



Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society

# 2012 - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Newsletter

## Presidents Letter

Greetings everyone.

I just realized this week that I have not written anything for this quarterly newsletter. So to keep from being a complete derelict here are a few notes.

After a somewhat mild winter spring is here in many places. Plants are growing and the world of vegetation management is moving. I actually heard a very strange thing recently with my own ears. While attending a public meeting on aquatic plant management I witnessed a group of bass anglers hounding the meeting facilitators to "kill the hydrilla at all costs". What is the world coming to?

If nothing else our industry is never dull. It is always changing, always in flux and the pendulum continues to swing.

Many of the newly registered products are being used in a variety of treatments. We are learning and routines are changing. Product labels and labeling as always are doing what they do, change. Given all of this, participation in Society programs should also be on the rise. Very soon our Program Committee chair should be issuing the call for papers for the annual meeting. As always the Editor of Aquatics is soliciting articles for the magazine. I would expect responses to these two to be increasing. I can always hope but trust me I understand how difficult it is at times to "make it happen".

Thank you all,

JCR

# JAN 11, 2012 - 1ST QTR FAPMS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Present:** Jerry Renney, Mike Hulon, Keshav Setaram, Tina Bond, Angie Huebner, Karen Brown, Jennifer Myers, Stephanie McCarty, Jim Boggs, Jim Burney, Ed Harris, Vernon Vandiver, James Godfrey, Melissa Barron, John Gardner, Stacia Hetrick, Scott Glasscock, Tim Harris, Jeremy Crossland, Justin Yancey (Dow).

Called to order 10 am. Minutes taken by Karen Brown.

**Jerry Renney opened by asking the board to always consider the relevance of the society to our membership as we proceed this year.**

**Approval of the minutes:** Karen noted that at the last board meeting there was some discussion of SFAPMS and their potential status as an official APMS chapter. Vernon Vandiver and Steve Weinsier brought the issue before the board; Don Doggett provided background information that it was unexpected when SFAPMS formed back in 1996 when he was FAPMS president. At that time, the news was not well-received by the board but SFAPMS has since proven to be a productive and well-perceived group. Dharmen Setaram agreed to look into the issue and report back to the board. Pending this addendum to the 4th quarter minutes, James Boggs motioned to approve and Vernon Vandiver seconded. Motion carried. Further discussion below under Old Business.

## **Correspondence:**

### **UF-IFAS PLANT CAMP**

request from Amy Richard - \$500. to fund lunches at the 2012 teacher training event. Boggs motioned to approve; Ed Harris seconded. It was suggested that this activity fits the FAPMS mission well and more funds might be provided. Keshav said a catering bill is paid directly by FAPMS rather than a check to UF, so we can't give more funding without identifying how it will be used and how it will be paid out. Karen will ask Amy Richard how additional funds might be useful. Motion unanimously approved.

### **Invasive Plant Management Association - Jim Burney, AVC**

Good morning all,

We all know that in easy times we stay relatively quiet, but as times get leaner we tend to speak out. Well, for those of us whose livelihood depends on publicly funded vegetation management projects; that time is now. As financial battles get tougher in Florida's Capital, more and more it seems that public agency vegetation management budgets are shrinking and conservation/management trust funds are being raided. Although there has been very effective lobbying activity in Florida for supporting the public funding of aquatic plant control efforts for the last several years, there has not been a concerted effort by the invasive plant management (upland and aquatic) community in general. There remains the dire need to educate our legislators on the necessity of (public benefits of) invasive plant control in Florida which requires a solid public/private infrastructure dependent on secure, steady public funding. Basically, the need has arisen for a community-wide effort to put an economic face on what most politicians see as only an environmental problem. Due to the inability of public employees and trade groups comprised heavily of agency personnel to lobby for funding, the responsibility to carry this message must fall on those of us in the private sector.

In response to the financial crisis in Tallahassee and its direct influence on our livelihood, we have been working on garnering industry support for the development of an alliance of applicators, distributors, and manufacturers for the purpose of carrying this banner. This alliance, the Invasive Plant Management Association, has begun to be organized with the intent of contracting a lobbying group to help direct us and present our message regarding the benefits of invasive plant control and the need for secure funding of public management agencies and their control operations. The most likely lobbying group intended for use is the same group that has been coordinating with Gerald Adrian and UPI to lobby on behalf of aquatic plant management funding. Therefore, our efforts would be in conjunction with a currently effective effort, augmenting their message...not working against it.

