

President's Message

Hello to everyone from the green, rolling hills of Pierre. Not for sure how long until they turn brown, but habitat conditions currently look excellent all across the state. I would like to take this time and thank the membership for allowing me to serve as your president and continue to work with the board members on wildlife-related issues.

Thanks to you our 2010 SDTWS Annual Meeting was a huge success and I again want to thank everyone for their help with the meeting and your donations for the auction. As we begin to make plans for 2011, the other board members and I would like hear any comments or suggestions you might have to improve our annual meetings in the future.

To ensure SDTWS functions at the highest level to achieve its mission, it is crucial to have members volunteer their expertise and time with our standing and special committees and to run for upcoming positions on the board. Therefore, I would ask each of you to consider how you could contribute to the chapter and please consider serving on a committee, running for a position on the board, or volunteer your assistance at future annual meetings.

The Central Mountains and Plains Section will host the 55th annual summer meeting on August 17-19 at the Cedar Shores Resort in Oacoma, South Dakota. SDTWS will assist with the meeting and if anyone is willing to help, please contact a board member. To learn more about the meeting and for reservation information, please visit <http://joomla.wildlife.org/CMP>.

The Wildlife Society's 17th Annual Conference will be held in Snowbird, Utah, on October 2-6, 2010. More information about the annual conference can be found at <http://www.wildlifesociety.org/>.

To take advantage of some free internet marketing and to provide another outreach tool to our membership and the public, SDTWS has joined Facebook and can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=375605397459>. Thanks to Nora Kohlenberg for taking the time to develop our page. Please become a fan and share our page with your friends!

I hope everyone takes time out of their busy schedules to enjoy summer with family and friends. One final thing, try and make the point this summer to introduce a kid to fishing, star gazing, and teach them how to skip a rock!

Chad Switzer

MEMBERSHIP

Know anyone who is a wildlife professional, who is in a field related to wildlife conservation, or anyone with an interest in South Dakota wildlife? Have you noticed co-workers or someone you know that has been missing at annual meetings?

Starting in 2010, we will list annual memberships on the SDTWS website (contact information will remain confidential). If you see someone who is not on the list, take some time to share with those individuals what the SDTWS has to offer.



Membership is \$10/year for a regular membership and \$6/year for students. You can renew a membership by using the membership form included at the end of this newsletter.

Please make your payment to SDTWS. Please give Nora Kohlenberg a call at 605-773-6228 or an email at Nora.Kohlenberg@state.sd.us if you have any questions.

New Life Members include: Eileen Dowd Stukel (2010), Mary Clawson (2011), Thomas LaFaive (2011) and William Walker (2011). The full list of members is available on the website.



SDTWS can now be found on Facebook!

SDTWS is now on Facebook! Facebook is a social networking website and it is free! If you are currently not signed up for Facebook, you can use the following link and it will direct you to a page to sign up. If you are already a member, the link below will take you the SDTWS Facebook page, where you can join the group!

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/group.php?gid=375605397459>

Facebook is a great way to share information. Facebook can be used to post events, such as the upcoming Outdoor Expo, and to stimulate discussions on environmental issues or other topics of interest. The SDTWS Facebook page is also another way that we can reach out to recruit more individuals in the wildlife conservation field in South Dakota. We are very excited about this new tool and we hope as members that you will benefit from it too!

If you have any questions about the page or have some suggestions or ideas to post, please contact Nora Kohlenberg, nora.kohlenberg@state.sd.us.

Minutes of the May 3, 2010 Executive Board Special Conference Call of the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society (SDTWS)

Chad Switzer called the meeting to order at 9:32 am CST via conference call. Board members participating were Chad Switzer, Rocco Murano, Dennie Mann, John Kanta, Silka Kempema, and Nora Kohlenberg.

Switzer presented info regarding a funding request from the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (SDGFP). The request was for a \$400 Division of Wildlife Conference sponsorship.

Kohlenberg presented the break down of membership, which included a list of the number of people representing each agency and type of agency (NGO, federal, state, etc.). Board discussed the representation of all the SDTWS members. At the current time, the Executive Board is comprised of six SDGFP representatives, which the Board agreed that the Board needs to be cognizant and sensitive to biases regarding how the Board is representing SDTWS membership.

