



**SWS SOUTH ATLANTIC CHAPTER**  
Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia,  
Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands

**Annual Business Meeting**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**

*June 10, 2003*

Minutes Submitted by Ann Jennings

The South Atlantic Chapter annual business meeting was attended by Ann Jennings, Cliff Hupp, Greg Noe, Dave Davis, Frank Day, Louis Dowher, John Mulhouse, Changwoo Ahn, R. Harold Jones, Diane DeSteven, M. Howard Thomas, Mary Ann Lee, Heather Carman, Nia (Nijole) Pauliukonis, Steven J. Miller, Paul Phillips, and Ken McLeod.

Following introductions, Ann Jennings announced the results of the spring election; Steven J. Miller has been elected the South Atlantic Chapter 2003-2005 Chair. Steve is a supervising environmental scientist with the St. Johns River Water Management District located in Palatka, Florida. He is currently working on the Upper St. Johns River Basin Project, a large federal flood control project under construction in the river's headwater region. The Chapter extended its sincere appreciation to Sue Newman, Senior Supervising Environmental Scientist with the Everglades research group at the South Florida Water Management District, for participating as a candidate in the Chair election.

Ann Jennings presented the Treasurer's Report on behalf of William Conner who was unable to attend the meeting. In addition to the Treasurer's Report, Chapter members received copies of the Chapter mid-year and annual reports to the SWS Board of Directors and results of a questionnaire distributed to those attending the Fall, 2002 Chapter "Behemoth" workshop. The Chapter annual report and questionnaire results can be viewed on the Chapter web site at [www.sws.org/regional/SouthAtlantic](http://www.sws.org/regional/SouthAtlantic).

Chapter members discussed at length a proposal to establish a graduate student travel award of \$500 to the SWS annual meeting. Draft guidelines for the proposed travel award were reviewed. Members recommended that the travel award guidelines require that the student be a member of SWS and that advertisement for the award stress that requirement. The advertisement should be provide the SWS web site address to facilitate a student applying for membership. Additionally, advertisement for the award should be emailed to all Chapter members. Members also recommended that the guidelines indicate that the award will be presented to the student during the Chapter business meeting at the SWS annual meeting. Ken McLeod motioned to approve the student travel award to the SWS annual meeting utilizing the proposed guidelines with the two modifications discussed. Diane DeSteven seconded the motion. The student travel award was approved with a unanimous vote of the Chapter members present. Cliff Hupp volunteered to oversee the SWS student travel award in addition to the ASB student travel award. He will be assisted by Greg Noe. Guidelines for both student travel awards can be viewed on the Chapter web site at [www.sws.org/regional/SouthAtlantic](http://www.sws.org/regional/SouthAtlantic).

Harold Jones recommended that the Chapter modify the standing rules to incorporate the final guidelines for both the SWS student travel award and the ASB student travel award. This would insure consistency of Chapter activities and decisions year to year. Ann Jennings will prepare modified standing rules for the Executive Committee to consider.

Chapter members recommended that we request the SWS management office, Burk and Associates, prepare a profile of the Chapter. The SWS Secretary General has just requested such information from Burk and Associates and results for the South Atlantic Chapter have been requested.

Chapter members discussed at length a location and topic for the Chapter workshop scheduled for the fall of 2003. Members discussed hosting a one-day workshop with multiple speakers at the Coastal Georgia Center in Savannah. Members also discussed addressing the issue of geographically "isolated" wetlands, recent changes to federal jurisdiction due to the Supreme Court "SWANCC" decision, and the "advanced notice of proposed rulemaking" (ANPRM). Ann Jennings made the formal motion to hold an annual workshop in Savannah, Georgia on "isolated" wetlands. This was seconded by Cliff Hupp and supported unanimously by all members present. In discussing the workshop topic in more detail, members recommended presentations on southeastern state responses to "SWANCC," the potential ecological implications of the ANPRM, what future actions by the federal government are expected in response to "SWANCC," as example. Chapter members interested in working on preparation of the fall, 2003 "isolated" wetlands workshop should contact Steve Miller. Harold Jones recommended that the SWS Professional Certification Program should have an information booth at this and future Chapter workshops.

Chapter members discussed a proposal presented by the South Central Chapter (President, Paul DuBow) to hold a joint workshop in Pensacola, Florida during the fall of 2004. After general discussion regarding the length of the workshop, possible concerns with hurricanes, and potential workshop topics, Harold Jones offered the motion to work with the South Central Chapter on a joint workshop. The motion was seconded by Nia Pauliukonis and approved unanimously by the Chapter members.

Chapter members briefly discussed the benefits of a small poster to assist in advertising SWS and the South Atlantic Chapter. Ken McLeod offered to work with his office, in coordination with Steve Miller, to prepare a draft poster. Ann Jennings also reminded Chapter members to volunteer, if they have not already done so, for one or more of the committees organizing the 2005 SWS annual meeting in Charleston, South Carolina.