Please take the time to seriously consider joining other members of our industry in ensuring the collective future of us all (and the citizens of Florida). The list of current members is lacking in comparison to the number of firms dependent in part on publicly funded operations. If you feel that your company should join other members of our community in the development of this much needed industry voice, please contact to me at jburney@avcaquatic.com for details.

Thanks for considering our futures,

Jim Burney  
Steering Committee Chair  
Invasive Plant Management Association

Jim presented his letter and ideas for the IPMA. Has been going to Tallahassee with Builders and Contractor's Association and seeing the value of their lobbying efforts. He has met with legislators, Commissioner of Agriculture, Governor, etc, so very effective. Can ask targeted questions about unions, immigration issues, regulatory issues. Jim has asked about contract and IPM issues. There is already an awareness of aquatic plant issues. He wants to make it clear that this is an economic issue in addition to an environmental issue. He has spoken with other groups (AERF and others). He wants to set up a trade organization for contractors, manufacturers, chemical distributors. Public employees can't do this. Purpose is to educate legislators. Contract infrastructure is already in place and employs many people. Needs steady source of money for this work, leave trust funds alone, keep agencies intact, support Water Management Districts, support conservation areas. Two meetings so far to set up framework and steering committee; 34 attended second meeting; CPA advised 501c6 status - can lobby and accept contributions. Meeting soon to finalize bylaws, etc. Name: Invasive Plant Management Association. \$70k year for lobbyist and campaign contributions. Has approached FVMA and FLEPPC. Now asking FAPMS for circulation of announcement. Wants feedback. Mission: further educate on invasive plant issues, lobby toward management and eradication efforts; put economic face on problem - jobs are a key issue. Depends on steady public funding. Current aquatic plant management lobbyist is good and they want to educate along the same vein so won't compete for same money or fragment efforts. Using same lobbyist would be critical. Shooting for June for next fiscal year state business. No website yet but e-mail list available. Topic is mentioned in upcoming Aquatics Aquavine but FAPMS support was not stated. John Gardner thinks it raises awareness and will benefit entire industry. **A motion was made to put the letter in the next quarterly newsletter. Seconded/Carried.**

**Treasurer's report** - circulated. (Get copy from Jennifer Myers.)

**Secretary's report** - none.

**Editor's report** - winter issue of Aquatics is at printer. Compiling mailing list. Seeking future articles.

Angie Huebner reported on advertising. Back-billing: sub-committee (Jerry, Jennifer, Vernon, Angie, Tina) met to discuss options to solve the billing issue for advertising from 2009 - 2010. The subcommittee proposes to only charge the advertisers the amount it cost to actually produce the magazine (actual amounts will be provided at the meeting).

The Fall issue of Aquatics had one new 1/2 page advertisement with a commitment for 3 more advertisements. The Winter issue of Aquatics had two new full page advertisements with a commitment for 3 more advertisements (a total of 6 more advertisements).

Vernon asked if we could assure advertisers of 4 issues per/yr. Tina was hesitant; Karen felt confident. Angie said we will only bill per issue. Karen motioned to ask Angie and Jennifer to move forward with billing as described. Deal with each on a case-by-case basis if there are any problems. Boggs seconded. All in favor-motion carried.

**Motion to accept officer reports - Boggs/Harris - approved unanimously.**

**Auditing** - no report.

**Awards** - Scott Glasscock - new, easier form for Applicator of the Year being compiled. Will have draft by next meeting.

**Bylaws** - Stephanie McCarty - reminder that officers, chairs, and directors need to review Standard Operating Procedures and bylaws each year - required in the bylaws. Bylaws state that any comments are to be sent to past president who, in turn, collates and sends to bylaws committee chair. SOP changes don't have to go to membership for approval; bylaws changes do. Any changes must go in July newsletter so please review by March. Slate doesn't have to be shown early; but bylaws do. Stephanie will send a reminder before the March board meeting.

**Gov't Affairs** - Jeff Schardt  
Government Affairs Committee Report  
Submitted by Jeff Schardt

Hello FAPMS Board Members:

Two items of interest from a Government Affairs perspective:

1) NPDES pesticide regulations became effective on October 31, 2011. All herbicide applications in Florida for aquatic plant control are covered under the DEP GENERIC PERMIT FOR POLLUTANT DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATERS OF THE STATE FROM THE APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES - see the following site to view or print a copy: [http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wastewater/iw/docs/62-621.300\\_8e.pdf](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wastewater/iw/docs/62-621.300_8e.pdf).

