



Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society

# 2022 - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Newsletter

## *From the President...*

Howdy FAPMS members!

The last few years have been “interesting times”, haven’t they? Between the FWC pause on aquatic treatments in 2019, the COVID pandemic starting in 2020, and numerous acts of Mother Nature misbehaving (hurricanes, climate change, red tide, oh my!), it’s been a hot minute since things have been “normal”. It seems like as soon as we catch our breath, something else comes along to knock the wind out of our sails. Despite all the adversities we’ve encountered, we’re still trucking along and going strong. Aquatic folks are resilient and know how to roll with the punches...no matter what challenges we face, we get up, dust ourselves off, and continue with the task of managing Florida’s aquatic and natural ecosystems to ensure they’ll still be around for future generations of Floridians.

I’m proud to be a part of FAPMS and I’m honored to serve as your president. Applicators and resource managers, I salute you and thank you for your efforts to preserve our natural wonders.

Dr. Lyn Gettys  
2022-2023 FAPMS President

## REVIEW OF THE 4TH QUARTER MINUTES

**Call to order – President Stephen Montgomery.** Meeting called to order at 2:00 P.M.

**Roll Call – Secretary Stephanie Walters.** Secretary Walters took role and quorum was declared.

**Review of previous quarter minutes.**

**Vote for Approval or changes –** Noted changes. Attendance. \*Andy Fuhrman, changes to increase rates to be corrected in next newsletter.

Telly Smith made a motion to correct changes to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter minutes, Dharmen Setaram seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence – President Stephen Montgomery**

**Treasurer’s Report – Jennifer Myers brief review of the treasurer report**

**Secretary’s Report – Stephanie Walters: no report**

**Editor’s Report – Amy Giannotti: no report**

Lyn Getys made a motion to approve the officers’ reports, Sam Sardes seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

**\* APPROVAL OF THE OFFICERS REPORTS**

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Auditing – Keshav Setaram:** no report.

**Awards – Scott Glasscock:** everything is all set for the meeting

**By-Laws – James Boggs:** no report

**Education & Outreach – Lyn Gettys:** Sloppy Joes has offered a lunch special with a portion of proceeds going to the scholarship fund.

**Governmental Affairs – Matt Phillips:** brief review of potential budget increase.

**Historical –Andy Fuhrman:** everything is up to date

**Local Arrangements – Bill Torres:** Nathalie reported everything is on schedule for the meeting. Bill announced some changes to the reception and hotel venue, and noted changes have been made to accommodate FAPMS members.

**Merchandising – Steve Montgomery:** all set

**Nominating – Jeremy Slade:** vote on the slate at the business meeting.

**Program – Ben Sperry:** no report Ben previously stated he may need help with moderators in the event speakers are unable to attend due to the hurricane.

# REVIEW OF THE 4TH QUARTER MINUTES

**Resource & Demonstration – no report**

**Scholarship – *Keshav Setaram*: no report.** Noted two scholarships awarded for Paul C Myers

**Vendor – *Wykle Greene*.** 21 vendors will be sponsoring this year.

**Website– *Angie Huebner*: no report.** Jeremy Slade will help assist the website committee with meeting updates to the website.

## OLD BUSINESS

- Vote at business meeting for increase registration

## NEW BUSINESS

- Put application for plant manager of the year pdf on website.
- Addition of general email for FAPMS website.
- President Stephen Montgomery asked if we will have the capability to email members directly. Jennifer Myers stated we are building the internal list now. LynGetys asked if we can add a button in registration for members to request to be added to the mailing list.
- Jason Cull asked how many cancellations due to weather.
- Jen reported 225 attendees.

