



MISSOURI CHAPTER
Of
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

December 2005 Issue No. 35, VOL. 2

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February 1-3, 2006

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updates, agenda and registration.

President's Message:
What did we do and should we keep on doing it?
By Vicki Jackson, Chapter President

I began writing this missive by reading the President's Message from the last newsletter. In that message, I tried to capture our ideas for what we wanted to accomplish last year. This time, I will try to recap what we did and discuss some possibilities for further improvements.

We have certainly been working with our student chapters to help them find volunteer opportunities, network with professionals, and become more involved in the state chapter. Tim Russell (your new President next year) and I are developing the 2006 Spring Workshop with a lot of help and advice from our Executive Board and other members. We hope to have it at Bull Shoals, the first weekend in April. If you are interested in coming, presenting a workshop, or donating funds, please contact me!

We assessed what our members should expect to get from their membership in our state chapter. Why should people join? Why should people become more involved in our state chapter? To answer these questions, we've developed a Travel Support Application that we will present to you at MNRC this year for approval. We would like to help support travel to the national conference for people who would not otherwise be able to attend, and who also have a history of activity with the state chapter and a commitment to sharing what they've learned at the national conference with our membership. We are very excited about this opportunity and hope it meets with your approval.

I would like to reiterate what I finished with in my last President's Message. Everyone is busy. We would all like to be more involved, but don't think we can find the time. I know that the more people become involved, the more the state chapter will be what we all would like for it to be. A society of friends and colleagues, working together to conserve wildlife, professionals and students learning from each other and increasing our motivation in our daily conservation efforts. Please consider running for office or volunteering to be a part of a committee. We are only as strong as our membership's willingness to become involved!

Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Goals and Objectives
By Tim Russell, Chapter President-Elect

The Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society, as the name implies, is the Missouri State Chapter of [The Wildlife Society](#), the international association of wildlife professionals dedicated to excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education. The mission of [The Wildlife Society](#) is to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, productivity, and sustain-ability of wildlife resources for the benefit of society. You can find out more about our parent society by visiting [The Wildlife Society Web Page](#).

The **Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society** is made up of close to 200 professional wildlife managers, educators and researchers all dedicated to the stewardship of the wildlife resources in Missouri. Our membership comes from the academic, government, and private sectors. We are teachers, research technicians, wildlife managers, resource administrators, and private consultants; all united by the common objective of the Chapter - to focus attention on the professional wildlife needs, problems and events of concern within the State of Missouri.

To achieve this objective, the **Missouri Chapter** attempts to:

- Provide better opportunities for liaison among wildlife professionals within Missouri as well as nationally and internationally.
- Monitor, evaluate, and comment on societal actions that could impact the wildlife resources of the State of Missouri.
- Recognize and commend outstanding achievement in the wildlife profession in the State.
- Focus the aims and objectives of the parent Society and the North Central Section upon the local wildlife needs, problems and events within Missouri.
- Encourage communication between Chapter members and non-members in an effort to create a climate under which resource management arts will be used effectively in Missouri.

The **Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society** carries out this mission in a number of ways:

- We co-sponsor the [Missouri Natural Resources Conference](#), an annual meeting attended by more than 700 of the state's natural resource students and professionals.
- We annually present [3 awards and 2 scholarships](#) to recognize outstanding contributions to wildlife conservation in Missouri.

- Our members serve on the Governor's Environmental Education Task Force and the Missouri Watershed Clearinghouse.
- The Chapter frequently comments on and assists in the drafting of management and project development plans for both state and federal agencies such as The U.S. Forest Service, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and the Missouri Department of Transportation.
- We publish a Newsletter twice a year to keep members informed of developing issues and Chapter news.
- We host an e-mail news group, whereby members receive timely information from the executive board.
- We sponsor continuing education workshops and symposiums to allow members to keep abreast of current information on such topics as computers and GIS, statistics, crises intervention, and ecosystem management.

**Professional Development: It's about knowledge,
but it's the people too**

By Chris Newbold, Chapter Secretary

This past September, I had the opportunity to attend The Wildlife Society's Annual Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. Since I was scheduled to present a paper at the Conference, I initially planned on traveling to Madison the night before my talk, give my presentation, and return home that evening. However, because of traveling arrangements, I actually arrived two days prior to my scheduled talk and was able attend most of the Conference. At the Conference, I saw several people I had not seen for years. I visited with my Advising Professor from the University of Tennessee where I worked on my master's work. We caught up on what we were both currently working, and visited about old times. I saw someone that I had worked with while I was in Florida. We also visited about old times and issues that both he and I dealt with in our current jobs. Some of the issues were as different as night and day, but some were the same, even though we worked in areas that are 6 states apart. I was able to meet new natural resource managers and researchers from Wisconsin. I was as fascinated to learn about the problems and issues they dealt with in their everyday jobs as they were to hear about mine. I had the opportunity to meet and converse with several outstanding students from Michigan, Tennessee, North Dakota, and from many other places throughout the U.S.