There are basic requirements for all applicators related to minimizing pesticide discharges (see Part II. Effluent Limitations); monitoring (see Part IV. Monitoring and Corrective Action); and reporting (see Part V. A. Recordkeeping and Reporting for adverse incidents). All questions related to the DEP Generic Permit should be addressed to Mary K. Smith (850-245-8591). Eight government entities, including FWC are required to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) with DEP. FWC's NOI was submitted on October 28, 2011 and DEP authorization was received on December 20. This date is significant since the first annual report will not be due until February 15, 2013.

The DEP Generic Permit allows for entities that discharge pesticides to refer to other sources in developing strategies for complying with NPDES requirements. FWC refers to several sources including the following and recommends that all operators that apply herbicides to control aquatic plants become familiar with this information:

- a. Applying Pesticides Correctly, by Fredrick M. Fishel, UF, IFAS, 2010  
A study guide for the General Certification Standards (Core) Exam for pesticide applicator certification in Florida. Available from the IFAS Extension Bookstore (352-392-1764).
- b. Biology and Control of Aquatic Plants - A Best Management Practices Handbook  
Edited by: Lyn A. Gettys, William T. Haller and Mark Bellaud for The Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation, 2009. A review guide for aquatic plant management issues including, impacts from invasive plants, available management tools and strategies, and herbicide registration and application methods. Available online at <http://www.aquatics.org/bmp.htm>.
- c. Aquatic Plant Information Retrieval System online database  
A database managed by the University of Florida containing approximately 82,000 articles on aquatic plants and their management. The database focuses on Florida invasive plant physiology and various control tools that can be integrated into management strategies. The database can be accessed at: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/APIRS/>.
- d. Florida Department of Health website on Pesticide Exposure  
Information is provided on responding to and reporting pesticide exposures to humans in Florida. Provided online at: <http://www.myfloridaeh.com/medicine/pesticide/index.html>.

Additionally, the FWC and University of Florida (UF) Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants (CAIP) have created an extensive website entitled Plant Management in Florida Waters: An Integrated Approach (<http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/manage/>) that provides details for all of the parameters that FWC biologists consider when developing integrated aquatic plant management workplans or when issuing permits for

aquatic plant control. Section 4 of the website demonstrates how FWC complies with NPDES regulations when considering herbicides for aquatic plant control.

2) Funding for the FWC Invasive Plant Management Section (IPMS) has declined for the past four years. The aquatic plant manage portion of the (IPMS) legislative spending authority has declined from approximately \$29.7 million in Fiscal Year 2007-2008 to approximately \$16.3 million for the current fiscal year. A sharp decline for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 reflected a one-time \$6 million dollar reduction in spending authority. The Fiscal Year 2012-2013 budget recommended by the Governor does not contain this \$6 million dollar reduction. We have not seen a House or Senate recommended budget. We understand that there is a projected deficit in the State budget of nearly \$2 billion for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. The 2012 Florida Legislative Session runs from January 10 through March 9.

**Historical** - John Gardner - rescanning the newsletters so they will be searchable in Word once placed on the website.

**Local Arrangements** - Bill Torres sent proposals for 2014-2016 (15 responders) and reviewed the list. Need decision by April or we run the risk of losing time-blocks. In response to question from Karen, he replied that he could request a clause to lower rates if that happens. Boggs asked if rates were per diem; Torres unsure but will check. General membership leaned toward Daytona or Orlando. Venues discussed - isolated areas, desired locations, etc. Angie reminded us that board meetings used to be held at the likely hotel. Next quarterly meeting will take place at Wyndham - Orlando, with tour. Bill will request contract from Wyndham in Orlando. James Boggs noted that Hilton's are reliable so we might stick with them. Hotel locks in menu prices at time of signing. Bill has list of menu needs and can request prices from different hotels to enable comparisons. Get other quotes within Orlando (3 locations). Discussion moved to looking into Daytona; Keshav stated membership seems to prefer east coast. Melissa: SEHAC is held every two years and might conflict; also Mid-south APMS. Check dates of those meetings - not yet available. VVV - banquet seating was tight at last meeting; people couldn't sit together. Can we have extra tables so seating is more flexible? Torres: Can request more tables but Bill thinks it can be handled on the spot as needed.