Kohlenberg also presented the minutes from an Executive Board Meeting that took place on March 5, 2006, where there was discussion about a funding request for a sponsorship for a MAFWA meeting. At that time the Executive Board denied that funding request because it was a state agency supported endeavor.

Kempema mentioned the funding process posted on the SDTWS website and what kinds of projects that the website says that SDTWS funds.

Switzer suggested that this could be justified as a marketing endeavor to recruit more memberships. The Board will request to display the SDTWS banner at the conference and make a short presentation about SDTWS membership.

Kanta motioned to approve the funding request at \$200 contingent on hanging a banner, membership presentation and sponsorship recognition at the Division of Wildlife Conference. The motion carried (6-0).

Kohlenberg will bring membership info and applications to the conference.

Board also discussed the result of the approval of this funding request setting a precedent in future decisions. Mann suggested that the Board set a maximum limit of \$200 for funding breaks for other conservation orientated conferences.


Next Board Meeting

The next board will be at 11:00 am MT on May 11, 2010, at the SDGFP Rapid City, Region 1 Office.

Adjourn

Switzer motioned to adjourn, seconded by Kohlenberg at 9:52 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Nora Kohlenberg
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

Minutes of the February 28 and March 3, 2010 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society (SDTWS)

February 28

Dennie Mann called the meeting to order at 9:00 pm CST at the Cedar Shores Resort in Oacoma. Board members in attendance were Dennie Mann, John Kanta, KC Jensen, Chad Switzer, Bill Smith, and Nora Kohlenberg.

Kohlenberg presented the minutes of the January 12, 2010 board meeting. Jensen made a motion to accept the minutes, Smith seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Kohlenberg presented the Quarterly Treasurer's report. Switzer made a motion to accept the report, Jensen seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Old Business

SDTWS Logo Shirts

Jensen reported that he had submitted a request to a business in the Brookings area for pricing and information on having SDTWS logo shirts embroidered.

New Business

Requests for Funding

Outdoor Campus West: Board discussed the idea of sending a donation to the Outdoor Campus West project. Great project, but board decided not to donate at this time. Idea was tabled on a 6-0 vote.

2010 Grasslands Coalition Bird Tour: The Grasslands Bird Tour has been a very successful event. Jensen made a motion that SDTWS provide \$500 support for the 2010 Grasslands Bird Tour. The motion was seconded by Smith. Motion passed (6-0).

MAFWA Furbearer Meeting Sponsorship: The meeting is being hosted by South Dakota and has approximately 50 people representing the Midwest states. Jensen made a motion to provide a \$200 sponsorship for a break. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed (4-0, 2 abstained).

Maga Ta-Hohpi Membership: SDTWS received a letter from Friends of Maga Ta-Hohpi inviting SDTWS to become a member. The Board decided that we don't want to start making

memberships and will apply this same rationale to the Alaska Coalition Membership request that was discussed at the January 12, 2010, Executive Board Meeting.

Outside Fund Raising at Annual Meeting

Board discussed outside fund raising occurring during the Annual Meeting. Board recognized that there is a degree of competition with fund raising between outside groups and SDTWS. The Board decided that there will not be any outside fund raising during the Annual Meeting and that any groups wishing to do so need to submit a formal funding request as per the process that is in place.

Book signing by Ken Higgins

Ken Higgins submitted a request to set up a table to sell books and signing. Ken offered to donate 20% of the proceeds to SDTWS. Ken would also donate some books for the auction.

2010 Meeting

Board discussed last minute details regarding setup for the meeting.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will follow the conclusion of the Annual Meeting on March 3, 2010, at Cedar Shore Resort.

Adjourn

Jensen motioned to adjourn, seconded by Kanta at 10:37 pm.

March 3

Chad Switzer called the meeting to order at 12:11 pm CST at the Cedar Shores Resort in Oacoma. Board members in attendance were Dennie Mann, John Kanta, Chad Switzer, Nora Kohlenberg, Bill Smith, KC Jensen, Rocco Murano, and Silka Kempema.

Board reviewed the invoice for the meeting costs. Everything looked correct.

Board tentatively penciled in February 28 through March 2, 2011, for the 2011 Annual Meeting. Need to let Kathi Anderson know ASAP if these dates still work.