**Site and Time Selection for next meeting** to be determined and announced in the newsletter.

**Motion to adjourn**

**Sam Sardes made a motion to adjourn, Alex seconded, the motion passed.**

**Adjourn 2:33 pm**

## 46TH ANNUAL FAPMS TRAINING CONFERENCE

*Well, that's another one on the books!* Our 2022 meeting took place October 3-6 at the Daytona Beach Hilton Oceanfront Resort. Despite Florida's assault by Hurricane Ian mere days before our meeting, everything went off as planned with only a few minor hiccups. **Bill Torres** made sure our needs were met by a hotel that had some hurricane damage; **Ben Sperry** and **Brett Bultemeier** put together a great program; and as always, **Jennifer Myers** and **Kat Ethridge** did a stellar job running registration and check-in. New this year was an optional Communications Workshop on Monday afternoon, which was hosted by the UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants (CAIP) to help managers navigate conversations with the public about aquatic plant management activities. Other new events included a cornhole tournament and a partnership with Sloppy Joe's Daytona, which were fundraisers for the FAPMS scholarship fund. These two events, along with duck race and raffle ticket sales, netted a significant amount of money "for the kids", so thank you for participating. As always, each session started with door prize drawings – many thanks to our generous sponsors for providing so many excellent prizes!!!

Regular sessions began Tuesday morning with an address by FAPMS president **Stephen (Monty) Montgomery**, and then we were treated to an awesome original song about aquatic management written and performed by **Jerry Renney** (wow, what a set of pipes that guy has! and MAD guitar skills! bravo, Jerry, bravo!). Jerry's serenade was followed by presentations on resources for applicators and managers given by UF/IFAS CAIP personnel, talks about pesticide safety given by the UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office (PIO), updates from FWC and RISE, and research reports from the UF/IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center (FLREC) Aquatic and Wetland Plants Lab. Attendees then checked out a poster presented by **Lee Martin** and headed to the Mai Tai for the President' Reception. The cornhole tournament took place just outside the Mai Tai; there was stiff competition and many worthy opponents, but the winning teams were **Shane Foster/Alex Holmes** (first place), **Jesse Cruz/David Hewitt** (second place) and **Mike Perez/Stevie Chase** (third place). Great job, all!

Wednesday's sessions kicked off at 9am and included industry updates from our sponsors and research reports from UF/IFAS CAIP, FWC and UF/IFAS FLREC. The final session of the day started with the FAPMS annual business meeting, where FAPMS members approved the slate of incoming officers. Congratulations and welcome to 2022-2023 FAPMS President-Elect **Matt Phillips** (FWC) and new Board of Directors members **Dean Jones** (UPL), **Jessica "Skippy" Fair** (USACE), and **Bill Tomlinson** (The Lake Doctors, Inc.)! The session closed with a demonstration by **James Leary** on navigating web resources for remote sensing imagery in the public domain, then attendees retired to the pool deck for the always-entertaining duck races. As in years past, we had two flavors of racers: outdoor (yellow) ducks and tech (blue) ducks. Outdoor duck winners were **Sean McKay** (first place, fishing trip, yowza!), **Kat Ethridge** (second place, cooler) and **Bobby Siler** (third place, Bass Pro gift card). Tech duck winners were **Bobby Siler** (first place, GoPro, we're all jealous!), **Joseph Whyte** (second place, Apple watch), and **Sean McKay** (third place, Best Buy gift card). Congratulations, you lucky ducks!

After the duck races concluded, attendees moved back inside for the Annual Awards

## 46TH ANNUAL FAPMS TRAINING CONFERENCE

Banquet, where FAPMS President **Monty Montgomery** served as MC and presented awards during the feast. **Lee Martin** took first place in the poster and applicator paper competitions, and **Josh Fields** was awarded second place in the applicator paper competition. The Vic Ramey Photo Contest had many great submissions in both categories. **Skippy Fair** won first (for “Nature’s Colors”) and third (for “Lotus Droplets”) place in Aquatic Scene and first place for “Dose of Reality” in Aquatic Operations (Skippy, what a showoff, great eye!). **Lee Martin** received second place for “Bottoms Up” in Aquatic Scene; Aquatic Operations was rounded out by **Jennings Lyng** (second place for “From a Trainer’s Point of View”) and **Kameron Kelly** (third place for “Aerial Application of Cogongrass”). The 2022 Plant Manager of the Year Award went to **Keith Andreu**; **Brett Bultemeier** received the 2022 Dr. Michael D. Netherland Exemplary Colleague Award; and well-deserved President’s Awards were given to **Stephanie Walters**, **James Boggs** and **Jerry Renney**. President **Monty Montgomery** finished by thanking our outgoing Board of Directors **Telly Smith**, **Nathalie Visscher** and **Nancy Healy** and giving them plaques to recognize their years of loyal service to the Society.