Contract for local arrangements with Bill Torres: Jennifer Myers supported Bill's contract; says we have made more money since Bill started doing local arrangements; makes her job as Treasurer much easier. Overall, per John Gardner, it saves us money. Question re: section 2, "...expenses up to \$3K" - this, and site selection amount (\$500 per calendar year, but we only renegotiate every three years) is ambiguous. Torres clarified: \$1,500 is for coordinating & attending meeting; \$500 is for contract negotiations, RFPs, site visits and is incurred only once every 3 years. Other expenses - poster board; any miscellaneous extra expenses, additional needs. Jennifer noted that the treasurer reimburses for these items and they require approval first by a board member. Motion to sign contract with Bill pending clarification of item 2 to state \$1,500 per meeting, plus \$500 per site selection. Harris/Boggs motioned/seconded. Motion carried.

**Membership & Publicity** - no report. See ad hoc Education & Outreach report below.

**Merchandise** - Steve Montgomery unable to attend but he will have ideas for next board meeting. Board briefly discussed whether or not to have giveaways in addition to for sale items as this is costing money. Tabled until next meeting.

**Nominating** - Vernon Vandiver - nominations are in progress.

**Program** - Mike Hulon -first paper received for 2012 annual meeting.

**Resource/equipment demo** - interest? Needs a committee chair and concerted effort.

**Scholarship** - Don Doggett could not attend but submitted a report.

FLORIDA AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.

William L. Maier, Jr.  
Memorial Scholarship

Paul C. Myers  
Applicator Dependent Scholarship

January 9, 2012

TO: FAPMS Board of Directors  
From: Donald W. Doggett, President  
RE: Quarterly Report

Dear All,

Our fundraising events at the annual meeting, once again, did very well--thanks to the generosity of the sponsors, the membership, and the volunteers that helped. We netted ~ \$10k with the duck races and raffle ticket sales (Sec./Treas.--Joe Joyce has the exact amount). The current officers of the Foundation, besides myself, are: P.J. Myers, Vice-President; Joe Joyce, Sec./Treas.; Mike Netherland, Steve Weinsier, and Chance Dubose-- Directors at Large.

At our annual meeting on October 11, 2011, the Foundation chose to offer the William L. Maier, Jr. Memorial Scholarship for the first time since 2005. Up to \$2,500 will be awarded for this scholarship to a deserving graduate student in the field of APM. The Paul C. Myers Applicator Dependent Scholarship is being offered, as well. Notices of both scholarships are being advertised in the Society's newsletter and magazine.

**Vendor** - Melissa Barron has updated the vendor letter and invitation; clarified language, payment, vendors need to reserve 60 days in advance to give ample time for program chair to include in the program.

**Website** - Angie Huebner - report submitted:

The website has been transferred over to the new internet service provider, fatcow. Dave Petty got us a discount; therefore service for the year was approximately \$65. Dave has restructured the website and those changes are now live. The new color scheme of the website is similar to the color scheme used for the brochure and the display. The thought behind this is that it gives all of our products the same look/consistency. Not all the changes have been completed yet.

Facebook statistics: FAPMS now has 63 likes. Information about our users:

48% are Female    17% - ages 25-34    17% - ages 35-44  
52% are Male    13% - ages 35-44    21% - ages 45-54

61 users from the United States, 1 user is from Canada, 1 user is from Egypt

Angie requested \$2,500 for website work by Dave Petty this fiscal year. Harris/Boggs motioned/seconded. Motion carried.

**Education and Outreach (ad hoc)** – Stacia Hetrick has drafted SOPs and Bylaws related to the Education and Outreach Committee recommending that it be combined with Membership & Publicity. These will be presented to the Board prior to the next annual meeting.

New FAPMS table-top display costs: display board \$189., poster printing \$160. Postcards to mailing list: \$134 (2k), plus postage. Approx. \$500 with shipping. Jeremy Crossland said display poster has been approved and will be e-mailed to board. All comments have been incorporated. Jennifer Myers voted to approve \$506 plus postage/ Ed Harris seconded. Motion carried.

New herbicide FAQ flyer: Susan Wilde will be presenting latest draft at APMS board meeting for their approval. Stacia says APMS will fund printing if approved so funding is not needed from FAPMS; Stacia will send draft to FAPMS board for approval. Vernon Vandiver and Jeff Schardt worked with Stacia on the document and have approved the latest draft. Stacia needs it back from the FAPMS board ASAP.

