

**MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY  
ANNUAL MEETING  
TAN-TAR-A RESORT, OSAGE BEACH, MISSOURI  
FEBRUARY 1, 2007**

President Tim Russell called the annual meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. on February 1, 2007 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 editing changes (an error in a date and a spelling error) were suggested and made. A motion to accept the revised minutes was made by Bob Schroepel and seconded by Tom Gluick. The motion was approved by the membership.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

A treasurer's report from Tom Kulowiec was handed out to the attendees. Tom quickly summarized the financial report. The checking account had a balance of \$7,450.89 on January 31, 2007. Tom reported that the Chapter had paid off its commitment to the national Chapter's Endowment Fund in 2006. 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. Dave Murphy made a motion to accept the reports and Elsa Gallagher seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the membership.

**ANNUAL AUDIT**

Julie Fleming presented the audit report that she conducted on the Treasurer's books for 2006. She reported that the financial books for the MOTWS were in order and correct. Steve Sheriff motioned to accept both the Annual Audit Report. Jim Loveless seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**FARMER CONSERVATIONIST AWARD**

The 2007 Farmer Conservationist award was presented to Darryl and Kelly McCane (SP??) from ????????? Missouri. The McCane's farm is a hay and beef farm that has utilized several WHIP and EQUIP programs to make their farm more conservation friendly. They are local community leaders, have been involved in the County Extension, and in youth deer hunts. They have restored glade and savanna habitats on their property, conducted prescribed burns, planted native warm season grasses, and protected riparian habitats with buffers. Tim Russell made the presentation and the award was accepted by Mr. and Mrs. McCane.

**GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWSHIP AWARD**

Tim Russell made the presentation of the 2007 University of Missouri Graduate Student Fellowship Award. The Fellowship was awarded to Ryan Monello. Mr. Monello is currently working on raccoon behavior and disease dynamics on several public lands in

Missouri. The \$750 scholarship and plaque were presented to Mr. Monello. He thanked the chapter and selection committee for this honor.

### **JAMES D. CHAMBERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Glenn Chambers announced the winner of the 2007 James D. Chambers Memorial Scholarship. Glenn announced that to date \$6,000 has been awarded as student scholarships. Glenn stated 5 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 Conner P. McCallahan from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Connor's work has been on Piping Plover sustainability. Connor received the scholarship and thanked Glenn, the Chambers family, and the Missouri Chapter for the award and their support.

### **STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS**

#### **University of Central Missouri**

Carla Sparks, President of the University of Central 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 2006. Their list of activities includes:

- Working at deer check stations;
- Participating in dove wing collections at James A. Reed Conservation Area;
- Participating in prairie restoration work at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge;
- A Fall Social at the University of Central Missouri;
- Development and sale of new Chapter T-shirts;
- A "Bio-Blitz" on the campus of the University of Central Missouri;
- A 5-K run.

#### **Missouri State University**

Since no representative of Missouri State University could make it to the meeting, Tim Russell provided an overview of the activities of MSU's Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society. These were:

- Hosting the State Chapter's Spring Workshop;
- Volunteering on trail maintenance and development at Bois D'arc Conservation Area;
- Participating in local road cleanups.

#### **Missouri Western State University**

The Student Chapter at Missouri Western State has been active in many activities during 2006. Some of these were:

- Assistance with deer spotlight counts at Squaw Creek Nation Wildlife Refuge;

- Participating in prairie restoration work at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge;
- Deer aging projects;
- Participating in hunter education training;
- Cleaning up dump sites near MWSU campus;
- Conducting quail counts with MDC;
- Sponsoring a Canoe trip;
- Co-sponsoring conservation speakers on MWSU campus;
- Participating in MDC's Level 1 fire training and chainsaw safety training.

### **Southeast Missouri State University**

Matt Winick, the Southeast Missouri State University's Student Chapter Vice-President, reported that their Chapter had been active in:

- Participating in deer aging projects;
- Exotic species control near their campus;
- Sponsoring a canoe trip and a skeet shoot;
- Participating in the 2006 Spring Workshop at Bull Shoals;
- Inviting guest speakers to come talk on their campus.

### **Missouri University**

There was no report given for the MU Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Joel Porath stood and gave the membership a Regulations Committee Report. Joel mentioned that a public statement will soon be coming out regarding the Feral Hog issue in Missouri. Joel reported the statement will contain a future Chapter position on the issue and will call for partnerships to answer several questions about how to resolve the issues and increase communication. The statement will also call for an increase in enforcement and call for complete eradication of hogs in some areas. This statement will soon come out for a membership vote. Joel encourage the membership to contact him with any comments the Regulations Committee should consider.

## **YEAR IN REVIEW**

Tim Russell Thanked the membership for allowing him to serve as President in 2006. Tim said he enjoyed the experience and then pointed out some of the year's highlights. Tim Singled out the Missouri contingent of APHIS, who he said were great assets at the 2006 Spring Workshop. Tim then showed a short slide show illustrating some of the Chapter's 2006 activities.

## **NORTH CENTRAL SECTION REPORT**

Gary Potts, the Chapter's North Central Section President, stood and gave a report on the Sections activities. Gary stated the Section's continuing education fund is over \$20,000 and they are working to get that fund to over \$30,000 through sponsorships. This fund is used to fund various workshops. The Section is going to be putting on a symposium on lead poisoning. Gary did express concern that the Section's membership is currently under 400 people and it used to be over 800. Gary mentioned the Section is looking into moving the timing of the Midwest TWS Conference from December to January. Gary also spent some time detailing some of the actions occurring in the National Chapter, including the hiring of a new Executive Director, a new strategic plan, Leadership Institute to mentor new professionals, Policy Intern, and partnerships such as Teaming with Wildlife and other cooperatives. Gary also mentioned the National Chapter now has a new web master that will help State and Student Chapters manage their web sites.

