has asked for an extension through March, it is anticipated that the legislative floor sessions will be done in March (the fall sessions are over with).

WAA has been working with Axley to make this as economical as possible but WAA does not have the money for this extension.

#### Update on Status of the proposed bill

It was emphasized that this is a cleanup bill, not one to give the industry special status

There has been lot of work done, but there remains more to do.

We have been making sure that all that the industry needs can be included in the proposed legislation. There has been communications with legislators on the proposed bill.

Background searches have been done, and a White Paper and several drafts have been written on what needs to be

achieved in order to help the industry. This was then sent to the Legislative Bureau do be drawn up as a draft bill. The LB was swamped with a lot of proposed bills from other interests and we have been going back and forth with them to refine the language.

There are 2 issues that have surfaced – WPDES and variances for aquaculture. We are communicating with EPA to make sure that the bill's language is acceptable to them and the industry (backsliding was the primary issue). Originally we had wanted the bill to be introduced last week, and brought forth to the hearing tomorrow (Dec 9), but we couldn't meet the deadline with these 2 issues, which still are not worded correctly.

These must be included now and not put off to deal with later. Some of the past legislative changes that have been made haven't been done this thorough, so we need to be comprehensive with this. The language complications have delayed the bill by a month. We need to make sure the draft bill is possible, legal and acceptable by the EPA from a legislative stand. *continued on page 20*

## 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar 11 **WAA Spring Board Meeting, 2-3p**
  - Mar 11 **WAIAC Meeting, 3-5p**
  - Mar 11 **WAA Annual Members Meeting, 5p**
  - Mar 11 **WAA Annual Board Meeting,**
  - Mar 12-13 **North Central Aquaculture Conference**
- Location for all: Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 South 13th Street, Milwaukee



### WISCONSIN FLOWGATE & CULVERT COMPANY, INC.

9511 Bainbridge Trail Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Telephone: 715-325-3302 Fax: 715-325-6213 Toll-Free: 866-FLOGATE  
E-Mail: sales@wisconsinflowgate.com Website: www.wisconsinflowgate.com

### MARINE GRADE ALUMINUM:

CUSTOM ALUMINUM FABRICATION, ALUMINUM FLOWGATES, SLIDE GATES, PLASTIC CULVERTS, BOTTOM & TOP DRAW GATES, ALUMINUM STOPLOGS, SCREENS, FRAMES & MORE



### 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE

OUR QUALIFIED STAFF WOULD BE GLAD TO HELP WITH ALL YOUR WATER CONTROL NEEDS

Due to the Clean Water Act and subsequent federal rules, any variance that we propose needs to be approved by both the DNR and EPA. We are looking at how other states have been dealing with these same issues.

Several of our largest farms have been spending a lot of money dealing with issues that have already been clearly defined and the industry cannot continue to spend money dealing with these issues that keep getting thrown up, and survive economically. For example: In 2004 the EPA approved BMPs for CAFO's, but the DNR has not accepted BMPs. The DNR does not consider BMPs to be enough and require additional testing. It was pointed out that these financially challenging issues that the large farms are dealing with are going to eventually expand to the smaller ones.

Mike Hahn went over the current draft bill

The 'aquaculture facility' wording is being changed to fish farm – aquaculture facility is not defined in the statutes, but fish farm is.

Sections 1-8 deals with NR19. Permitting of freeze out ponds, can maintain a prior permitted farm without getting a permit, a pond fed by natural water can be registered as a fish farm.

Section 9 aquaculture is agriculture. There are a few places in the statutes that do not define this.

Section 10 flow requirements over a dam.

Section 12 & 13 cleans up definitions.

Section 14 Great Lakes Compact and the withdrawal of water. The original withdrawal of water from natural water into a pond stands, but subsequent withdrawals of that water from the pond is not considered a withdrawal.

Section 15 wetlands on nonfederal land doesn't need a permit if it doesn't affect more than 10,000 sq. feet.

Section 17 discharge from a farm. You are not required to provide practical alternative analysis.

Section 19 fish farms need to be recognized as water dependent.

Section 21-23 clarifies that agricultural exceptions apply to aquaculture.

Section 24-25 addresses transportation issues to be brought in line with agriculture.

