

**MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
ANNUAL MEETING
TAN-TAR-A RESORT, OSAGE BEACH, MISSOURI
FEBRUARY 2, 2006**

President Vicki Jackson called the annual meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on February 2, 2006 at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, Missouri.

MINUTES FROM 2005 ANNUAL MEETING

Copies of the 2005 Annual Meeting Minutes were provided to the membership by Secretary Chris Newbold. Chris asked the members to quickly review the minutes and provide any needed changes. Two minor editing changes (Officer's years of service and a spelling error) were suggested and made. A motion to accept the revised minutes was made by Elsa Gallagher and seconded by Glenn Chambers. The motion was approved by the membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A treasurer's report from Margie Mitchell was handed out to the attendees. Vicki Jackson quickly summarized the financial report. The checking account had a balance of \$7,731.25 on December 31, 2005, while the endowment fund had \$52.26. Glenn Chambers stood and told the members that there was currently \$11,043.11 in 3 CD's for the Chamber Memorial Scholarship Award. There was no discussion about the reports.

ANNUAL AUDIT

Julie Fleming presented the audit report that she conducted on the Treasurer's books for 2005. She reported that the financial books for the MOTWS were in order and correct. Glenn Chambers motioned to accept both the Treasurer's and the Annual Audit Report. Bill Eddlemann seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

FARMER CONSERVATIONIST AWARD

The 2006 Farmer Conservationist award was presented to Wayne and Pam Fry from Liberty, Missouri. The Fry's farm is in Harrison County, Missouri and they have been active in conducting natural community management on their property. Tim Russell made the presentation and accepted the award for the Fry's since they were unable to attend.

GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Charlie Nilon made the presentation of the 2006 University of Missouri Graduate Student Fellowship Award. Charlie reported that they again had strong candidates from whom to choose. The Fellowship was awarded to David Scott Jawaski. Mr. Jawaski is beginning research on black-footed ferrets in the western states. The \$750 scholarship and plaque were presented to Mr. Jawaski. He thanked the chapter and selection committee for this honor.

JAMES D. CHAMBERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Glenn Chambers announced the winner of the 2006 James D. Chambers Memorial Scholarship. Glenn announced that to date \$5,500 has been awarded as student scholarships. Glenn stated 7 applicants were reviewed for the award and the decision was a hard one to make from the well qualified group.

The \$500 award and plaque were awarded to David B. Leistmiester from the University of Missouri-Columbia. **David's work??** David received the scholarship and thanked Glenn, the Chambers family, and the Missouri Chapter for the award and their support.

STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS

University of Missouri

Lucas Miller, President of the University of Missouri Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, presented a report on their activities for the last year. Their student chapter has been very active in 2005. They currently have 70 members. Their list of activities includes:

- A B-B-Q for students and professionals that was well attended.
- Working Missouri football game concessions. This provided enough income for the Chapter to send several members to both the National Wildlife Society Conference in Madison, WI and the Midwestern Fish and Wildlife Conference, and Missouri Natural Resources Conference.
- They received the Student Chapter of the Year at the Midwestern Fish and Wildlife Conference in 2005.
- Held the Dunmire Lecture at the University of Missouri in the fall of 2005.
- Help MDC with deer aging at managed deer hunts.
- Adopt-a-Trail.
- Sponsored a clay shoot.
- Conducted winter bird counts, prescribed burns at the Baskett Area, and will be starting a local birding group on the University of Missouri Campus.
- Participated in the Missouri Chapter's Spring Workshop in 2005.
- Sponsored a Wilderness First Responder Training class.

Central Missouri State University

J. T. Layne provided an overview of the activities of CMSU's Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. These were:

- Giving programs about bats and other mammals with MDC's Outreach and Education Division to K – 6 school groups.
- Aging deer at managed deer hunts.
- Conducting dove hunting surveys at Reed Conservation Area.
- Picking up trash.
- Starting a recycling program at CMSU.
- Conducting a Bio-Blitz at CMSU to count the number of species seen on CMSU campus.
- Inviting speakers to come to campus to talk with the group.

Missouri Western State University

Jamie Jantz, MWSU Student Chapter Vice President, provided a summary of their Chapter's activities. This included:

- Dove wing collection at Pony Express Conservation Area.
- Maintaining a MDC trail located on MWSU's campus.
- Participating in prairie restoration work at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge.
- Leading a Squaw Creek Refuge Walk for Owls.
- Participating in hunter education training.
- Operating a booth at MWSU's homecoming.
- Conducting quail counts with MDC.
- Participating in deer spotlight counts at Squaw Creek Refuge.
- Aging and weighing deer for managed deer hunts.
- Participating in Squaw Creek Refuge Eagle Days.

Southeast Missouri State University

The Student Chapter at SEMO has been active in many activities during 2005. Some of these were:

- Participating in hunter education training.
- Transplanting Giant Cane.
- Landscaping at MDC's Outdoor Campus in Cape Girardeau.
- Aging deer for MDC managed hunts.
- Conducting a Mingo National Wildlife Refuge canoe trip.
- Inviting guest speakers to come talk with their group.
- Starting up a local Stream Team
- Holding their yearly B-B-Q.

Missouri State University

They are a new Chapter that has just been approved in 2005. However, no one was present to provide a report.

ELECTION RESULTS

Vicki Jackson announced that Mike Schroer was elected President-elect, Tom Kulowiec was elected Treasurer, and Kim Wells was elected Member-at-Large. Therefore, the officers for 2006 will be:

Past-president	Vicki Jackson
President	Tim Russell
President-elect	Mike Schroer
Treasurer	Tom Kulowiec
Secretary	Chris Newbold
Board Member	Kim Wells

Presidential authority was passed from Vicki Jackson to Tim Russell.

