

in the drift

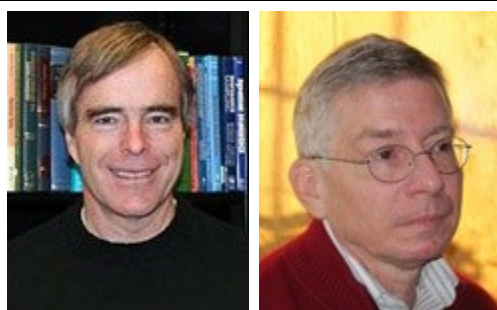
The SFS Newsletter



Happy New Year!

A new year brings a new season of deadlines, so check out the Mark your Calendars section, and then we can all get back to all that other “stuff” we were doing. (But in the meanwhile, don’t forget to look in on the annual meeting website, which is changing fast as plans develop for “Jax” 2013! (bit.ly/KgNCSH))

As you might recall, the PubComm ran a survey early last Fall to get an idea of how you use and value SFS’s three non-journal publications (this newsletter, the Bulletin, and bibliography). You might be wondering what became of that, especially since SFS might change the format and/or goals of some or all of these in the near future. The answer: like many other projects, this one is still in process. What we **can** say now is: Thanks to the 290 folks who took the survey (that’s a lot!). Thanks for the comments—including the one that suggested the newsletter should be peer-reviewed and more like *Frontiers in Ecology & the Environment* (this might be a long time coming!). The PubComm will analyze the results and make decisions



Who’ll it be? Up for SFS president-elect are **Chuck Hawkins (L)** and **Dave Strayer (R)**. Other positions up for grabs this round are: **non-N-American delegate to the Board (Chris Robinson or Carol Couch?)**, **non-academic delegate (Stuart Findlay or Mike Paul?)**, and **secretary (Sue Norton is your one brave choice there)**. Find out more about all the candidates and vote by 10 Feb at: bit.ly/T6vm87

soon about how to proceed with all three of these pubs. Until then, we’ve still got the standard, 4-page pdf format of *in the drift*. Enjoy, and stayed tuned!

Good luck to all those who just put in DEB pre-proposals, and now it’s time to move on to those SFS abstracts!

-Deb Finn & Julie Zimmerman

issue 15:
Winter 2013

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Mark your calendars!

More deadlines to keep in mind, SFSers. Yes, it is that time of year. Here’s what we’ve got for ya:

now: Renew your membership for 2013. Go to freshwater-science.org and log in to check your status.

31 Jan: Abstract submission deadline for the SFS 2013 meeting. All meeting info: bit.ly/KgNCSH

1 Feb: Instars applications due (for underrepresented undergrads). This fantastic program is gaining major momentum. See: bit.ly/wWnPBC

8 Feb: SFS student Endowment award

freshwater-science.org

application deadline: take advantage of available funding to attend the Jacksonville meeting: bit.ly/zSOUFE

10 Feb: Deadline to **VOTE!** -for the next SFS president and 2 delegates to the Board of Directors (see box above; bit.ly/T6vm87)

15 Feb: applications for the Student Conservation Research Award due (bit.ly/yqs8S8)

1 March: Want to be a grad-student mentor for the Instars program? Get your application in by March 1st! More on the Instars page: bit.ly/wWnPBC

15 March: deadline for nominations/support letters for ALL NON-STUDENT

AWARDS (i.e. Excellence, Environmental Stewardship, Service, and Hynes Awards). *We know there are lots of worthy SFS-ers out there, so let’s get those nominations flowing in!* Info on all at: <http://bit.ly/xiHu5o>

31 March: Early registration deadline for SFS annual meeting.

19-23 May: SFS 2013 annual meeting in Jacksonville, Florida!



Freshwater Science article spotlight: Stoneflies and climate change in the Great Smoky Mountains (1977 to 2006)

Sheldon, A.L. *Freshwater Science* 31(3): 765-774.

Stream ecology was not one of the things Andy Sheldon stopped doing after he retired from the University of Montana in 2003. Not even close. This issue's spotlighted author, Sheldon has now been happily retired in Florida for nearly a decade. But not all in the retired life is as it seems. And it is not just that he and his wife Linda have in their garage what Andy figures to be the only cross-country skis in the entire county. (Nor, in fact, that Andy and Linda occupy the swampy panhandle in a house overlooking a tidal creek, well distant from the "typical" Florida retirement communities...)

Words from the wise (Sheldon, that is):

- **Don't throw anything away.** Especially not the casual observations and wild ideas generated during fieldwork.
- **Travel.** Streams work differently in other climates, geologies, and biogeographic regions. You'll understand your own stream better when you've "gotten wet" in other places.
- **Read.** Every week, read some science beyond the sideboards of your current project or keyword search; or even beyond your current century.
- **Be appreciative.** Of the mistakes and months of work you've been spared by taxonomic works like Stewart & Stark (*Stonefly Nymphs*) and Merritt & Cummins.