I enjoyed giving, and at least I think many of them enjoyed getting, advice and perspectives from me regarding my experiences in transitioning from full-time student to full-time professional. Finally, I was also able to visit with several current co-workers from the Missouri Department of Conservation that, truthfully, until then, I had not gotten to know as well as I thought I had. Oh, yes, and I was able learn of all kinds of fascinating research, projects, and cooperatives that are occurring all around the United States. Many of the presentations at the Conference highlighted how many other people are out there that share our passion for conserving and understanding the natural resource we work with. And, yes, I was also able to present my paper as scheduled.

Although I had initially planned on attending the Conference with the primary objective of presenting my paper, I rediscovered the great experience it is to attend one of these national meetings. Not only did I gain new information and perspectives on current research and work around the country but, just as importantly, I renewed old contacts and made new acquaintances that I hope to cultivate throughout my future career. These contact and interactions are probably just as important in our careers as maintaining knowledge that is current and relevant in our jobs.

I would encourage all members to be looking for the new Travel Grant Application that the Chapter will be offering. This grant should help members attend national and regional professional meetings that they would otherwise not have the means to attend. And these meetings are tools we all should be using to not only maintain current knowledge and skills, but also to foster old and new friendships with people who share our passion of serving the natural resources with which we work.

Treasury Notes

By Margie Mitchell, Chapter Treasurer

Once again, we approach that time of the year where your Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society is asking you to send in your membership dues. It's not a big thing, only \$10, but somehow it's easy to slip between the cracks with all the holiday fun that comes along. And, besides, "*one can always cover the dues at the MNRC*" – if you remember at the Mixer or during the conference. Your contributions have been well-spent this year: a new, well-received wildlife techniques workshop for college students from around the state; awards for professional & public achievements in wildlife conservation; support of our nationally-recognized Missouri Natural Resources Conference;

scholarships for outstanding students; financial assistance for wildlife workshops & our national TWS conference; along with our standard operating expenses that include the upkeep of our informative web site. So, please, write yourself a note about (1) sending in your dues along with your national membership; or (2) sending along your dues as you vote for officers; or (3) being sure to drop by the Chapter booth at the MNRC. Remember. Our Chapter can't function without funds.

Even more than money, though, we want you to get involved with the Chapter. Our group is only as good as its members & officers & committee chairs. If you have some time, please consider offering your talents & enthusiasm. There's always a way to become engaged with your organization. Do you interact with lots of folks? – offer to chair the Nominating & Election Committee or one of our awards committees. Do you have lots of contact with students? – be their Chapter liaison or help with our student Spring Workshop. Do you have a new idea you think the Chapter should be promoting? – run for an office or offer your concept to the Executive Board. Are you good at raising money? – help design a way for the Chapter to make some additional cash, or gather items for our auction. Even if you can sit at the Chapter booth for an hour or so during the MNRC, selling raffle tickets or signing up new members, you become a part of our Chapter's success!

*2005 TWS Annual Conference Abstracts
The Role of Professional Development
in the Wildlife Profession*

**The role of professional development for wildlife
biologists in academia.**

**By Nova J. Silvy, Texas A&M University,
College Station, TX, USA**

Continued learning and professional development for wildlife biologists in academia is two-fold: (1) personal improvement and (2) providing opportunities for others. Academia has always encouraged professional development of their faculty through some form of periodical sabbatical leave where faculty can improve their teaching skills and/or research programs. Such professional development is considered so important by universities that they continue to pay the faculty member's salary while they are on sabbatical. University administrators not only view such continued learning as improving the faculty member's abilities, but as a "regeneration" of enthusiasm for teaching and research following the sabbatical. In addition, university administrators allow time away from normal duties for faculty to take regular university courses, attend seminars, symposia, short courses, distant learning

courses, workshops, training sessions, and technical sessions at professional meetings. Faculty members at academic institutions also encourage undergraduate and graduate students to do the same to improve on their "formal" education obtained from the university. As part of the evaluation of a faculty member's (especially those at land-grant universities) overall program effectiveness, the university places considerable emphasis on "service" to the university's constituency. For wildlife biologists in academia, this means providing seminars, symposia, short courses, distant learning courses, workshops, training sessions, and technical sessions at professional meetings to fellow wildlife biologists in and outside of academia. Life-long learning and professional development for biologists in academia is as old as the profession itself and will continue to play an ever increasing role in the future.