Annual Meeting Comments and Concerns

Board members received comments and concerns by members regarding the annual meeting, these included:

- Good comments on the poster that was displayed and interest was expressed in resurrecting a poster presentation in the future.
- Concern that PhD presentations should be included in the open presentation scoring. The Board agreed that this would make more sense. Board will implement the change at the 2011 meeting.
- Concern about the Wildlife Professional of the Year Award going to someone outside of the membership. While the Board understands the concern, the SDTWS Bylaws do not restrict this award to membership. Board continues to encourage anyone who

knows someone who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of wildlife conservation, to nominate those folks.

Wilderness Designation

Membership voted to approve the Draft Wilderness Designation Resolution at the Annual Business Meeting on March 2, 2010, Switzer will write letters to send out to the South Dakota Congressional Representatives, Governor, CMPS, and National TWS.

Special Award for 2011 Meeting

Board would like to present a Special Award to the auctioneers who have provided their services for no cost for the last several years.

SDTWS Banner

The SDTWS Banner is missing. Board members are sure that someone asked to borrow it, but it was either not returned or misplaced. Board discussed buying or making a new one for the podium.

Next Executive Board Meeting

The next Executive Board Meeting will be held during the SDGFP Division of Wildlife Conference, which is to be held the second week in May at the Custer State Park Game Lodge. A more specific date and time will be determined at a later time when the agenda for the conference has been released.

Adjourn

Mann mad a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Kempema at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nora Kohlenberg
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

**Minutes of the January 12, 2010 Executive Board Meeting of the
South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society (SDTWS)**

Dennie Mann called the meeting to order at 10:17 am CST at the Cedar Shores Resort in Oacoma. Board members in attendance were Dennie Mann, John Kanta, KC Jensen, Chad Switzer, and Nora Kohlenberg. Bill Smith joined via conference call.

Kohlenberg presented the minutes of the November 19, 2009 board meeting. Switzer made a motion to accept the minutes, Kanta seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Kohlenberg presented the Quarterly Treasurer's report. Jensen made a motion to accept the report, Smith seconded. Motion passed (6-0).

Old Business

Ferret Petition

SDTWS submitted comments in regards to the ferret petition. CMPS also submitted their comments as well. A second comment letter was submitted by SDTWS in regards to the use of Rozol. CMPS also followed up with a similar letter regarding Rozol.

New Business

Requests for Funding

Alaska Coalition: Received a letter asking for some support on issues occurring in Alaska. A yearly membership would start at \$35. Board decided to take no action at this time and to bring this to the membership for input.

Outdoor Expo: The 2010 Outdoor Expo is scheduled for June 12th and 13th. The Board discussed possibly having a booth at the Expo with help either by membership or SDSU students. Booth would need to have hands-on educational material. SDTWS provided financial support in 2009 at \$500. Jensen made a motion that SDTWS support the Outdoor Expo again in 2010. The motion was seconded by Kohlenberg.

2010 Meeting

Business Meeting – Board would like Jon Jenks to give a presentation on the CMPS meeting, which will be held August 17-19, 2010, at Cedar Shore Resort, Oacoma, SD. Board would be willing to help with registration, moderating, etc.

Gun Raffle – Carl Madsen has a deal on a gun lined up. Board granted Carl permission to go ahead and purchase the Winchester 12 gauge shotgun for \$500.

Awards – Board voted on award nominations received for the 2010 Awards, which include the 2010 Citizens of the Year Award, 2010 Wildlife Professional of the Year Award, and two Master Students Awards. There was one nomination received for the Citizens Award, 2 nominations received for the Wildlife Professional Award, and 2 nominations for MS Award. Switzer made a motion to have two MS Awards and was seconded by Kanta.

The 2010 Award Recipients are as follows:

Citizens of the Year – Friends of Maga Ta-Hohpi
Wildlife Professional of the Year – Robert Rennolet
MS Students – Heather McWilliams and Nathan Baker

Student Professional Mixer – Kanta reported that there are many volunteers to sit at booths. He has commitments from US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, LaCreek Refuge (USFWS), Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, Pheasants Forever, Game, Fish and Parks. He is still working on National Wild Turkey Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and Ducks Unlimited.

