



10am – 11am: Meeting

Introductions

In attendance: Harold Harbert, Kate Carson, Seira Baker, Bailey Crapps, Jackie Encinas, Alexa Robinson, Deborah Ortiz, Frances Kennedy, Jackie Valett, Javier Sayago, Jennifer McCoy, Laura Schneider, Melissa Echevarria, Michele Smith, Michael DeLisle, Mike Kahle, Michael O’Shield, Ruth Eilers, Callie Moore, Shelley Lange

Call in: Terry Porter

Upcoming AAS workshops and meetings listed below.

➤ **Updates from the State Office:**

- Welcome Jackie Encinas and Kate Carson!
- Confluence
 - 2019 Confluence Overview
 - 2019: Total registered: 181. Total comp’d registrations: 27. Student registrations: 36 (10 comp’d).
 - The total registered may have been closer to 200, with 10-15 kids and some guests at lunch
 - Larger turnout than past few years, despite the venue change to Unicoi State Park
 - Extended activities to Sunday for the first time
 - Kids’ sessions went well
 - May cut Basin Breakouts due to ongoing feedback
 - Conflicting comments over the topics of sessions
 - Mediterranean food was versatile for many diets
 - Total Silent Auction income: ~\$2,732
 - Sponsorship 2019 Total: \$2,750
 - Rollover for 2020: ~\$5,000
 - About the same rollover as previous years, maybe a little more
 - 2020 Confluence Update
 - March 27-29 weekend is possibly on hold at Unicoi for Con20. Any date conflicts?
 - First Confluence 2020 Committee meeting (combined with CCs and Board): **Thurs Jul 18**
 - Will take place in Stone Mountain
 - CC Meeting (holiday potluck!) will take place on December 10, 2019 from 10am-12pm at Island Ford in Sandy Springs
 - Keynote speaker ideas: bringing in a speaker from out of town vs. a local speaker, additional value? Suggestions:
 - Kim Trevathan, author of Liminal Zones: Where Lakes End and Rivers Begin, lives in Knoxville, Tennessee
 - Daniel Rochberg, Chief Climate Strategy Officer, Emory University, The Georgia Climate Project – captivating speaker; not all doom & gloom; ended on a positive note; there have been requests for a climate change speaker for years

- Luke Owen – storm water, flooding; has lots of resources, like videos he has made; very interesting speaker
- Joe Cook – has been on every river in the state
- Giff Beaton – Dragonfly book author
- Awards nominations
 - Usually due at the end of the year, with a few reminders going out to call for nominations
 - Getting nominations is hard
 - “The key to getting the volunteer award: nominate them.” – Harold
 - Changes to Trainer award nominations?
 - No suggestions for change
 - Changes to Watershed award nominations?
 - Didn’t get many nominations this year
 - It’s meant to show how local governments, organizations, or non-profits met the 5 goals of Adopt A Stream (ADOPT)
 - No suggestions for change
 - Are trainer awards helpful to employer/ employees?
 - Call for Volunteer nominations
 - Added Excellence in Education award this year
 - Will keep the categories the same for next year

- Quarterly Newsletters

Please feel free to let us know if you have any ideas for articles or contributions for the newsletter.

➤ Updates from Community Coordinators

- Mike Kahle: May 22nd co-training with NPS; NPS Island Ford creating new program; trying to monitor all of the tributaries within the Chattahoochee corridor; departments are restructuring and combining, but shouldn’t interfere with AAS
- Mike DeLisle: Ben Martin may be replacing Mike D; asked about incomplete data submitted by volunteers (i.e. no temp) and Harold said to keep it; the 1413 standard isn’t doing the best with old conductivity meters, uses 250 instead; has 4 kits
- Alexa: Having trouble getting/retaining volunteers; asked for ideas to get people more involved: seek out early/community colleges, especially, but high schoolers and homeschoolers, as well
- Jennifer McCoy: Restructuring and departments being combined; hiring a full time and a part time person for their watershed team
- Melissa & Frances: Approved to hire an intern to start in July to take charge of the program; problem with calibration solution & meters; 3 HOA trainings coming up
- Michelle: STEM inclusion project to train middle school teachers

- Callie: Advice for those having trouble getting their programs going: took 3 years to get their program running well; they do a program showing how the volunteers' AAS data and the state's data get used, so it is inspiring and encourages people to sign up
- Shelley: Setting up 4 workshops for Fulton County coming up
- Deborah: Got moved from Environmental Justice & Sustainability Department to Industrial Compliance, but is trying to maintain AAS; offered to help anyone with training kids; lots of vacancies in EPA; difficult doing trainings for Scouts and after-school programs, because often limited to 2 hour timeframe

BYO Lunch

11am – 2pm: Trainer Recertifications & Field Portion

Upcoming AAS Events

Volunteer Workshops:

Sat, Jun 8: Gwinnett Chemical Monitoring Workshop

Sat, Jun 22: Fulton County Adopt-A-Stream Biological/Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Workshop

Events:

May 21 - 22: New Train-the-Trainer Chemical and Bacterial Workshop, Albany

Fri – Fri, June 14-21: Georgia River Network's Paddle Georgia, Withlacoochee and Suwannee Rivers