**Professional Development: Helping to Meet the
Public's Trust**

By Tim Russell, Chapter President-Elect

The challenges facing the wildlife profession are many. Among the biological, sociological, and economic effects upon wildlife resources that we continue to address, we will also be facing the recruitment of wildlife professionals as well. We are susceptible to the loss of institutional knowledge and the experience of senior professionals with the ongoing cyclic turnover of wildlife professionals in various organizations and agencies. Other natural resource disciplines are experiencing not only lower numbers of applicants, but general difficulty in recruiting experienced professionals into even entry-level positions. The wildlife profession is beginning to see some of these same symptoms too. Some say it is a change in our rural culture that has disconnected us from the land and, therefore, natural resource values are not what they once were. Others contend it is the climate of our economy that steers potential candidates away from this field. Whatever the reasons for this trend, professional development will be a major factor in determining how well the stewardship of the wildlife resources of our state will be conducted. Even if the overall number of people entering our field has declined, it still is as important as ever to seek ways to insure that knowledgeable and experienced people enter this profession of wildlife conservation.

Every wildlife professional has the ability to help strengthen and maintain a competent workforce. Whether the person is conducting habitat management on a wildlife area or instructing a class of wildlife students in an indoor laboratory, the wildlife professional demonstrates their knowledge in their field of expertise. Another wildlife professional may be

crawling through a stand of prairie grass evaluating the effects of patch-burn grazing, administrating a managed hunt on a wetland, or involved in a “gripping and grinning” meeting with conservation partners. Each is displaying their skills to others as they conduct their work. These examples demonstrate opportunities to share, exchange and teach others pursuing the same career in this rewarding work we know as wildlife conservation.

It has been my observation through the past 22 years that the passion for the resource drives the most dedicated people in our world of wildlife conservation. A close friend of mine once said, “Wildlife Conservation is a way of life!” I would have to agree, and add; “It is almost a calling!” The stories I’ve heard among the more surly and savvy of my colleagues often revolve around the camaraderie and personal relationships of those who worked together on some strenuous or demanding project. We all are on a path of a great mission that often involves others as mentors, friends and colleagues.

At some point, each of us will consider how we may do an even better job in the role we choose; to remain or contemplate how our knowledge, skills and abilities may be used in a new role. We must remember to take into account those we coach as we enjoy the experiences in this line of work. We help future students to receive additional training and opportunities that enhance their qualifications. We must insure that experienced people are stepping up to leadership roles at every level of work we do.

The wildlife resource challenges we continue to face in the future will not get any easier. This profession often leads to a career as a public servant, and often means working for a government agency entrusted to be a steward of the natural resources that are owned by the very people that, for the most part, don’t trust government. In addition, most of our country’s citizens may not have the same values or demands on these resources we all hold dear. This year’s theme at the Missouri Natural Resources Conference deals with this very issue. “Managing the Public’s Trust Amid Competing Voices” will be a major topic throughout several of the sessions. I trust each of my fellow wildlife professionals will, not only attend and participate, but make serious considerations in how they might serve in critical leadership roles in our profession. Many of you have extremely valuable skills and abilities that could strengthen the competencies of your fellow professional and student “wildlifery” to meet the public’s trust. We need to continue numerous roles in our professional society to assist with those professional developmental demands. The Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society

is well suited for that task to help you, but it also needs you as well. Come by the booth and visit with us about the opportunities that await you. Come and “Be a Part of Something *Wild*er.”

PLEASE VOTE!!!

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Deborah Burns

Personal data: I was born December 31, 1974 and grew up in Granby, Massachusetts. My older sister and I were raised as tomboys spending a lot of time fishing and shooting BB-guns with our father. I moved to Flagstaff, Arizona in the winter of 1998 and then moved to Lone Jack, Missouri in 2002. I have been married to my husband Bob for 2 ½ years, but we’ve been best friends for at least 10 years. We have 1 cat, 2 dogs, and 2 horses. I love horseback riding, reading, deer hunting, and native landscaping.