Susan Rupp has been working with Kanta on putting the mixer together. Different ideas were mentioned on how to get students to interact with the professionals and to ask questions. Students participating in the mixer will have an opportunity to put their name in a bin for meeting with a professional. Prize yet to be determined.

Draft Agenda – Switzer presented the draft agenda. Board briefly discussed theme presentations, banquet speaker, professional papers and student presentations.

SDTWS Shirts

Board discussed looking into having shirts made using the new SDTWS logo. Shirt types were discussed. Jensen will look into pricing and shirt types.

Next Board Meeting

The next board will be at 6:30 pm CST on February 28, 2010, at Cedar Shore Resort.

Adjourn

Switzer motioned to adjourn, seconded by Jensen at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Nora Kohlenberg
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting – February 22, 2009 Cedar Shore Hotel and Convention Center, Oacoma, SD

Chapter President KC Jensen called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m. at the Cedar Shore Convention Center in Oacoma, SD. President Jensen recognized a quorum was present and recognized Ron Schauer as the meeting parliamentarian. Secretary Art Smith presented the minutes of the 2008 annual meeting. Three typos were noted and corrected. Dan Hubbard motioned to accept the report, Bridgette Flanders-Wanner seconded. No discussion, motion passed. Smith presented the Chapter's 2008 annual financial report. Corey Huxoll motioned to accept the report, Dan Hubbard seconded. No discussion, motion passed.

Section Update – Gary White

White summarized current work the Section including a strategic plan with Bob Lanka's leadership. By-laws are again being re-written. White then went on to cover parent TWS activities with a slide show. Launching of The Wildlife Professional, new Canadian Section, were some of many accomplishments. The Strategic Plan process was another major area of

activity. Web support for sub-units has been enhanced and parent TWS support is getting better. A partnership with Johns Hopkins University Press has been established to do cooperative book publishing easier than what's been done in the past. The place for hunting emphasis in TWS and the recent controversy between TWS and the SE Section was briefly covered. A new MOU with USFWS and TWS has been signed that hopefully should let cooperative ventures continue between the 2 entities. TWS assisted USGS with the development of a climate change center; TWS also partnered with USGS and USFWS to develop a phenology program. A certification program for wildlife technicians is also new.

Future efforts include making The Wildlife Professional more appealing to state biologists, unified memberships so that all TWS members receive services from the parent society, maintaining WSB content in the new JWM, making the annual meeting more accessible to membership, and improving outreach to student chapters.

Old Business

Committee Reports

Nominations and Elections – Dennie Mann

Mann presented the list of candidates for President-elect and Board Member. Candidates were:

President-elect: Chad Switzer (uncontested)

Board Member: John Wrede, John Kanta

Secretary/Treasurer: Corey Huxoll, Nora Kohlenberg

Each candidate gave brief comments on their background and goals for office. Mann called for nominations from the floor. The election was conducted. Jensen moved to accept the candidates & destroy the ballots, second by Doug Alvine. Election results were presented at the completion of Old Business.

President-elect: Chad Switzer

Board Member: John Kanta

Secretary/Treasurer: Nora Kohlenberg

Jensen thanked all for running for candidacy.

MO River Issues – Cliff Stone

Not a lot of activity since last year's meeting. Currently MO river states and tribes continue to monitor and lobby for a better river management program. Tribes were becoming disassociated with the group but appear to be participating again. Quite a few groups are associated with different management issues on the Missouri River. Title VI is generally complete at this point, USACOE lands have been transferred to SD GFP with signing and grazing leases on those lands as the main work for now.

Audit – Jensen (for Forman)

Examination of the checkbook did not find any discrepancies.

Awards – Kohlenberg

Five total nominations for citizens (2) and professional (3), will be presented tonight. Student and open presentation awards were again procured as was one for president. MS and PhD awards will also be presented tonight. Email and newsletter notification of awards was again used and hoped to continue its use in the future. Solicitation for awards was started earlier this year because of the earlier date for the annual meeting. The process went smoothly and will be used again next year.

Conservation Review – Paul Coughlin

No report.

Education and Information –

No report.

Membership – Switzer

Read list of new 27 members. 2 life members gained, 1 will be officially recognized tonight.

Program – Jensen (For Mann)

Thanked all speakers and attendees for coming to the meeting.

