



# SCAPMSNEWS

[www.scamps.org](http://www.scamps.org)

March 2020

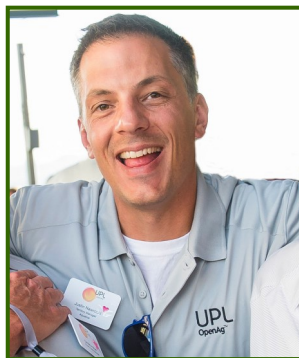
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#SCAPMS



## Message from the President By: Justin Nawrocki



I want to start by thanking all the board and committee members, their knowledge, expertise and dedication are the reason SCAPMS is not just surviving but thriving. I would also like to thank the membership for allowing me to be president and paying back a society that has been so generous and giving to me through the years, and after this year hopefully Larry McCord will stop sending me invoices for repayment of the scholarship money I have received. This past year's meeting we had an amazing turn out in number of attendees, support by our sponsors and participation of students. The board is already discussing on how to make this next meeting even better.

The aquatics community has lost a handful of great people in the last few years both tragically and to retirement. The void they left in our hearts will never be filled but the opportunity is ever present for members to make a contribution and help fill the vacuum they left by presenting, volunteering, becoming active in local and national societies and most importantly being a vocal advocate for our industry.

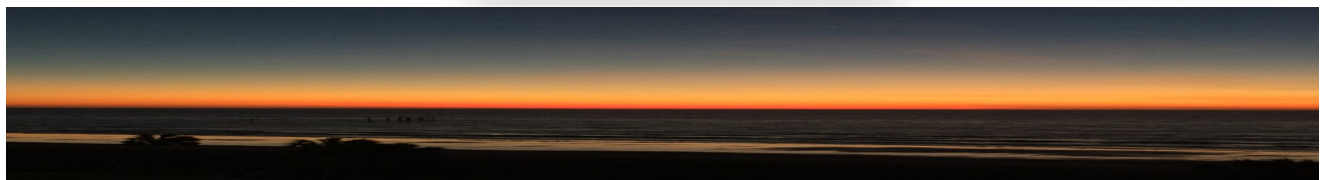
Numerous recent issues have shined a spotlight on our industry including the glyphosate lawsuits, Okeechobee's HAB blooms and the temporary halt of all herbicide applications by Florida's FWC. While some may want to shy away from the light, I believe this is a great opportunity to educate the public. My new favorite saying is "Science Matters" and that is something our industry has an abundance of. The Journal of Aquatic Plant Management has 58 years of free sound science that is easily searched. In addition, we have excellent faculty members at NC State, Clemson and UGA that are an easily accessible resource. We must arm ourselves with sound science and be ready to disseminate our knowledge in such a way that someone with no background in aquatic plant management can easily understand. We all should be proud of what we chose to do as a career and want to showcase the benefits our work has for the community as well as the ecosystem.

I am anxious to see the future of this society because I know we will stay true to our founding principles and traditions but also be brave enough to install necessary changes to make SCAPMS relevant and successful in modern times. I look forward to seeing you all in September and kicking back at our "Attitude Adjustment" socials.

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## 2019 Annual SCAPMS Meeting



## 2020 Call for Presentations

The Program Committee is accepting requests for presentations at the 2020 SCAPMS Annual Meeting. Papers covering all aspects of aquatic and wetland plant biology will be considered. Presentations are allotted 20 minute duration with 15 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for questions. Student presentations are encouraged with cash prizes. Submit - Title, author, organization, and address exactly as you want it to appear on the program. Two or three sentence abstracts are needed to ensure recertification credits for attendees. Please reply ASAP/Aug 16th

Please send submissions to [carl.bussells@santecooper.com](mailto:carl.bussells@santecooper.com).

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## Upcoming Annual Meetings/Events

July 19-22 Aquatic Plant Management Society, San Antonio, TX

Joint Meeting with TAPMS & APMS (60th Anniversary)

Aug 30-Sep 3 American Fisheries Society (150th Anniversary) Columbus, OH

Sep 30-Oct 2 South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society, North Myrtle Beach, SC

Oct 5-8 Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society, Daytona Beach, FL