OLD BUSINESS

TWS Endowment and Scholarship Funding

Larry Mechlin opened discussion explaining that the Chapter had made a commitment of \$500 per year for a five year period for the National Chapter's Endowment Fund. The first year's commitment was met by the individual gifts of a few members and since then it has been difficult to raise funds. Larry suggested that the Chapter go ahead and pay the Endowment commitment out of our general funds and be done with the five year commitment. Discussion was invited and Tom Kulowiec suggested we ask for individual donations again and the Chapter could match donations amounts until the commitment is met. Dee Cee Darrow motioned that the Chapter send out a mailing asking for donations to the Endowment Fund and the Chapter could then make up the difference to pay off the commitment. Dave Murphy seconded the motion and the membership passed it.

Larry Mechlin then explained that since 2002 the MU Graduate Student Fellowship Award of \$750 had been erroneously paid out of the general Chapter funds and not the earmarked Fellowship Funds located with the University of Missouri. This mistake was corrected in 2005. However, since money had not been withdrawn from the Fellowship funds for a few years, there is now around \$4,500 in the Fellowship account. Larry suggested that there were two options: 1.) put the extra \$4,500 back into the principle account or 2.) pay back the Chapter's general fund account. Dave Murphy motioned to put the available money back into the principle account and up the award to \$1,000. He also motioned to leave \$500 in the Fellowship Account to act as a "buffer". Several members seconded this motion. The membership approved.

Dave Murphy then announced the Ed Stegner Missouri Conservation Federation Scholarship Award. This award will support undergraduates in the five natural resource disciplines; 1. fisheries, 2. wildlife, 3. forestry, 4. soils, and 5. parks and recreation. This award will be \$1,000 and will be awarded at the Missouri Conservation Federation Conference. This award decisions will be made by the professional societies. Discussion was about who will make the Chapter's decisions. The Executive Board will make a recommendation for the award.

Spring Workshop

Vicki Jackson told the members the 2005 spring workshop was a big success and was well reviewed by all who attended. The 2005 was at Fountain Grove. The 2006 workshop is planned for the first weekend in April at the Mincy-Drury Area near Bull Shoals Lake. All members were encouraged to help at this workshop and provide input into the planning.

Online Voting

Vicki Jackson announced that the online voting seemed to work very well. No one reported any problems. Forty-three people voted on-line in 2005. Vicki recognized Tom Kulowiec for his hard work and talent to complete the online voting application.

Travel Application

Vicki Jackson pointed out that the Executive Board had been working on creating and providing a Travel Application to assist members in traveling to nationally and regionally sponsored TWS conferences. Vicki passed out a draft of this application to the members. Vicki then asked for discussion regarding this program. Lucas Miller asked who would make the decisions to fund travel. Vicki answered the Executive Board would decide and that the number and level of funding will fluctuate due to yearly budget status and travel costs. There was no further discussion.

Vicki Jackson then thanked the Executive Board for their assistance in 2005 and stated she enjoyed working with them. She then turned the meeting over to Tim Russell. Tim thanked Vicki and stated he was happy to serve and challenged all members to stay involved with the Chapter to keep it growing and vibrant.

NEW BUSINESS

2007 MNRC

Gene Gardner told the membership that he is the Chair of the 2006 Missouri Natural Resources Conference Steering Committee. He reminded everyone that the Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society is the 2006 host. Gene acknowledged his committee members on the steering committee and invited ideas and input on symposium and conference activities.

Shortleaf Pine Symposium

David Gwaze stood and asked the Chapter for support of an upcoming Shortleaf Pine symposium in Springfield, MO on November 7-9, 2006. David mentioned the symposium will communicate experiences, research, successes, challenges, and inquire about shortleaf pine management, restoration, and ecology. David asked for \$500 to support this workshop. Charlie Nilon motioned to support this symposium at the \$500 level. Bill Eddlemann seconded this motion. The motion passed.

Committee Chairs and Membership

Tim Russell called for members to think about volunteering to serve on a committee that may interest them. There is currently a need for members to fill committees. John Vogel will serve as the new membership committee chair and if any members have ideas or concerns about membership, then they are encouraged to contact John. Charlie Nilon suggested the Chapter look for ways to increase diversity in our membership. Current 2006 membership stood at 126 with 21 new members in 2006.

National Chapter Win Leadership Workshop

Tim Russell mentioned the National Chapter has a new workshop where recent graduates are encouraged to attend the 2006 National Conference. In this workshop 10 applicants

will be paired up with professionals to gain insight and experience in the wildlife profession. The 2006 year is the pilot year for this project. Tony Mong stated he was a member of this national committee and encouraged everyone to support it.

As May Arise

The fundraising efforts of the Chapter at the 2006 MNRC raised \$1,253. Tim Russell thanked everyone who donated items.

Dave Murphy stood and told that the Missouri Conservation Federation just signed a campaign agreement for Parks and Soil Renewal. This Campaign is to help provide funding for state parks and Dave asked for everyone to be aware of that campaign and support it. He asked that everyone also help spread the word about the campaign.

Tony Mong stood and mentioned the student-professional development working group to which he belongs. He mentioned the group has a new strategic direction in which the new focus is on students mentoring with cooperating professionals. The group reports to the National Council about mentoring and he encouraged all to get involved. They also hope to increase student chapter communications nationwide. They are also looking to develop a Wildlife Society Health Insurance coverage for members who are holding jobs that do not provide insurance (i.e., part time jobs). This would be a benefit of being a member of the National Society.

Dale Humberg gave a brief update with the University of Missouri School Of Natural Resources Alliance. He expressed his appreciation for the Chapters support and asked for continued support.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.