Education: I received a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA in 1996. I received a Master of Science in Forestry, Wildlife Emphasis, from the Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff in 2001. My graduate study looked at the use of Gambel oak by bats in northern Arizona.

Employment: Since March of 2002, I have been working for the Missouri Department of Conservation as the Urban Wildlife Biologist in Kansas City. From 1999 to 2002, I worked as a research assistant and field crew leader on a handful of research projects for the School of Forestry mostly on cavity nesting birds and did contract work for Arizona Game and Fish on wintering raptors. From 1997 -1998, I worked for the Harvard Forest, Harvard University researching the history of wildlife in Massachusetts (pre-settlement to the present) resulting in a couple journal articles and one book chapter. From 1996-1997, I worked as a temporary research assistant for the Connecticut Wildlife Division working on furbearers

Wildlife Society Activities: I’ve been apart of The Wildlife Society since joining the student chapter at UMASS. I’ve been a member of the New England, Northeast, Arizona, Southwest, North Central, and Missouri Wildlife Societies. I have presented papers at

the Arizona/ New Mexico Wildlife Society Conference and the 2001 Wildlife Society Conference in Reno, NV.

Why I want to serve: To serve as Chapter President would allow me a chance to give back to my profession. Many times we get so caught up in our own little working worlds that we forget that there are so many other professionals out there in the state that we can learn from or that they may actually have something to learn from us. The Society allows us the opportunity to build those educational/mentoring relationships through conferences, trainings and workshops. As President I would like to encourage and increase the involvement our members have in those activities, by making sure they are worth while and will meet their professional development needs. Likewise, I feel as a group of professionals we have a wonderful opportunity to mentor our wildlife students, especially with so many active student chapters. I want to make sure there is a strong connection to all of the student chapters and that we as members are providing these students with enough guidance and opportunities to help them succeed in the wildlife profession.

Mike Schroer

Personal data: I was born sometime in October of 1960, somewhere in Missouri. As the saying goes “I am Missouri born and Missouri bred. When I’m gone I’ll be Missouri dead.” I was a late bloomer and worked for five years and got married before starting college. My wife of 25 years (Holly) and I have lived in four states and 14 different dwellings. I have two sons (Ryan and Hunter, 23 and 13) and one daughter in-law (Erica). My hobbies include hunting, fishing and most recently, “playing manager” on our 160 acre farm.

Education: B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Management, May 1988, University of Missouri-Columbia.

Employment History: Too many jobs to list – everything from a machinist to a painter. Most pertinent; hourly aide - [Columbia] MDC 1985-1990; Environmental Consultant/Scientist/Project Manager – [Orlando, FL] Breedlove, Dennis and Associates 1990-1993; Urban Wildlife Biologist [St Louis] – MDC 1993-1996; Wildlife Regional Supervisor - [St Louis & Columbia] MDC 1996 – present.

My pertinent employment began as a wood duck trapper at Duck Creek in the muggy swamps of SE Missouri. The next spring I pestered Jim Loveless and Ted Horst enough that they gave in and hired me. Moving to Florida was a valuable experience where I conducted surveys for T&E species (watched for Eastern Diamondbacks), flagged wetlands (watched for alligators and cottonmouths), monitored Red-cockaded

wood peckers (watched for wasps and yellow jackets in the saw palmetto duff) and made presentations to people with money (watched for “sharks”). Lots of dangers in Florida, everything wants to sting, bite or eat you!

Coming back to MO and living in St Louis was dangerous as well. At a time when urban goose problems were relatively new in MO, we also took on urban deer - I had one lady threaten to shoot me if we killed deer out of Jefferson Barracks Cemetery. As a Regional Supervisor my biggest dangers are paper cuts and eye strain from looking at my computer.

Affiliations: The Wildlife Society-Missouri Chapter, National; Society of Wetland Scientists.

TREASURER

Robert (Bob) C. Alexander

Personal: Born in Decatur AL, 1961, I grew up and have lived most of my life in the St. Louis metropolitan area. I have been married 18 years and have children ages 12 and 14. Currently, my leisure time is devoted to a variety of family activities and bike riding.

Education: B.S. Wildlife Conservation and Management, Southwest Missouri State University, 1998. Secretary of the Wildlife Conservation Club B.S. Psychology- biology minor, Southwest Missouri State University, 1984.