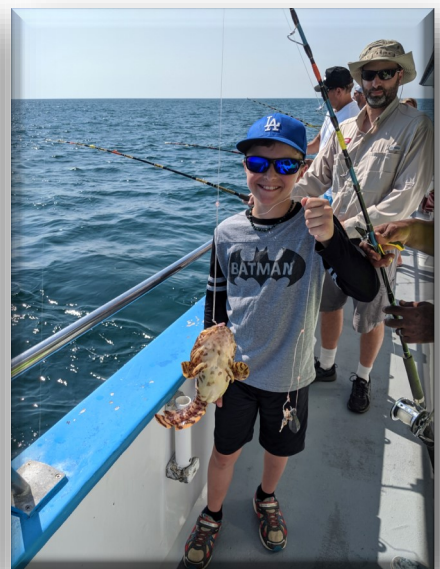
Oct 26-28 Midsouth Aquatic Plant Management Society, Mobile, AL

Nov 16-20 North American Lake Management Society, Minneapolis, MN

## 2021

January 12-14 Northeast Aquatic Plant Management Society, Hyannis, MA

February 22-25 Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society, Grand Rapids, MI



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## Phillip M Fields Scholarship Awarded to Ian Markovich, University of Florida



Phil Fields, who the student scholarship is named after, passed away in October 2012 shortly after our annual meeting. If anyone did a word cloud on Phil when he was most active in the society the dominant phrases would be big heart, contagious laugh, quick wit, die-hard Clemson fan, and fund raising genius.

Phil loved his job with the Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Plant Management Program where he worked from 1985 to 2003. During that time he rose from the position of Field Technician to Field Supervisor where he directed the operations of the State Aquatic Plant Management Program on over 30 public waterbodies throughout the state. He was very active in the South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society where he served on committees, the Board, and rose to the highest level within our state professional organization to serve as President of SCAPMS.

One of the missions of the Society is to foster the development of young professionals by offering scholarships to college students. Phil had a big heart. He loved helping students so volunteered to head up the fundraising efforts when the program first started in 1991 and he continued in that role until his departure from DNR. No one could raise money like Phil. His enthusiasm, quick wit, and affable personality made it easy to give. He brought in over \$40,000 during his tenure through raffle ticket sales at the annual meetings and donor contributions. Thanks to his dedicated efforts, the Society has been able to present scholarships to 29 students totaling \$56,000. When Phil retired in 2003, the board decided to honor him by naming the SCAPMS Scholarship after him.

One of his goals was to build the scholarship fund up to \$100,000 and make it self-supporting, and we made it this year! Phil's tenacious efforts gave us a good start. He was dearly loved by his colleagues and was known by many in the profession throughout the southeast. We'll miss Phil but he won't be forgotten. His legacy will live on. He will continue to touch the lives of students for many years to come through the Phillip M. Fields Scholarship. Thanks Phil.



## 2020 Scholarship Award-

The South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society is seeking applications for its annual Phillip M. Fields Scholarship Award. The Society intends to award a \$5,000 scholarship to the successful applicant in the fall of 2020. Scholarship funds are provided directly to the student and may be used by the recipient to cover costs associated with education and research expenses. Eligible applicants must be enrolled as full time undergraduate or graduate students in an accredited college or university in the United States. Course work or research in an area related to the biology, ecology or management of aquatic plants in the Southeast is also required.

Applications must be received no later than June 1, 2020 and will be evaluated on the basis of relevant test scores (ACT, SAT, GRE, etc.), college grades, quality and relevance of course work or research, a proposed budget, information obtained from references, and other related considerations. Other factors being equal, preference will be given to applicants enrolled in Southeastern and South Carolina academic institutions. The successful applicant may be requested to present an oral report on research activities at the annual meeting of the Society. Application forms and additional information are available at [www.scapms.org/scholarship.html](http://www.scapms.org/scholarship.html). Note: All application information is to be submitted electronically.

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## Distinguished Service Award—Chris Page SCDNR



Chris Page was awarded the distinguished service award for his commitment not only to the SCAPMS society but also to the field of aquatic plant management. Most will recognize Chris from his long dedication as SCAPMS's Treasurer and managing the registration table at the meetings and most importantly, a friendly face at the SCAPMS meetings for the foreseeable future. Chris, in grateful appreciation for your lifetime of outstanding service, aquatic education and tireless dedication to the field of aquatic plant management and to the South Carolina Aquatic Plant Management Society, Thank you. Congratulations Chris!

## ANNUAL MEETING SEP 30– OCT 2, 2020

### *42nd Annual Conference at*

### *Ocean Drive Beach and Golf Resort*

The Ocean Drive Beach and Golf Resort has all the ideal amenities for a SCAPMS conference; plenty of space for meetings and vendors, delicious food, walking access to restaurants and bars, ocean



views, beach access, pools, and of course, a lazy river for the duck race! As always, the annual meeting is a great place to accumulate the CEU's you need for your Cat 5 license. This meeting will also be packed with informative presentations and educational workshops which will be sure to bring you up to date on current topics. Socials and various gatherings will help you network and get reacquainted with colleagues. Registration will open in the coming months at [www.scapms.org](http://www.scapms.org).