It was asked if we could look into navigability (this involves the issues with WOTUS) aquaculture being the same a agriculture in regards to real estate taxes.

The state has applied to the EPA for a variance for businesses (including aquaculture) on phosphorus but the business would need to meet several requirements which would be difficult for most if not all fish farms.

#### **Funding to extend the Axley contract**

The industry absolutely needs this legislation if it is to survive.

The Axley contract will quite probably need to be extended into January and likely into February.

We are going to try to introduce the bill by the end of December and have a hearing in January.

The bill may sit until March before brought up for a vote. We need to remember we are not asking for anything new, this is just a cleanup bill so hopefully the bill has possibility to be passed, however there is opposition to practices by other industries that may ultimately affect aquaculture.

WAA is a 501(c) (5), we can hire a lobbyist but cannot fundraise

(a 501(c) (3) can). Mike Hahn will ask Buck Sweeney about this.

WAA cd's will be depleted and savings will be significantly reduced after January. Dues have not been raised since around 2004 and WAA is providing more now. A motion was made by Terry Hogan to increase the active level (business) to \$75, associate to \$35 and group to \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Winkle, passed. A letter will be written to go with the dues notice.

Peter Fritsch made the motion to guarantee the Axley extension through January at an additional \$5000, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Gollon, all approved, and passed.

#### **Bait Harvest**

It was brought up about changing the 30 day harvest permits and to include other water bodies. It was suggested that a paper be put together covering these issues and presented to the board.

#### **2016 Conference Update**

As we were running out of time, this was moved to the WAIAC meeting.

#### **New Business**

##### **Nominations for Board Director Positions**

There will be 2 positions open for voting in March. Tim Gollon was nominated and agreed to run. Any other nominations will be accepted by email.

Bill West said his term with NCRAC is expiring and NCRAC asked if he wanted to continue. The board agreed that Bill should continue. Bill will inform NCRAC.

Peter Fritsch made the motion to adjourn, Terry Hogan 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed, meeting adjourned at 2:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Jonson, WAA Secretary

**Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry  
Advisory Council  
September 11, 2015  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
Location: Gollon Bait & Fish, Dodgeville, WI  
10:30 am – 12:00 pm**

**WAIAC Voting Members Present:** Peter Fritsch, David C. Gollon, Dan Gruendemann, Mike Kelm and Bill West. (Jeff Taylor excused.)

**Others in attendance:** Angie Sullivan (DATCP), Bud Gollon (Gollon Bait and Fish), Fred Gollon (Central Wis. Fish Farm), Tim Gollon (Gollon Bait and Fish), Jim Held (UW Ext), Terry Hogan (Hayward Bait), Ron Johnson, Christine Lilek (DNR), John Gozdziwski (DNR), Fred Binkowski, Terry Winkel (Silver Moon Springs), Emma Wiermaa (NADF), Jhonaton Villet (UW-MKE), Kathy Foster (WAA), Mike Foster (Wilderness Springs), David Giebtbrock (DNR), Senator Marklein

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am

#### **Minutes from March 5, 2015:**

Peter Fritsch made a motion with a second *Continued on page 21*

from Bill West to approve the March 5, 2015 WAIAC meeting minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously by the council.

**Old Business:** No old business to discuss.

**New Business:**

Peter Frisch announced the US Trout Farmers Association Board will be hosting the annual conference at Rushing Waters, September 24, 25 & 26. Information is available on the website. They will be spending one day talking about permits/licensing. Everyone is getting together to talk about the clean water act. Peter felt it would be good for John G to see that Wisconsin is the toughest on the aquaculture industry.

Peter Frisch announced he attended a meeting in Michigan that has hired a company to help their aquaculture industry. Michigan is exploring cage culture in the Great Lakes. A cage culture specialist from Canada attended the meeting with the goal of dispelling the negative thoughts about aquaculture. Peter reported it was a great meeting and he predicts there will be cage culture operations be popping up in the next year as tests.

Terry Hogan discussed northern Wisconsin tourism. Terry indicated the walleye initiative a great start but feels we need to continue to build our resources and make Wisconsin a destination to build the sales tax revenue. Tourism effects everyone in northern Wisconsin – the tire store, the art gallery and the coffee shops.