**Keshav Setaram** then took over as MC and ran the raffle drawings (a big shout-out to the folks selling raffle tickets, especially **Lauryn Gladding!**). Many, many prizes were won and the eclectic mix included gift cards, tackle boxes, tech devices, a slew of Yeti mugs, and a big ol’ box of Moon Pies. The banquet grand prize, an RTIC cooler jam-packed full of delightful and delicious adult beverages, was won by **Josh McGarry**.

Attendees on Thursday heard updates from industry, APMS, FWC and UF/IFAS PIO and research reports from UF/IFAS CAIP and DB Environmental. After the presentations were finished, incoming FAPMS President Lyn Gettys (hey, that’s me!) presented outgoing FAPMS President **Monty Montgomery** with a plaque to thank him for his service to the Society. The conference concluded with the drawing for the grand door prize – a Traeger Pro 575 grill and accessories that was provided by multiple sponsors – which was won by a lucky FAPMS member who shall remain anonymous.

I hope everyone had a great time and learned a lot at the 2022 FAPMS Training Conference! Next year we’re heading to the west coast: the 2023 meeting will be held at the Hilton Bayfront St Petersburg. We hope to see you there!

By the way, I have a favor to ask... we don’t normally do polling at FAPMS, but I’d really like to hear from you as we start planning for the 2023 meeting. Are there specific topics you’re interested in? What did you like about this year’s meeting? Is there something you’d like to see changed for the 2023 meeting? Let me know! Shoot me an email ([lgettys@ufl.edu](mailto:lgettys@ufl.edu)) before January 10, 2023, with the subject line “FAPMS poll” and let me know your thoughts (don’t worry, I’ll be the only one that knows who sent what comments). The first 50 people that submit a comment will be entered into a drawing for free prizes. Thank you for sharing your comments and helping to make this YOUR Society!

*Prepared by Lyn Gettys with considerable input from Jennifer Myers; awesome pix by Keith Mangus and Keshav Setaram*



# 46TH ANNUAL FAPMS TRAINING CONFERENCE





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# FAPMS BANQUET AWARD WINNERS

## Photo Contest

### *Aquatic Operations*

3rd Place: Kameron Kelly - Aerial Application of Cogongrass

2nd Place: Jennings Lyng - From a Trainers Point of View

1st Place: Jessica (Skippy) Fair - Dose of Reality

### *Aquatic Scene*

3rd Place: Jessica Fair - Lotus Droplets

2nd Place: Lee Martin - Bottoms Up

1st Place: Jessica Fair - Nature's Colors

## Cornhole Tournament

3rd Place: Mike Perez & Stevie Chase

2nd Place: Jesse Cruz & David Hewitt

1st Place: Shane Foster & Alex Holmes

## Poster Contest

1st Place - Lee Martin: Lee County

## Applicator Paper

2nd Place - Josh Fields: USACE

1st Place - Lee Martin: Lee County

## Applicator of the Year: Keith Andreu

## Presidential Awards:

Stephanie Walters

James Boggs

Jerry Renney

## Duck Race (Yellow)

Sean McKay - Fishing Trip

Kat Ethridge - Cooler

Bobby Siler - Bass Pro Gift Card

## Duck Race (Blue)

Joseph Whyte - Apple Watch

Sean McKay - Best Buy Gift Card

Bobby Siler -Go Pro



*Duck Race (Blue) winners*



# THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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Diamond .. Syngenta