Employment: Wildlife Specialist- USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, 2000-Present. In this position, I have resolved a variety of wildlife damage issues involving human health & safety, depredation, livestock, property, and endangered species. Presently, my work is devoted to reducing wildlife threats to aviation through the use of cultural recommendations, habitat manipulation, behavior modification, population management, and chemical application. My areas of expertise are urban and nuisance wildlife, with most recent concentration on wildlife mitigation at airports and a landfill. Wildlife Biologist, Missouri Department of Conservation, 1999, served as Field Coordinator for the St. Louis Urban Deer Research Project. Wildlife Technician- Critter Control of St. Louis, 1998, alleviated wildlife damage for the private sector.

I am a member of The Wildlife Society at the national and state level, and have diverse experience as an agency representative to federal, state, and local governments, as well as the general public. In this position I look forward to developing relationships with other wildlife professionals and students to increase interest, membership, and participation in our state chapter.

TREASURER

Thomas G Kulowiec

Education: I'm a transplanted Easterner who gradually moved west. I received my undergrad from Cornell U in Wildlife Biology; went on for a Masters in Wildlife Biology at Michigan State U and from there worked for the Michigan DNR for 1 year before coming to Missouri to work as a temporary computer programmer in the Wildlife Research section.

Experience: I got on full time with MDC when I became the assistant furbearer biologist. After 5 years, I moved back behind a computer by taking the Resources Analyst position, where I managed all the survey data that was generated by the Wildlife Research section. I then jumped ship and joined MDC's Fisheries Division as their database manager. Six years and a new Division later, I took on the position I currently hold - Science and Policy Support Supervisor in the Resource Science Division of MDC where I supervise all the biometrics, database, surveys, and human dimensions support for the Division and the Department.

I have been an active member of both the Michigan and Missouri State Chapters of TWS as well as a member in good standing of the National Society. I have been a board member at large with the Missouri Chapter, was the Runge Award Committee Chair for 3 years, and currently manage the Chapter website and Yahoo Groups news server.

BOARD MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Kimberly Suedkamp Wells (Kim)

Personal: I was born in Springerville, Arizona and moved around the southwest because my dad is a forester with the U.S. Forest Service. I lived in northern California the longest before moving to Taos, northern New Mexico where I graduated from high school. I have been married for five years and my husband Jason and I have three dogs instead of kids.

Education: B.S. Renewable Natural Resources: Wildlife Ecology, University of Arizona, 1998; M.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Ecology, Oklahoma State University, 2000; Ph.D. Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, University of Missouri, 2005

Employment: I have been a Resource Scientist with the Agricultural Systems Field Station in the Resource Science Division of MDC since May of 2005. One of my responsibilities is supervising the statewide evaluation of Upland Wildlife Habitat Buffers Program (also called CP 33), which is a new Farm Bill program targeting quail and grassland birds. I am also involved with research projects through our field station investigating the effects of conservation practices on private lands in agricultural landscapes. One of my favorite parts of my job is the opportunity to work with people in other divisions through Management and Evaluation projects and bird monitoring efforts.

Timothy A. Nigh

Personal: I am a native Missourian. Though most of my life and career has been in Missouri, I have lived, worked and played throughout the US, Alaska, and Australia. My activities and professional pursuits have centered on the outdoors and resource conservation.

Education: Though I studied at University of Montana and University of Western Australia, I have a BS Forestry, BA Biology and MS Forest Ecology from UMC.

Employment: I was an instructor for an Outward Bound modeled program for juvenile delinquents for 6 years; planted trees in SE United States; worked for USFS in Alaska; did plant ecological research in Australia; and have worked for MDC for over 20 years. My MDC career has included stints as a Natural History Inventory Biologist, Natural Areas Biologist, Heritage Community Ecologist, Planning Specialist and Resource Scientist. I coordinated the Missouri Ecological Classification System Project and co-authored the Atlas of Missouri Ecoregions. I am currently involved in the development and implementation of Missouri's Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy. I spend a lot of free time floating and fishing, especially on the Missouri river and in the Ozarks. I love working with students and am interested in getting involved in the state chapter of The Wildlife Society.

STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

Please visit their websites to learn more about the exciting projects, seminars, workshops, and outreach each chapter is currently working on!

University of Missouri - Columbia
By Lucas Miller, Student Chapter President

Members have been enjoying the many benefits of being part of the club, but it is their participation that allows them to meet new people and gain valuable experiences excelling them towards a successful future. Our organizational funds enabled us to send 11 undergraduates to the National TWS conference in Madison. This was a new and beneficial experience for many. We are preparing to send 15 more to Michigan for the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, during which, we will be presented the North Central Section of TWS' Student Chapter of the Year Award. All student members are excited! This might be something new for MU and great for our club to be recognized for all the efforts that the members have fulfilled.