**Walleye Initiative:**

Brian Goodman LTE, has been doing walk-throughs and final inspections and should be done end of this month. Will begin again next spring on the Flambeau Tribes Grant and inspections will be done. Walleye harvest is ramping up with getting fish health certificates for stocking inventories to assist in knowing how many fish are available so DNR can plan stocking quota based on inventory. Stocking should begin the week of the October 20<sup>th</sup>, if not sooner. Everything is on track with fish production. Harvested at Wild Rose, September 10<sup>th</sup> and are within 1% of target.

**Sturgeon Initiative:**

No news from Ron Brook from the Sturgeon Management Plan.

**DNR:**

John Gozdziwski spoke to the council, introduced himself and gave tribute to it being September 11 and anniversary of 9/11. John explained that DNR is going through a strategic alignment and are looking at resources for staff, management, core work and will make priority decisions about what is high and low priority. A draft proposal is being prepared now and should be released in early 2016. DNR will be working with industry to make sure they understand and John will help along the way. John described organizational changes: fisheries bureau – moved to a wildlife and parks division; and putting the resource management under the same roof which gives better alignment of funding sources. John will continue to update the industry. He reminded the group that the organization is only as good as its people. Justine Haas will be replacing Ron. She brings new perspective to the operation. They are filling fishery positions under the new budget. Dave Giehtbrock and Chris Lilek are staying and will continue to work with industry. John told the council that he is the bridge with the industry and that the Secretary's office wants to improve relationship with industry.

**Eat Wisconsin Fish:**

Emma Wiermaa reported on the Eat Wisconsin Fish Buy Local grant, which runs from April to April 16. Jane Harrison left for North Carolina, so Emma is now in charge now of the grant. Main goal of the grant is to connect food fish producers to consumers to chefs and culinary institutes. There will be a workshop Wednesday January 13, 2016 in Sheboygan, during the Local Food Summit. It will include a reception with fish available that will bring in local food summit participants. Plans still underway and no date/location as of yet. They will be debuting a draft of local fish buying guide for chefs, retailers. Often at stores people ask for wild Great Lakes fish – where to purchase - buying guide will answer some of those questions. There is a survey on the Eat Wisconsin Fish website. Emma asked that everyone fill out the survey to make us aware of what fish is available. EWF has attended some events: one in Washington DC for a NOAA event. They took Peter's trout spread and people loved it. They also took smoked white fish from Suzie Q. They also attended the Yum Yum Fest in Madison and served white fish. Emma stated she would like producers to let her know if they are looking to get their products into restaurants. They are working to help people find new markets. Contact Emma for more information.

**Work Team Reports:**

Business Development –  
Chris Lilek reported on 8 or 9 aquaponic commercial farms going in this year. One commercial farm in West Central region in Hixton, WI is working with other local farmers to participate in phosphorous trading to meet future discharge limits. DNR is facilitating and going well. Once that example is complete, Chris will make results known to entire groups.

Regulatory -  
Chris Lilek gave an *Continued on page 22*

**Rural Mutual**  
Insurance Company  
www.ruralins.com

As the leading insurer of Wisconsin farms, we recognize that agri-business requires special protection. After all, your farm operation is your home, your business, and a considerable capital investment.

To protect your livelihood, call 1-877-219-9550 or visit our website and we can show you the variety of coverage's available to address all your insurance needs.

*Premiums Paid Here, Stay Here To Keep Wisconsin Strong.*

The advertisement includes three images: two men in a field, a close-up of a fish, and a man working in a tank.