**Old Business** - SFAPMS issue from Vernon Vandiver: APMS asked FAPMS to consider SFAPMS as an additional APMS chapter. Background: 28 entities exist in Broward County; Hygrophila was a new south Florida weed at the time SFAPMS was formed; no conflict or competition with FAPMS was intended. Relationship and history somewhat confusing to current SFAPMS board members as it occurred in 1996. Mark Weinraub is the current SFAPMS president. Jerry Renney discussed the issue informally with Tyler Koschnick (APMS president) and Vernon Vandiver. Complex issue. Jerry and others don't know that it is our place to tell APMS whether or not it's ok to approve chapter status to SFAPMS. Much discussion transpired. Karen motioned that the board convey to APMS that FAPMS has no disagreement with SFAPMS applying to be recognized as an APMS chapter. John Gardner seconded. Votes: 4/4, others abstaining. Tabled until next meeting. Jerry will talk to Mike Netherland (APMS) to get more information. Something in writing will be requested.

**April board meeting will take place at Wyndham Hotel in Orlando, April 11th - 10am.**

Meeting adjourned at 1pm.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS!!!

1st call for papers from the Aquatic Plant Management Society.  
The 52nd annual meeting takes place July 22-25, 2012 in Salt Lake City, Utah.  
Deadline for title/abstract submission is April 20, 2012.  
[www.apms.org](http://www.apms.org)

The William L. Maier Jr. Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a junior, senior, post-bachelor or graduate student who is (1) enrolled in an accredited university or college located in Florida, (2) a U.S. citizen, and (3) majoring in a field of study directly related to the management of freshwater, aquatic vegetation for the ecological benefit of aquatic or freshwater environments. For more information, visit the FAPMS website: [http://www.fapms.org/maier\\_scholar.html](http://www.fapms.org/maier_scholar.html)

The Paul C. Myers Applicator Dependent Scholarship-Provides up to \$1500 to deserving dependents of FAPMS members. Learn more at: [http://www.fapms.org/myers\\_scholar.html](http://www.fapms.org/myers_scholar.html)

## SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS-FAPMS 2012 MEETING

The 36th annual training conference will be on October 8-11, 2012 at the World Golf Village, St. Augustine, FL. You don't have to be a professional speaker in order to present a paper! We are looking for papers on herbicide application and mechanical techniques (aquatic and right-of-way), mixtures, innovative control measures, re-vegetation projects, new plant introductions, research projects, etc. Remember, FAPMS was formed for the applicator and the annual training conference is a chance to share what you have learned with other members. Each year the Society awards all field applicators that present a paper with a plaque. This year the field applicators presenting the top three papers will receive a plaque and cash awards. First place will receive a \$300 cash award, second place will receive a \$200 cash award, and third place will receive a \$100 cash award.

**NOTE: DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS July 31, 2012**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author(s)\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If more than one author, please circle the name of the person who will present the paper at the meeting.

Title of Talk & Brief Abstract: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Biography of Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Length of talk is usually 20 minutes. If your presentation is shorter or longer, please indicate the length of talk: \_\_\_\_\_ Minutes

Check as appropriate:  Applicator paper;  Computer (Power Point)

The accepted format for presentations is PowerPoint. If your presentation is in a different format please contact Mike Hulon to see whether or not it will be compatible with the computers and projector.

Mike Hulon: P.O. Box 4034 • Lake Wales, FL 33859 • Phone (863) 528-7721 or email: [texasaquaticmh@aol.com](mailto:texasaquaticmh@aol.com)

**Submit this form to:** Mike Hulon • P.O. Box 4034 • Lake Wales, FL 33859  
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**Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**

P.O. Box 560700

Orlando, FL 3856-1327

**Upcoming Meetings**

**Midwest APMS**

Feb 26-29, Milwaukee, WI

**Western APMS**

Apr 2-4, Sandiego, CA

**FVMA**

Daytona Beach, FL  
April 18-20  
Hilton Daytona Beach/  
Ocean Walk Village

**Spring Conference for Florida Chapter  
of The Wildlife Society & Florida Exotic  
Pest Plant Council**

April 16-19, Ocala, Florida

**Aquatic Weed Short Course**

May 7-10, Coral Springs, FL

**Florida Lake Management Society's.**

June 18 - 21, Paramount Plaza Hotel  
& Conference Center  
Gainesville, Florida.

**APMS**

Jul 22-25  
Salt Lake City, UT

**SFAPMS**

Meetings are held the third Thursday in March, June and September  
Please contact an Officer or Board member to obtain location of meeting.