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## Member of the Year Award—Justin Nawrocki



It was with great honor that SCAPMS presented our 2020 President with the Member of the Year Award. Justin has had many years in the Aquatic Plant Management arena starting as an applicator in Michigan. Following the desire and ambition to take care of our planet by making noxious weeds as a target in his crosshairs, we have watched Justin for many years here at SCAPMS as a student with North Carolina State University and presenting and, winning the Phillip M Fields Scholarship. In Justin's words, "Being President of SCAPMS is the best thing I can do to pay back the support that SCAPMS offered me with the scholarships I was awarded as a student".

Now Dr. Justin Nawrocki is a Territory Sales Manager for UPL in their Aquatics division allowing him to not only work in our region of the Carolinas but, on the entire eastern coast teaching us all what he has learned and experienced. Thank you Justin for all your knowledge, help and friendship. We look forward to this year leading us as SCAPMS President.

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## Fire Meets Gasoline; *Salvinia molesta* Finds Its Way to the Santee Cooper Lakes

Submitted By: Carl Bussells

The Santee Cooper lakes are essentially the perfect formula for aquatic invasive species. The lake system boasts 170,000 acres of warm, shallow, nutrient-rich water with ample wetland habitat for plants to hide and thrive. Combine that perfect habitat with a myriad of potential pathways for translocation such as boats, wildlife, flow, and floods,

and the result is inevitable; an applicator's dream and a lake manager's nightmare.

Sooner or later the perfect invasive was bound to find the perfect habitat. On July 26, 2017, Ernie Guerry, Allan Stack, and Casey Moorner (Santee Cooper Lake Management Staff) were surveying the shoreline of upper Lake Marion when they came across a small but unfamiliar patch of vegetation. Cursing ensued. The plant was brought back to the lab for confirmation, where more cursing ensued. The plant was giant Salvinia, *Salvinia molesta*.

Giant Salvinia is bad news, to say the least. Often referred to as the "perfect invasive species," it is an aquatic fern native to Brazil that specializes in colonizing new areas and growing at staggering rates. The initial growth stage of the plant is minute and easily overlooked, which allows it to disperse quickly and inconspicuously. Once the colonizing plants accumulate, they can double in acreage in as little as a few days, forming dense mats across the surface of the water that crowd out native plants, impede navigation, and deplete oxygen.

Upon its discovery, all focus of Santee Cooper's Lake Management Team immediately turned toward a search and destroy mission. At that point, hopes were still high that the plant was isolated enough to be eradicated from the lake. Teams searched upper Lake Marion relentlessly to shower any remaining Salvinia with herbicide.

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The efforts to eradicate *Salvinia* persisted, but it was clearly a losing battle. Tiny, individual plants haunted the nooks and crannies of upper Lake Marion, and untreated sloughs quickly clogged with mature *Salvinia*. Although record cold temperatures in the winter of 2017-2018 caused more freezing on the lakes than had been seen in any living generation of fishermen, the cold only temporarily slowed the plant's progress.

After the initial discovery of the plant in 2017, 401 acres of *Salvinia* were treated, although it was often small, primary stages of the *Salvinia* hiding in water hyacinth and crested floating heart. In 2018, no *Salvinia* was identified until July, and only 145 acres were treated. A mild winter allowed *Salvinia* to persist, and in 2019, 499 acres were treated. Herbicides have been successful in treatment areas, but in a labyrinth of cypress and tupelo trees with consistent flow, treating every hidden piece of *Salvinia* seems impossible.

Through assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers, SePRO staff, the NC Department of Environmental Quality Aquatic Weed Control Program, NC State University, SC Department of Natural Resources and good old-fashioned trial and error, the list of herbicides and tank mixes with the strongest results has been narrowed down to the following:

**Diquat, 1.0-2.0 gal/acre with a nonionic surfactant**

**Penoxsulam, 4 oz/acre Carfentrazone, 8 oz/acre with a nonionic surfactant or MSO**

**Fluridone, 30 ppb target concentration with follow up treatments to maintain concentration as needed**

So, what is the plan for future treatments? The steady fluridone treatment proved very effective in slowing plant growth and eventually killing the plants altogether. If environmental conditions allow, early season fluridone treatments will be used in several low-flow areas throughout the lakes. In areas where flow is a concern surface applications of contact herbicides will likely be used. A new weapon will also be introduced to the Santee Cooper System in 2020, the *Salvinia* weevil, *Cyrtobagous Salvinia*. Weevils have proven effective in significantly slowing plant growth at sites throughout Louisiana and Texas in a climate similar to that of the South Carolina coastal plain. They're also extremely selective in their diet (monophagous, if you will), so there is no risk of affecting valuable native vegetation.