update on BMP of invasives/fish stocking/wetland. Chris explained that Bill West is working with wastewater management and DNR. Before finalizing BMP, DNR would like a list of common maintenance activities for guidance. There was discussion as a group about efficacy and necessity of list. Chris Lilek explained that the industry wanted a clear statement from DNR saying what things do NOT need permits. Bill West agreed to put a preliminary list together and then will ask Pete Frisch and Dave Gollon to make any additions. Peter Frisch asked if this list is developed, will the DNR create a policy? Peter indicated that unless it will ultimately be made into a statute or a law, it won't work. Chris Lilek explained the need to know which ones need to be changed which is why we need this list so we know what we need to work on. Discussion continued about what the list would accomplish for DNR and ultimately for the group. Dissent from a few members as to the necessity. There was discussion that different watersheds will have different BMPs and that it will be more complicated than it sounds. John Gozdziwski explained that DNR wants a dialog and understand that discussions need to happen. There was discussion of NR-19 and whether it can be changed. John explained that many statutes will need to be fleshed out before that can be changed. Dave Gollon told the group that WAA has hired Buck Sweeney and a lobbying firm to pursue changes via the legislative channel with the main issues being water dependency status, changes to NR19, and including variances into some of the programs. Dave explained WAA likes DNR and com-

plimented the current administration, but voiced concerns about outcomes if a new administration is in place. Dave indicated DNR would be apprised of the proposed changes once they were drafted. Dave reiterated the desire of the WAA to work with the DNR. Chris Lilek explained that John Gozdziwski is working with DOA and has set a meeting in October to talk about having state preference for bidding contracts. Chris Lilek told the group that the water program now has permit applications available online with ways to track the status of your application. Terry Hogan asked if the program is working properly as there were several 'bugs'. Chris Lilek indicated there was a permanent internal team to address calls about the process and taking suggestions on improvement. DNR is working with legal, Jane Landry and Robin, for a list of exemptions for ag and how that could affect aquaculture. Peter Frisch asked for clarification about the list and asked if it was a list for ag farmers with ag program exceptions? Peter indicated there was a need to figure out which ones can be used automatically by the fish farms and which ones needed to change. Buck Sweeney indicated he needed the list to continue his work with legislators. Long discussion ensued about whether the farmers prefer BMP or a general permit. Dave Gollon questioned which option would be better from a legal standpoint and would not become public information. Discussion about at what point the information becomes public record between Chris Lilek and Dave Gollon. Due to these concerns, Chris Lilek stated that a general permit might be the best option. Dave Gollon indicated he was disappointed with invasive species staff. He said they were supposed to be done a year ago and nobody has been contacted and that the follow through was bad.

There was a lengthy discussion about bag limits, sunset periods and decreased fishing due to bag limits. Dave Gollon indicated he was not in favor of the 10 bag limit and stated there is not enough fishing pressure which he blames on the bag limits. Discussion about fish stocking in relation to bag limits. Dave Giehtbrock stated the department policy is to stock trout every year. The only way that would change would be because of biological reason. They stock northern pike, walleye and musky every other year. DNR wouldn't have capacity for every year to go to every location and in most cases, this is not necessary. Dave indicated the population would be maintained with every other year stocking. Discussion about this being a missed opportunity for the industry. Several attendees felt the stocking money available should be used to purchase fish from the industry. Terry Hogan asked if Minnesota had the same stocking policies. No one knew for sure. Dave Gollon brought up the discussion of the recent loss of aquaculture extension agents and indicated the industry wants a permanent full-time position and stated the industry needs Milwaukee's help in obtaining this position.

**Research and Education –**

Emma – There will be a 3-day class in Stevens Point, put on by Steven Sommerfeld with a farm tour and hands-on session at Wild Rose. Handouts provided to meeting attendees. Class will cover operations of designing facilities and engineering. Attendees can save \$100 before October 1 – 40 people signed up currently. Class is capped at 50. Tours are part of the class with three tours: AIC, Wild Rose, and tour at Northern Aquaculture Facility after the class on Friday. Discussion about how biosecurity will be handled at the tours.

Dave – 17 people from DNR will be attending the class to increase knowledge. Class usually in W. Virginia – *Continued on pg 23*

**FOR SALE**  
Fish Farm/Aquaculture

**A Current Profitable Business  
Opportunity In Central Wisconsin**

***Includes:***

- 138 acres
- 21 fish ponds of various sizes & depths
- 4 drilled wells
- 2 large commercial buildings
- Retail bait shop building
- All trucks & equipment
- All customers & delivery routes

**\$599,000.00**

MLS # 1300310

**Call Ward Wolff  
First Weber Realtors  
Stevens Point, WI  
715-340-9653**



first time in Wisconsin and probably the last. Happy for the opportunity here in Wisconsin.