Diamond .. Applied Aquatic Management

Platinum..... Brewer International

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Platinum..... Allstate Resource Management

Platinum..... SePro

Platinum..... Helena

Platinum..... Nutrien

Gold .....Aquatic Vegetation Control

Gold .....KeyColour

Gold .....Moleaer

Gold .....Easy Pro

Gold .....AquaMaster Fountains

Gold .....Navico Group - Biobase

Gold .....Aquarius Systems

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Gold .....Alligare

Gold .....Vertex

Gold .....Brandt

Gold .....Leading Edge

Silver.....Airmax

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## GRAND PRIZE SPONSORS

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## DUCK RACE PRIZE SPONSOR

HELENA CHEMICAL

## CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT PRIZE SPONSOR

NUTRIEN SOLUTIONS

BOD updates

## THANK YOU TO OUR OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

Nancy Healy

Telly Smith

Nathalie Visscher

## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Bill Tomlinson

Dean Jones

Jessica "Skippy" Fair

**“The FAPMS scholarship foundation thanks everyone for their continued support of the foundation. Sales of raffle tickets and ducks were prolific at our last (2022) annual meeting. Keep it up.”**

# 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Officers

### President

Lyn A Gettys  
Associate Professor  
UF/IFAS Fort Lauderdale REC

### President-Elect

Matt Phillips  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Comm.  
Invasive Plant Management

### Past-President

Steve Montgomery  
Allstate Resource Management

### Secretary

Stephanie Walters  
Nutrien Ag Solutions

### Treasurer

Jennifer Myers  
Applied Aquatic Management, Inc.

### Editor

Amy Giannotti  
AquaSTEM Consulting, LLC

## Directors Third Year

Jason Cull  
Operational Manager  
Lee County Hyacinth Control

Jason Ferrell  
Professor and Director  
UF/IFAS  
Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants

Alexandra Onisko  
Upland/Wetland Invasive Species Biologist  
South Florida Water Management District

## Directors Second Year

Brett Wells Bultemeier  
Assistant Extension Professor  
UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office

Sam Sardes MS, CLP  
Aquatics Territory Manager  
UPL OpenAg® Environmental Solutions

Dharmen Setaram  
Florida AVM Sales Representative  
Heritage Professional Products Group

## Directors First Year

Bill Tomlinson  
VP- Field Operations  
The Lake Doctors, Inc.

Dean Jones  
Aquatics Territory Manager  
UPL OpenAg® Environmental Solutions

Jessica "Skippy" Fair  
Biologist  
USACE Invasive Species Mgmt Branch

# 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Committees

### **Aquatics Magazine Advertising**

Angie Huebner  
Invasive Plant Management

### **Auditing**

Keshav Setaram

### **Awards**

Scott Glasscock  
Disney Pest Management

### **By-Laws**

James Boggs Jr.  
Branch Manager  
Florida IVM  
Helena Agri-Enterprises, LLC

### **Education and Outreach**

Matt Phillips  
Florida Fish and Wildlife  
Conservation Comm.  
Invasive Plant Management

### **Governmental Affairs**

Matt Phillips  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
Comm. Invasive Plant Management

### **Historical**

Andy Fuhrman  
Allstate Resource Management, Inc.

### **Local Arrangements**

Bill Torres  
Nathalie Visscher

### **Merchandise**

Steve Montgomery  
Allstate Resource Management

### **Nominating**

Steve Montgomery  
Allstate Resource Management

### **Program**

Ben Sperry  
Research Biologist,  
US Army ERDC

### **Resource Demonstration**

James Leary  
Assistant Professor  
UF/IFAS Center for Aquatic  
and Invasive Plants

### **Scholarship**

Keshav Setaram

### **Vendor**

Wykle Greene  
Syngenta

### **Web Site**

Angie Huebner  
Invasive Plant Management





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