Many new and exciting Wildlife Society activities have been proposed this fall. Members completed the first phase of a new prescribed burning management initiative for the Thomas Baskett Wildlife Research Area. Not only will students gain experience, they'll learn the value that fire has upon wildlife habitat. A possible bat research and monitoring project has also been proposed. Our Student Chapter, in partnership with the Graduate Student Organization, will again host a Wild-Game Banquet next spring. Not only will there be great entrees, but a lively auction to assist in supporting both of these great F & W organizations. I encourage anyone to attend this event because the money raised will assist in ensuring MU student participation at our next National TWS Conference in Alaska. Additionally, we have adopted Turkey Creek Conservation Trail as a service project for the community. Ongoing annual activities include: Student Resume Workshop, deer drive and winter bird counts, all of which are successful events.

Other events this fall include: our renowned Annual Dunmire Lecture was held in October at the University. We invited Dr. Guy Baldassarre from SUNY-Syracuse to share his research on Yucatan flamingos. One of our older service projects has been the Mammals Program, where volunteers present wild mammals of Missouri to elementary schools of the area. Members remain busy with this outreach. Participation from our members has been grand. We had almost 20 members attend the 2005 Missouri Natural Resources Conference this past February! We will again hope to visit with you at the upcoming MNRC conference, and to have even more students attending this annual conference. We have recently completed planting many hardwood tree saplings at the James A. Reed Conservation Area, as well as operating a football concession stand at all of our college home games. We are always looking for volunteer or fundraising opportunities, and building our resumes, so feel free to contact us for any opportunities .

Our official website has been updated and is located at:
<http://www.missouri.edu/~wildlife/>

You can also reach us by regular mail at:
MU Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society
302 Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Bldg.
Columbia, MO 65211

Central Missouri State University
By Shelley Miller, Student Chapter Reporter

It has been an exciting semester for the Central Missouri State University chapter of the Wildlife Society and we are looking forward to an even more entertaining and work-filled spring semester. Three speakers have presented to our society on such diverse topics as job opportunities with the Missouri Department of Conservation (Monte McQuillen, MDC), the bats of Missouri and what needs to be done to help them (Deb Burns, MDC), and deer aging through the study of the teeth of the lower jaw presented by Missouri Department of Conservation, as well. This last workshop went over techniques we then used in our continued efforts to help the Missouri Department of Conservation by working the deer check-in station at Alewels in Warrensburg, MO for the opening weekend. Over 350 deer went through this station, with measurements being recorded in almost all cases. Our chapter also volunteered to work the opening weekend of dove season to collect the wings of the doves brought in for scientific study at Reed Conservation Area. Pertle Springs Park is owned by Central Missouri State University and used for a variety of purposes. One of the most important is the habitat it provides many organisms with varied cover such as forest, grasses, and aquatic systems. Unfortunately, its use for recreational purposes and proximity to housing and business developments cause a lot of litter to be accumulated within its boundaries. A successful trash pickup was organized and completed earlier this semester.

The president of our chapter, J.T. Layne, has instituted an effort to bring recycling to the campus of Central Missouri State University and managed to acquire the cooperation of several other campus organizations such as Environmental Awareness Club, Pre Veterinary Club, and the Geology Club. Bins for paper recycling have been set up within the W. C. Morris building and an understanding reached with a nearby sheltered workshop for their disposal. We hope to be able to recycle other goods and spread throughout the campus and eventually the town, through working with university and Warrensburg city officials. We were fortunate enough to be able to send a member of our chapter, as well as our

faculty sponsor Victoria Jackson, to the National Wildlife Society Conference Meeting in Wisconsin. Important information was brought back regarding job opportunities and research ideas. We are looking to increase our membership for the next semester with several different plans. We were able to get an online group started on Face book (facebook.com) in an effort to increase awareness of our chapter and the activities we pursue. Also, it allows us to easily send messages to all members signed up. We have requested the use of a display case the Union on campus and will be posting interesting information regarding our chapter within it for the next semester. Our chapter has planned to spend the first two weeks of the coming semester visiting various classes to inform them of our activities and invite them to join. Buttons will be made and passed out around campus to advertise the Central Missouri State University Wildlife Society chapter, too. Other plans for next semester include awards for faculty and students for the efforts and more activity out at Pertle Springs Park in the form of research projects.

http://www.cmsu.edu/biology/stu_org/wl_index.htm

TWS Policy Priorities for 2005

These are several top ranking issues that The Wildlife Society has been concentrating on this past year. Two of particular interest here in Missouri is the 2007 Farm Bill and the Teaming With Wildlife funding.