As the skis portend, Andy often gets out for a periodic "mountain fix". In early 2006 he spent 2 months slogging around streams (sans skis), busting through snow-banks and rhododendron tangles in the Little River catchment of Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP), looking for stoneflies. Helped along only by the self-funding nature of "professional hobby" and the goodhearted folks at Discover Life in America (www.dlia.org) - who provided warm, dry housing in GSMNP - Andy spent that early spring repeating plus adding 58 new higher-elevation sites to a stonefly distribution study he had completed in 1977 while on sabbatical at Oak Ridge.



Author Andy Sheldon out on an "exploring new streams of Florida" trip last weekend; Wacissa River, Jefferson County, FL.



A nice stonefly stream in Great Smoky Mountains NP. Did you know that there are 111 known stonefly species in GSMNP??

The idea was to see if stoneflies (in particular *Acroneuria abnormis* and *Eccoptura xanthenes*) had shifted upwards in distribution in response to a mean regional climate warming over that 29-yr period of +0.72°C. As Andy explains in his paper: testing for species range shifts is easier said than done, and there are many statistical approaches that often give different answers. Long story short: there was strong evidence that *A. abnormis* had shifted upwards, but contradictory results (depending on measure) for the sympatric *E. xanthenes*. It turns out that other things, aside from climate, have changed in the region – including increased acidity of streams and continued recovery from logging/fire in the 1920s. *A. abnormis* presumably responded primarily to temperature changes, but the story appears to be much more complex for the less-common *E. xanthenes*.

Andy continues splitting time between mountain streams (sampling, analysis, writing, and continued permit proposals) and his flatter home state (exploring "new" streams and engaging neighbors in such activities as "Citizen Science for Seniors"). We are inspired by his continued enthusiasm and the advice he can provide from his long experience in empirical stream ecology. Plan to bump into him this year in Jacksonville – and keep in mind that his extensive and geo-referenced 2006 dataset will make a great baseline for someone to repeat the GSMNP stonefly survey again in 30 years or so!

Pam's journal notes



In this issue, Pam discusses her perspective on the transition of FWS from Allen Press to University of Chicago Press, financial stability for the journal, and other issues that keep her up at night.

The Society for Freshwater Science (SFS) and the University of Chicago Press (UCP) are now co-publishing *Freshwater Science* (FWS), and we have begun the process of transitioning the journal from Allen Press to UCP. Our editorial policies and procedures will not change, so, from your perspectives, the biggest challenge will be the need to transition from the current manuscript submission and review

Freshwater Science is now co-published by University of Chicago Press! Authors: stay tuned for a new web address for online submissions and tracking.

system with AllenTrack to UCP's Editorial Manager. We will make the process as transparent and seamless as possible. During 2013, FWS will continue to be produced at Allen Press, but I will be working to switch all of our production operations from Allen Press to UCP. We expect the March 2014 issue (33/1) to be produced entirely at UCP.

I thought you might appreciate my perspective on this momentous change. I see myself as carrying a huge responsibility. I inherited a journal conceived and built on the vision, personal integrity, and effort of society leaders in the 1980s, Rosemary Mackay and Dave Rosenberg (the 2 editors of J-NABS), Irwin Polls (the journal's business manager since 1986), and a dedicated and talented Editorial Board. All of these people have put their hearts and, in some cases, their careers into the Journal, and I feel that I am answerable to them and to you for what happens to it.

I confess initial reluctance (terror?) at the idea of changing publishers. This transition is going to require an enormous amount of work from Irwin Polls, Sheila Storms (my editorial assistant), and me, and it follows closely on the title change (which required an enormous amount of work). However, I was most worried about finding the right partner—one that shared the philosophical perspective of the Editorial Board, cared about quality as much as I do, and could provide financial stability and reduce author costs without increasing reader costs. I work very closely with FWS's publisher on a daily basis to produce the Journal, and I needed to feel confident that the person(s) at the other end of the e-mails and phone lines shared my vision and goals for the Journal. Thus, the choice of a publishing partner was critically important, and the Co-Publisher Review Team chose UCP very carefully and after



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almost a year of deliberation. UCP is a mid-sized, highly prestigious, not-for-profit university publisher that shares many of the core values held by SFS and the Journal's Editorial Board. UCP sees great potential in FWS, and we think that UCP will help the journal maximize its potential. UCP staff members are excited about publishing FWS, and Irwin and I are excited about working with them. Everyone on the Co-Publisher Review Team thinks this partnership will be a success, and I will do everything in my power to make it so.

