Resolutions Committee Chairman Kirk Beinigen presented his committee's report to the annual business meeting. That report and the two adopted resolutions appear in this issue of *Fisheries*.

can also be accommodated pro re nata by the Resolutions and Executive Committees prior to the business meeting. Those lacking urgency can then be deferred, while still permitting immediate action on timely issues.

Much of the intent and direction of resolutions emanating from the Society at all levels is directed in large part by the goals, policies, and interests of each of these levels, be it international, national, regional, or local. The oft-expressed desire of members is that the Society be able to offer informative, expert opinions in behalf of fish resources in the various policy-making arenas. Within the United States (and I suspect similar constraints may exist in other nations) we are unsure of our ability to have meaningful input into the legislative process due to our tax-exempt status. Bills are now pending that hopefully will clarify this issue, and allow us to speak more cogently and directly on resource matters. Well-prepared and well-directed resolutions can play an important role in this area.

There are three factors regarding the mechanics of resolutions that deserve special mention: first—brevity will accomplish much more than extraneous verbiage; second—a resolution will prove its best worth if it has clearly identified targets in the closing section to ensure adequate follow-through; and third—resolutions generated by Divisions and Chapters carry the full stature and impact of the Society at those levels, whether or not they are acted upon at any higher level.

The committee wishes to pass on an observation that deserves serious consideration. Resolutions tend to inspire profound reactions among the membership—particularly on sensitive issues. The prevailing majority decision does indeed override the opposing viewpoint. However, dissenting opinion needs and deserves to be heard, and a mechanism should be developed whereby a minority statement can go on record if there is sufficient reason to merit such mention. The Society is sufficiently large now, and diverse in its composition, that alternatives to absolute consensus must be explored. Nevertheless, an approved resolution does allow us to voice our collective concern on matters that might not be addressed were we faced with the prospect of doing so individually.

In conclusion the following are recommended for the Society's action: (1) international approaches to fisheries issues be engendered through the resolutions process; (2) modifications in tax laws favorable to the Society's desire for an active role in advocating responsible resource stewardship be supported; (3) Executive Committee action be taken on resolutions upon which Resolutions Committee action is preempted by time or circumstance; and (4) better communication to the membership be developed in terms of understanding the formulation and application of resolutions, along with providing adequate follow-up on approved resolutions at all levels of the Society.

The committee appreciates the opportunity to have served the Society this past year. We hope our efforts have been successful in furthering the goals and desires of all fisheries workers.

Respectfully submitted for the Resolutions Committee.
Kirk Beinigen, Chairman

Resolutions Passed

**Resolution 1: Expansion of Dingell Johnson Program**

WHEREAS Dingell Johnson, Federal Aid to Fisheries legislation, approved by the U.S. Congress in 1950, levies a 10% excise tax on most fishing tackle items; AND

WHEREAS this 266 million dollar total has immensely improved fishing opportunities and knowledge of fisheries resources by providing funding for: 38,000 acres of new fishing water; renovation of thousands of acres of substandard waters; 2,818 water recreational access sites; 613 fisheries research projects and thousands of technical fisheries reports; AND

WHEREAS the fishing tackle industry was instrumental in the original passage of the Dingell Johnson legislation which it continues to support; AND

WHEREAS states have voiced a need for additional Dingell Johnson investments plus a state ability and desire to provide matching funds; AND

WHEREAS the recreational boat and motor industry with annual new unit sales volumes of approximately $1.4 billion is exempt from the excise tax despite the fact that these Dingell Johnson excise tax funds have vastly improved boating opportunity and boating sales; AND

WHEREAS it has long been established that fishing is the primary use of recreational boating equipment with the Oregon State Marine Board reporting that 62% of all boat owners cite fishing as their primary boating activity and a 1974 U.S. Coast Guard survey reporting the nationwide figure to be 72.8%; AND

WHEREAS the use of boats and motors greatly increases the vulnerability of fisheries resources to fishermen exploitation thereby increasing the need for expanding these resources:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the American Fisheries Society, assembled in Dearborn, Michigan, on (Continued on page 31)
September 22, 1976, for its 106th Annual Meeting, urges that new Federal Aid to Fisheries legislation be enacted by the U.S. Congress to require a 1% Federal manufacturer's excise tax on all new recreational boats (except sailboats), trailers, and outboard motors with the resulting funds to be administered under the same terms and by the same U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service organization as now administers the present program, and that copies be provided to the appropriate legislators and agency administrators.

Resolution 2 - Genetic Considerations in Artificial Propagation of Fishes.

WHEREAS throughout North America there is an accelerating interest in artificial propagation as a means of supplementing our natural stocks, and an urgent need exists for special planning regarding genetic considerations in artificial propagation of fishes; and

WHEREAS need for genetic planning exists in all fish enhancement programs in North America; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to maintain existing wild stocks in concert with artificially propagated stocks through:

1. Location of sites for artificial propagation with regard to indigenous wild stocks, so that the adaptive genetic diversity of wild stocks will not be lost or diluted by chance interbreeding with cultured stocks.
2. Management of fishing pressure so as not to endanger reproduction of wild stocks.
3. Recognition of the potential behavioral and genetic stresses on native fishes caused by transplant stocks; and

WHEREAS it is also desirable to maintain adaptive genetic diversity in most artificially propagated stocks through:

1. Use of sufficient numbers of females and males in brood stock to avoid inbreeding depression problems.
2. Avoidance of deleterious selective breeding.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that all agencies involved in enhancement and management of wild and cultured fish stocks evaluate their present policies and implement appropriate practices with respect to conservation of genetic diversity in wild stocks; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to all state, provincial, and federal agencies involved in artificial propagation and enhancement of fishes.

CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The proposed Constitution and By-law changes, having been reviewed and approved by the AFS Executive Committee, were accepted by the Society at its Annual Meeting. The change in the wording of Section 10 (g) corrects ambiguities and provides for direct nomination of officers by written petition. Section 10 (g) has been changed to correct ambiguities. Section 14 now has a new subdivision (g) permitting a state or province to align itself organizationally with the AFS Division having activities and

Chapter and Division officers attending a luncheon get-together in Dearborn. (Left to right, front row): Kirk Beiningen (seated), Internal Director, Oregon Chapter and President-Elect, Western Division; Norville Prosser, Treasurer, Potomac Chapter; David Morgan, President-Elect, Illinois Chapter; Doug Jester, Jr., Vice President - VIP & SU Chapter; Don Kangus, Vice President, Missouri Chapter. Middle row: H.E. McReynolds (seated), President, Indiana Chapter; Jackie Campbell, Secretary, Alaska Chapter; Don Kline, President, Iowa Chapter; Don Garling, Faculty Advisor, VPI & SU Chapter; Jack Savage, Portland Chapter; Tom Doyle, President, Michigan Chapter; Back Row: Jon Nelson (standing), Secretary, Potomac Chapter; Arnold Fritz, President, Illinois Chapter; Frank Carlson, President, Potomac Chapter; Brian Waters, President-Elect, California-Nevada Chapter; Willis Evans, Past President, California-Nevada Chapter; Howard Alexander, Vice President, Michigan Chapter; Doug Jester, Sr., Membership Chairman, New Mexico St. University Student Chapter.