2007 Farm Bill

Farm Bill conservation programs have contributed significantly to conservation on private lands by enhancing fish and wildlife habitat, reducing soil erosion, and improving water quality. Agricultural policy that governs these programs has a huge impact on wildlife conservation and management. The Wildlife Society has advocated funding these programs at their authorized levels, and has worked to ensure proper implementation and administration of the programs. The Wildlife Society is managing preparation and publication of a technical review of current literature that will describe our current understanding of the fish and wildlife benefits derived from Farm Bill conservation programs and practices, one important piece of the CEAP effort. TWS believes that ensuring strong implementation of current agricultural policy, and enhancing the benefits of future policy is key to our nation's wildlife conservation efforts. The public is encouraged to provide comments on six specific questions based on those policy considerations. Comments will be accepted at public forums and may also be submitted via the Internet at the USDA home page (<http://www.usda.gov>) by selecting "Farm Bill

Forums," by email to FarmBill@usda.gov, or by mail to Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns, Farm Bill, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3355. Comments must be submitted by December 30, 2005.

Teaming with Wildlife / State wildlife funding

The Wildlife Society sits on the Steering Committee of Teaming With Wildlife (TWW), a coalition of diverse groups with a common objective: to secure an adequate, long-term funding source for state agencies to accomplish fish and wildlife conservation, wildlife-related recreation, and conservation education. Teaming With Wildlife believes that the funding solution should: 1) bring equity to fish and wildlife conservation so that all who enjoy fish and wildlife financially support it; 2) provide a preventative approach to fish and wildlife conservation that aims to preclude fish and wildlife species from becoming threatened or endangered; and 3) provide for a long-term, reliable funding source statutorily dedicated to fish and wildlife conservation, wildlife-related recreation, and conservation education. The primary funding mechanism supported by TWW currently is the State Wildlife Grants, which has provided between \$50 and \$85 million per year through annual appropriations for state-based fish and wildlife diversity programs. However, reliable funding is necessary to restore and manage declining species and to implement multi-year conservation projects. The Wildlife Society continues to advocate legislation that would provide dedicated, reliable, long-term funding for comprehensive fish and wildlife conservation. More information is available at www.teaming.com.

The 2006 Missouri Natural Resources Conference by Brian D. Canaday, 2006 MNRC-Publicity Chair

The 2006 Missouri Natural Resources Conference will be held February 1-3, 2006 at Tan Tar A Golf Club and Resort. Early conference registration is up and going. Information on the conference is available at www.mnrc.org. The conference theme is: Managing the Public's Trust Amid Competing Voices. We encourage you to register on-line using a credit card by going to <http://www.acteva.com/go/mnrc>. Early registration is available from November 28 through January 9, 2006. After January 9th, a late registration fee will be added. The Conference will be taking credit cards on-site at the registration desk this year. If you wish to register with a check or money order, attached is a registration form for you to complete and return to Donna Richards, MDC Distribution Center, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

The Missouri Natural Resources Conference (MNRC) is an annual meeting is organized and sponsored by the Missouri Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, The Missouri Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society and the Show-Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. This unique blend of disciplines, represented by the four societies, promotes wise use and management of Missouri's natural resources. Each year the conference hosts approximately 1,000 established and aspiring natural resource professionals who meet to exchange information and ideas and encourage continued cooperation among resource professionals, agencies, and other natural resource stakeholders. Cooperating agencies are the Missouri Department of Conservation; University of Missouri, School of Natural Resources; Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit; U.S. Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society

ACTION ITEMS!!

****** Nominations needed for the E. Sydney Stephens Award**

Nominations are now being received for the [E. Sydney Stephens](#) award. Please e-mail or send your nominations to Vicki Jackson (vjackson@cmsu1.cmsu.edu) IMMEDIATELY!!!

****** Nominations needed for the G. Andy Runge Award**

Nominations are now being received for the [G. Andy Runge](#) award. Please e-mail or send your nominations to Robert Byrd (robert.w.byrd@aphis.usda.gov) IMMEDIATELY!!!