### **ELECTION RESULTS**

Tim Russell announced that John Vogel had won President-elect, Mike Hubbard was elected Secretary, and Bob Alexander was elected Member-at-Large. Therefore, the officers for 2006 will be:

Past-president	Tim Russell
President	Mike Schroer
President-elect	John Vogel
Treasurer	Tom Kulowiec
Secretary	Mike Hubbard
Board Member	Bob Alexander

Presidential authority was passed from Tim Russell to Mike Schroer.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **TWS Endowment Funding**

Mike Schroer mentioned that the Executive Board decided to pay off the Endowment Fund using the Chapter's general operating funds, rather than depending on yearly donations to meet the Chapter's obligations. However Mike did mention that anyone wishing to still support the Endowment can do so by making a donation that will reimburse the Chapter's general operating funds.

#### **Travel Application**

Mike Schroer reviewed that the past increase in membership dues were done to pay for travel costs for various members to different conferences and workshops. Mike mentioned that no application for travel assistance was received in 2006. Mike encouraged members to consider this opportunity and put in for travel assistance in 2007. The deadline for funding is in July 2007.

#### **Shortleaf Pine Symposium**

Mike Schroer relayed a thank you from David Gwaze to the Chapter for its support of the Shortleaf Pine symposium in 2006. David said the symposium was a huge success and the support provided by the Chapter was invaluable.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **2008 MNRC**

Gene Gardner and Mike Schroer asked for members to set up and volunteer to serve on the MNRC committee representing the Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society. Mike asked that any volunteers or nomination be sent to him. Mike also said he appreciated Gene Gardner's leadership on the committee and for his part in developing a great 2007 MNRC.

### **President's Challenges**

Mike Schroer mentioned that the Society needs help in filling leadership roles on committees and chairs. Mike asked every member to consider how they can help the Society. Mike mentioned that members are needed to contribute to the Chapter's newsletters. Mike also mentioned to the membership that he believes we may be missing a large portion of professionals in the wildlife field by not reaching out to commercial wildlife professionals in the consulting and nuisance arenas. Mike asked all members to consider ways to recruit professionals in these areas into the Society.

### **Spring workshop**

Mike Schroer mentioned the spring workshop is scheduled for March 30-31<sup>st</sup> in southeast Missouri at University Forest. Mike reminded members that their expertise is needed as presenters and mentors. Mike suggested that someone present a Level 1 Fire training to the students at the Spring Workshop. Mike also mentioned that a one day workshop geared toward field staff will be held in conjunction with the Spring Workshop in 2007 and he suggested that everyone spread the word and encourage attendance with anyone they work with that may not be involved with The Wildlife Society. The Society of American Foresters will be co-sponsoring this year's spring workshop. Mike opened the floor up to discussion to the fact that in 2007 the Executive Board suggested spending \$1,000 - \$3,000 of its funds on this Spring Workshop. Very little discussion followed. Norb Giessman motioned that the membership support the Executive Board's decision to spend these funds in 2007. Jim Loveless seconded this motion. The motion was passed.

### **Student membership**

Mike Schroer asked the membership to consider how the Student Chapters throughout the state fit into the State Chapter. For example, does membership in a Student Chapter mean membership in the State Chapter should also be extended without additional dues? Should the Bylaws be revised to define the relationship between the Student Chapters and the State Chapter. Jim Loveless suggested that the State Chapter mimic the relationship between Student Chapters and the National Chapters. Dave Murphy and John Shultz suggested that we use the Conservation Federation of Missouri model; that is that members of a Student Chapter automatically become State Chapter members. Ted Siler suggested that duties be added to an Executive Board member to be a liaison to the

Student Chapters (i.e. –designate a Board member who has duties to visit with Student Chapter leaders.) This change would require a change to the Operation’s Manual to formalize the liaison with the student chapters. Dan Zekor volunteered to work to formalize student liaisons and work out the Operations Manual wording to outline duties of the Executive Board (Past –President) to work with the Student Chapters.

**As May Arise**

Mike Schroer asked if it was time for the State Chapter to consider setting up working groups modeled after the National Chapter. Membership was not supportive of this idea.

Mike asked the members to develop a list of potential leaders he could contact for future Board positions and Committee Chairs. The members provided around 10 nominations.

Dave Murphy came forward and awarded the 2007 Ed Stegner Scholarship Award to **Matthew Moltz???** (is this correct?) from Southeast Missouri State University.

Dave Murphy asked that the Missouri State Chapter of The Wildlife Society consider joining the Conservation Federation of Missouri. Jim Loveless motioned that the Chapter join the Federation by paying our \$150 dues. Wayne Porath seconded this motion and the membership approved it.

Dave Erickson asked the Missouri State Chapter of The Wildlife Society support the new Teaming With Wildlife Coalition. Dave Erickson motioned to have the Chapter endorse the Teaming With Wildlife Coalition, communicate to Student Chapters to Support the Coalition, and that each member get another group that we work with to support the Coalition. Jim Loveless seconded this motion. The motion was approved by the membership.

**Adjournment**

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