Jhonatan – First round graduates from the Urban Aquaculture Certification Course in May. There are 5 courses over 2 semesters. Just began the second cycle, enrollment is flexible and can be done at the website. There were recent hires to help the aquaculture personnel. Added some nutrition research capacity and microbiology for aquaculture. Let Jhonatan know if you have questions or concerns about those issues.

Updates on Aquaculture Roundtable Teams & Other new Business Discussion by group as to whether these roundtable teams are still necessary. Group decided there has not been much work within the roundtables and felt they are no longer necessary.

**Next Meeting:** December 4, 2015 at Milwaukee Airport Crowne Plaza, 6401 South 13th Street, Milwaukee, WI., 10am – noon

**Address by Senator Marklein:** Senator Marklein welcomed everyone to the meeting and farm tour at Gollon Bait & Fish. He thanked the Gollon's for their business and said he was grateful to have them in Iowa County. He expressed his desire that the government wouldn't impose more challenges on the industry of aquaculture. He stated he was glad to see the communication between departments and reiterated that he feels that government shouldn't be an obstacle for the private sector.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Dave Gollon and seconded by Bill West. Voting membership unanimously voted to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m. Fish lunch and tour of Gollon Bait & Fish commenced.

Respectfully submitted by Angie Sullivan.

## THE COOK'S CORNER

I found this recipe in an old aquaculture brochure that DATCP published

### Baked Perch Au Gratin

- 1lb perch fillets
- 2Tbl fine cracker crumbs
- 1 cup chopped tomatoes
- 2 Tbl chopped onion
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- Salt, season to taste
- 1 Tbl butter
- 1/4 cp shredded cheddar cheese

Grease 1qt. Shallow baking dish. Sprinkle with cracker crumbs. Lay fillets on crumbs  
Combine tomatoes, onion, salt and pepper, pour over fillets. Dot with butter and cheese.  
Bake 350 degrees for 35 minutes, until fish flakes when pierced with fork.

Serves 4

## WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

**WAA membership levels & benefits. All memberships run from Jan - Dec**  
Associate - \$35 Receive 4 issues of The Creel, name & address listed on members search, inclusion on member only list serv for vital information, use of portable display to promote Wisconsin Aquaculture, discounts on conference and selected workshop registrations, annual members' picnic, participation in annual Wisconsin Aquaculture Day, annual membership meeting.

Business/Active - \$75 Benefits of Associate level, **PLUS:** Business level members can vote at the annual membership meeting, are eligible to serve on the WAA or WAIAC boards, and only these members are listed on our online directory by processing, produce type, sales and fish species - this is an asset if you are a commercial business as consumers and other farmers utilize this directory when searching for producers and suppliers.

Group - \$100 1 business membership and up to 4 associate members - farm employees, vendor employees, agencies, university, etc.

**Join now and keep up with the latest in Wisconsin aquaculture news!**

For Renewals: Check here if your  name,  address,  phone, or  email has changed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address- Mailing \_\_\_\_\_

Physical \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home (will not be on website) \_\_\_\_\_

Business (on website) \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Put me on WAA list serv (keep up to date with association and industry news)  
\_\_\_\_ Yes (need email address) \_\_\_\_ No

Type of Membership:  Renewal  New  
Business/Active(\$75/year voting)\_\_\_\_ Associate (\$35/year non-voting)\_\_\_\_  
Group (\$100.00/year)\_\_\_\_

For Group level includes 1 business member & up to 4 associates - list members name (designate business member)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you have a Business membership please include: types of processing (ex. fillet, whole, smoked, etc.), producer types (ex. food, stocking, bait, etc.), fish species, sales types (ex. adult, fingerling, fry, egg, etc.)

Send this form & a check or money order to:  
WAA, PO Box 175 Madden Road, New London, WI 54961

Editor

Wisconsin Aquaculture Association, Inc.

1165 Riggles Gap Road  
Altoona, PA 16601

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ASHLAND, WI  
PERMIT NO. 8

If your mailing label is incorrect, please contact Cindy @ 814-515-2570  
or email to: [cindy@wisconsinaquaculture.com](mailto:cindy@wisconsinaquaculture.com)

## WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