***** December Newsletter and On-Line Voting for Executive Board are on their way!**

Watch for an e-mail notifying you that the Winter Newsletter is available and that voting for the 2006 Executive Board is open. Note that if you have not paid your 2005 dues, you WILL NOT be able to participate in the voting. If you would like to make your membership current, you can contact treasurer Margie Mitchell (margie.mitchell@mdc.mo.gov)

***** Personals:**

Want to meet other obnoxious natural resource professionals? You know the type - scruffy, analytical, critical folks that wear bits of Mossy Oak camouflage, savor smoked meat, carbonated beverages and love great raffles! Well, we have just the experience for you. Help us out during the MNRC at The Wildlife Society booth! We really need your help again this year, so come on, help us unroll those tickets and raise those needed funds! We can't allow the "Fish heads" and those crusty foresters to outdo us! So please contact Tim Russell and get your name on the list to help work a shift and meet some other very obnoxious, but very interesting resource professionals! (Tim.Russell@mdc.mo.gov)

***** Items Needed for MNRC Raffle**

Look under your beds, in your attics, and deep in your closets for anything that might make a good raffle item at the MoTWS booth at the MNRC this year. If you have something, please contact Dean Stucker for all the details. (dean.stucker@mdc.mo.gov).

Websites to Know

Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society

<http://www.motws.org>

The Wildlife Society

<http://www.wildlife.org/index.html>

Missouri Department of Conservation

<http://www.mdc.state.mo.us>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov/>

International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

<http://www.iafwa.org/>

Conservation Federation of Missouri

<http://www.confedmo.org>

MO DNR

www.dnr.state.mo.us

USDA/NRCS

www.nrcs.usda.gov

USDA/APHIS

www.aphis.usda.gov

Texas A&M job board

www.wfsc.tamu.edu/jobs/job_view.cfm

Conservation Federation of Missouri

<http://www.confedmo.com/>

U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance

<http://www.wlfa.org/>

Organization of Wildlife Planners

<http://www.owpweb.org/>

Wildlife Management Institute

<http://www.wildlifemanagementinstitute.org>

MoTWS Student Chapter websites:

Central Missouri State University

http://www.cmsu.edu/biology/stu_org/wl_index.htm

Missouri Western

<http://www.mwsc.edu/orgs/twschap>

University of Missouri

<http://www.missouri.edu/~wildlife>

Conferences of Interest

March 22-26, 2006 71st North American Wildlife & Natural Resources Conference in Hyatt Regency
Columbus, Columbus, Ohio

Missouri Chapter of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM
Mail to: Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society
P.O. Box 743
Columbia, MO 65205-0743

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

(If you have one, please include e-mail address for future electronic newsletter and messages)

Phone _____

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR \$10.00 CHECK PAYABLE TO:
MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**



VOTE BY ATTACHING TO AN E-MAIL OR USE THIS MAIL-IN HARDCOPY 2006 BALLOT

OFFICIAL BALLOT

**2005 Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society
Official Ballot**

Please Vote for one person in each office:

President-Elect

Deborah Burns
Mike Schroer

Treasurer

Bob Alexander
Thomas G Kulowiec

Member-at-Large

Kim Wells
Tim Nigh

Return Ballots to: email ballots by Feb.1 to the TWS secretary (Chris Newbold)
(Chris.Newbold@mdc.mo.gov) or mail ballots to Mo Chapter Secretary, c/o Chris Newbold, PO Box
743, Columbia, MO 65205-0743 to arrive at the PO Box by January 27, 2006

Or

vote on-line at www.motws.org

Or

or vote at the Missouri Natural Resources Conference MO Chapter Booth



Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Application Information

The Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society cordially invites you to join us! If you haven't already done so, take a look at [what we are all about](#).

You do **not** have to be a member of our parent society, [The Wildlife Society](#) to join our State Chapter. However, if you would like more information about our parent society, just click [here](#).

Annual Dues are just \$10.00. As a member you will receive:

- A semi-annual newsletter.
- The opportunity to interact with other wildlife professionals in Missouri.
- The opportunity to serve on several committees and working groups which actively influence wildlife conservation and management in Missouri.
- The opportunity to attend occasional continuing education workshops and symposia.

To Join:

Down-load a [membership form](#) (in PDF format)

OR

Send us your:

name

mailing address

phone number (optional)

Fax number (optional)

e-mail address (optional)

along with your \$10.00 dues (make Checks payable to Missouri Chapter TWS) to:

Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society
P.O. Box 743
Columbia, MO 65205 - 0743

If you just would like more information, you can e-mail us at motws@motws.org.

We Hope To Be Hearing From You!!