Resolutions – Dan Hubbard

No resolutions received.

Arrangements – Jensen (for Forman)

6th year at Cedar Shore, makes arrangements easy. This is nice in that it takes little time to do what's needed, but stagnation may be a concern. Will address this in New Business.

Book Service – Bob Klaver

No report.

Certification – Susan Rupp

Parent TWS office have AWB and CWB approved for trademark so anyone using these can use certified registration mark. Rupp summarized wildlife technician certification program. TWS has entered into an agreement with NRCS to recognize CWBs when working with private citizens. Have had 2 students apply for AWB this past year. Rupp does have certification packets and will give them to anyone who asks, and is also willing to travel to present certification materials if requested. On-line accessible forms for certifications are available at TWS website.

Chapter History – Corey Huxoll

Went through several archived and donated boxes of past accumulated records. The documents were scanned which makes them much more accessible and has them on disk. One request for historical information was asked for this past year by someone from the parent organization, which was then provided.

Wind Power –Silka Kempema

Current wind energy projects in the state were summarized. SD Wind Energy Association was just developed to support the development of wind energy as a sustainable economic and environmentally friendly resource for the state. Lack of transmission lines is still an issue in the state, but a new proposal has been submitted by a commercial company. Summarized recent work by the SD Tower Working Group, under the SD PUC office, which developed siting recommendations for towers. Wind Turbine Guidelines Advisory Committee and American Wind Wildlife Institute groups' work was presented.

Question about vertical wind towers was asked and the potential for them to replace tri-bladed towers, no further info was known.

Question on the future of how many wind farms could be in the state; currently there are 4. There is a lot of interest with the limit being transmission. New lines would certainly reduce that limit.

Bio-fuels – Rupp

Not a lot of activity with this committee in the last year. Trying to get a hold of Tim McCoy, who is heading up parent TWS and AFWA biofuels groups. These groups are readying materials for North American tech reviews. Rupp would like to get more people actively involved in this group as the future will have a lot of needs.

Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife – Andy Lindbloom

Nothing to report.

Fund Raising – Flanders-Wanner.

1st year as Chair, Flanders-Wanner thanked former chair's Tom Kirschenmann and Tony Leif, folks for bringing items for auction, Truax, Crop Production Services, Carl Madsen, DU, PF, NWTF, and the rest of her committee. Total proceeds \$2,330 in auction with \$500 going to Tony's Acres, Guessing Games brought in \$191. The rifle raffle that is still on-going.

Grasslands – Bill Smith (for Boyd Schultz)

Last year lost 23,000 acres of CRP; this year 236,000 acres are expected to be lost. Larger tracts of land enrolling in CRP will be limited. The 2008 Farm Bill did have a watered down SodSaver, but at least that was still in it. Interest in easements continues to be high, but payments will be problematic.

Newsletter – Charlie Bessken

Comments or topics were requested for both the newsletter and website. Request to let Board or her to know of email changes.

Public Lands – Mann

Three projects to comment on this past year, which is slightly down from usual. Ft. Pierre Grasslands roads/access comment was provided with appropriate signing, allow access, but restrict damage. Fall River District management allotment plans were commented on. South Unit of Badlands National Park will be an issue that will be coming up.

Tribal Fish & Wildlife – Diane Mann-Klager

No report.

Wetlands – Pete Bergman

Written report in newsletter. Wetlands Loan Act died in committee last year, probably will not come back. Clean Water amendment was heard in committee but no action. 2010 will be next status and trends report for USFWS. Mapping for that project has already begun.

Wildlife Disease – Kanta (for Steve Griffin)

There were 2,147 CWD samples taken last state fiscal year (elk & deer). All results are in; 10 elk, 8 WTD, and 12 mule deer found positive. 107 cases of CWD now found in free ranging animals in SD. Plague started in Lower Sage Creek this past year. Estimated size of area initially infected was 3,000 acres. Dusting of colonies and ferret vaccines were used. There were 239 ferrets captured and most given the vaccine. EHD was more prevalent this past year than past recent years. Scattered reports across state, not known if EHD was always responsible for their deaths. An estimated 1,650 deer in western SD were thought to have died due to EHD. HPAI testing continued, with 821 samples collected by SD GFP. H5 N1 still not found in state.