The arrangement we have with UCP differs significantly from the agreement we have with Allen Press. The journal pays Allen Press for publishing services and bears all its own costs as well as its profits. Allen Press provides no marketing, financial, or strategic guidance. Because of his careful husbandry, Irwin has been able to keep the journal solvent, but the journal's financial equilibrium is unstable, and FWS has grown to the point where we need the advice and financial support of a knowledgeable partner. In contrast to Allen Press, UCP will be a partner to FWS



University of Chicago, courtesy of University of Chicago Press

and will bear all costs, guarantee stipends for journal staff, and share profits with SFS. Thus, the Journal will have financial stability. UCP will work with us to increase the journal's circulation, especially in developing nations,

and to keep up with new developments in the area of electronic publishing and content delivery. UCP will help us think strategically in a rapidly changing arena. The Editorial Board will retain control of editorial policies and journal content, and SFS will retain ownership of the journal's title, copyright, content, subscriber files, and electronic files. I think that we have found the right partner and that Irwin has negotiated an agreement that is in the best interests of the Society and FWS. Thus, I am past reluctance and have moved to excitement about this new era for our Journal.

SFS podcasts!



SFS grad students Eric Moody and Tim Cline are nearly ready to go with the first-ever Society podcast! Rumor is it will be an interview with our president, Dave Penrose, and it will be posted and ready for download by 15 Feb. (check here: bit.ly/11N8uwL) ...but you don't have to be SFS prez to contribute! Here's what Tim had to tell us:

"A fundamental step in the scientific process is the dissemination of results, but ecologists often struggle to get their research out. Publication in scientific journals and online access has accelerated professional distribution, but lack of communication through non-traditional pathways is leaving policymakers and the public uninformed and unengaged. Through a monthly internet-based podcast we aim to spread current freshwater research to a general audience



Tim Cline (L) and Eric Moody.
Thanks guys, and keep it up!

and link content with current environmental and scientific issues. We are interested in interviewing scientists in any stage of their careers on new and exciting freshwater science research. This is an excellent opportunity for outreach and increasing awareness about important freshwater issues and what can be done to solve them."

Did you know...? (Fall bulletin and beyond)

- The Fall 2012 bulletin was Ron French's last. Ron has been publishing NABS/SFS bulletins since 2001, and although he's putting down the pen on this one, he's looking forward to serving SFS in various other capacities—now that he has time! Thanks, Ron!!
- If you have not read Dave P's "president's environment", read it now! It has great photos, anecdotes, and ideas for SFS involvement—from the backyard to the other side of the world.
- Our "Instars" program for underrepresented undergrads to participate in the SFS annual meeting is really taking off, thanks to Checo Colon-Gaud, Judy Li, and several others. This year, there is funding for at least 10 undergrads, stipends available for grad-student mentors, and it sounds like there will be several networking opportunities for ALL who are into the Instars mission: bit.ly/wWnPBC
- The 10th N American Plecoptera Symposium is in Lamar, PA on 8-11 June. Students note: there will be cash prizes for best presentations (in honor of Ken Stewart)! More here: bit.ly/w0nxaX

With those NABSters who have passed on in the past year close in our hearts, we share here some of our favorite verses from the "Benthic Waltz" (by Tom Waters, 1926-2012):

Oh, come let's dance to the Benthic Waltz,
Our Society has no peer or faults.
We'll swing and we'll sway 'til the dawn of day
To the beautiful Benthic Waltz.

We'll dance to the beat of a stonefly drum
Whirrrl away to con-tin-u-um
We'll never get caught by Simulium.
While dancing the Benthic Waltz.

Now, I wrote in for a research grant,
But the Foundation said that they're sorry, they
can't.

Oh, I'll never get rich on a federal grant
So let's do the Benthic Waltz.

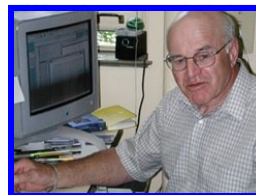
Now, I fell in my crick and I started to sink
A happier ending than you might think
For old benthologists never die
They just drift away.

Who is the man who wrote this song
And who always plays as we sing along?
His name fits his work to a "T", you see –
Tom Waters, Tom Waters is he.

Drift in peace, dear friends and colleagues...



Ken Stewart (1935-2012)
more: bit.ly/V5Fbi2



Don Webb (1939-2012)
more: bit.ly/ViRqgy



Jim Sedell (1944-2012)
more: bit.ly/TakK1c



Tom Waters (1926-2012)
more (SFS page): bit.ly/WIo9rs
and (youtube): bit.ly/US7ty6



Tara Willey (1976-2012)
more: bit.ly/XW6QVO



Pat Mulholland (1952-2012): bit.ly/KOUjKi
A SFS endowment fund has been started in Pat's memory, and it could support a student as soon as next year.