The potential for giant *Salvinia* to wreak havoc throughout the lake system is always looming. Without a doubt, keeping *Salvinia* at bay in the Santee Cooper system will require a variety of herbicides, some hungry weevils, educational outreach, some occasional icy weather, and a whole lot of elbow grease.





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## Logo Contest –



Do you have an artistic touch? Everything deserves a fresh coat of paint from time to time. The SCAPMS Board of Directors is hosting a contest to spruce up our logo. The membership will vote on entries at the 2020 annual conference this coming fall. The winner of the contest will receive \$300! Please submit your entries to [board@scapms.org](mailto:board@scapms.org) or bring an electronic copy to the registration desk at the annual conference.

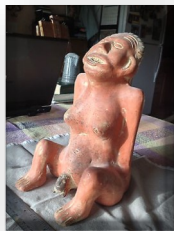
Please note: This new logo will IN NO WAY REPLACE our founding logo, this will be for advertisement i.e. hats, T-shirts, stickers etc.

## 2019 Conference Sponsors

\*Airmax \*Alligare \*Applied Biochemist \*Biosafe Systems \*Brandt \*Brewer International  
\*Carolina Aquatic Management \*Clemson Extension \*Cygnet Enterprises, Inc  
\*Estate Management Services \*Foster Lake & Pond Management \*Helena \*Key Colour  
\*Mountain Lake and Pond \*Naturalake Biosciences \*Nufarm \*Nutrien Solutions  
\*Outdoor Water Solutions \*Santee Cooper \*SePRO \*Solitude Lake Management  
\*Summit Helicopters \*Syngenta \*UPL \*Vertex Water Features

## First Annual Alabaster Pachyderm Mute Vendue-

SCAPMS wants to help you declutter! The SCAPMS fundraising committee will be hosting a silent auction of gag gifts, unique items or anything that's spent too much time neglected in your garage. So, be sure to bring that fishing rod, lawn gnome or random gift from your in-laws stuffed in the back of your closet to the 2020 conference in North Myrtle Beach. **All monies raised will go to the Phillip M. Fields Scholarship**

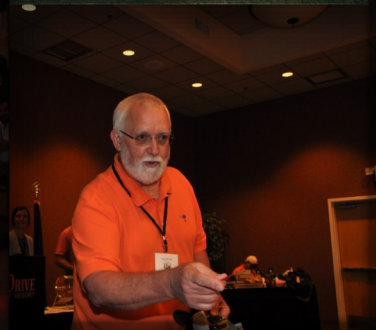


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Carleton Lane



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Sunday February 2, 2020, after the Superbowl had been decided and the parties wound down, beloved husband and father, Stephen (Steve) Paul Brewer, 71 years old, lost his battle to kidney cancer and left this world to smile down upon us for eternity as our angel in heaven. Steve was born to the late Paul and Desiree Brewer on June 4th, 1948 in Upper Darby, Pennsylvania.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years Linda, son Jonathan, daughters Jessica (Jesse) and Christine (Trevor), brothers Jim and Bruce and sister Sandi. Steve received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Lycoming College in 1970. He moved to Vero Beach in 1980 and called it home ever since. Steve and his brother Jim proudly took over their father's business, Brewer International in 1990 (founded by Paul Brewer 1977) and grew it to be a successful business that still runs to this day.

Steve's daughters Jessica and Christine blessed him with four grandchildren who he loved dearly: Piper (5), Daniel (4), Kiera (3), and Hudson (1). His grandchildren were a great source of joy for him.

Steve was a loving and loyal friend and will be missed by many. Steve considered Vero Beach to be his own little paradise surrounded by his wife and friends. He was active in the Sunrise Rotary Club and Elks Lodge where he made life-long friends. He often traveled with them for charity work in the Dominican Republic and helped organize the annual Florida Craft Brew & Wing fest whose proceeds went directly back to the community and local charities.

Aside from being a world traveler, hopeless romantic, and loving family man, Steve was a man of deep Christian faith involving himself in the Grace Spring Church for the last 40 years. He played an active role in his church and openly shared his faith with his family and friends.

In his early years, Steve followed in his father's foot-steps and served his country in the Army Reserves.

Memorial gifts may be made to GraceSpring Church and/or the Rotary Club at Vero Beach Sunrise Foundation Inc., 4049 Ocean Dr., #506 Vero Beach, FL 32963.

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