Wildlife Diversity – Eileen Dowd-Stukel

Six issues – p-dog 90 day finding, USFWS issued a positive finding and is undergoing a 12 month review of current information and will have that out in December 2009. Grey wolf delisting changes almost daily. New DC administration put any listing processes on hold so surrounding wolf populations have been again placed under federal protection. Greater sage grouse prior ruling was no listing was correct, but challenge took several sage grouse to be protected and this is one of them. A 3rd Great Lakes Birding Trail guide is now available. Chapter support has been provided for this and previous guides. Bald Eagle Awareness program will be later this month mostly in and around Pierre. Last year 750 people (estimated) in Sioux Falls and Pierre programs were reached.

Teaming With Wildlife act (supported by Sen. Johnson) could send \$3.4 million needing a 25% non-federal match to SD. This act would fall under Pittman-Robertson as a sub-account. TWW currently numbers 177 coalition members (groups).

Other Reports

SDSU Student Chapter Report – Mike Sellers

Thanked Chapter for travel support to Miami; 3 students attended and hoped for some to go to Monterey. Other activities included administering FAA exams, hosted 60th annual Buffalo Banquet, will have 61st this year, monitoring wild turkeys released by SD GFP, and an urban raccoon telemetry study.

Kurt Forman then opened the floor up for other discussions.

Northern Great Plains Working Group – Switzer

Group provided comments on Farm Bill, Senate budget hearing on Farm Bill, signed-off on numerous letters sent off on SodSaver provisions and on Farm Bill in general.

Brief comments about the Tony Dean Memorial Acres was given.

New Business

Approval of New Members

Larry Martin motioned to accept the previously read new members, Carl Madsen seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting Sites/Dates for the 2010 Annual Meeting

General discussion of reasons for holding meeting in the central part of the state. No reasons were stated to move out of the area so 2010 conference will remain in the central area of the state, probably Oacoma. Date change from SDSU spring break was done this year but no great increase in students was noted. This date directly conflicts with Fisheries group but there are limited conflicts between these groups. Thought was perhaps not enough information is known to find out which dates would get the most students. College professors had some issues with finding replacement instructors. Point was made conflict with AFS should be avoided. Board will discuss the dates and look for no overlap but meeting will be held in the same general time frame – late February to early March.

Additional New Business

Jensen asked for any additional topics, none were requested.

Transfer of Gavel

Jensen transferred the "gavel" to president-elect Mann. Mann presented Jensen with a plaque and past-president's pin and thanked him for his service to the chapter over the past year.

Flanders-Wanner moved to adjourn, second by Rupp. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 am.

Respectfully Submitted, Art Smith, Secretary/Treasurer

2010 SDTWS Award Winners

(No photo available)

Professional Award
Robert Rennolet



Best Open Presentation Award
Silka Kempema



Outstanding Graduate Student–MS
Nathan Baker



Citizens Award
Friends of Maga Ta-Hohpi



Best Student Presentation Award
Erica Mize



Outstanding Graduate Student-MS
Heather McWilliams

Committee Reports

If a committee isn't listed here, it means no information was available for this issue of the newsletter.

Membership Report

The numbers provided in the following report represent the period of January 1, 2010 through June 2, 2010.

There are 185 memberships to date for the 2010 calendar year, which includes 128 Annual memberships, 27 Student memberships, and 30 Life memberships. The Annual memberships include 94 renewals from 2009 and 34 new memberships. The Student memberships include 9 renewals and 18 new students. There have been 4 new Life memberships purchased in 2010: Eileen Dowd Stukel #26, Mary Clawson #27, Thomas LaFaive #28 and William Walker # 29.

To date, there have been 43 memberships that were not renewed from 2009.

How do the 2010 numbers compare to 2009? In 2009, there were 173 memberships, which included 140 renewals from 2008 and 33 new memberships. There were also 92 memberships that were not renewed. So we are seeing the same number of new memberships and a reduced number of non-renewals in 2010, which is positive.

The composition of the Chapter membership is also interesting. The current representation of the Chapter from the perspective of the types of government and non-government memberships are: Federal (27.6%), State (51.3%), NGOs (7.6%), County (0.5%), Tribal (1%), Retired (6%) and Other (6%). The five largest employers represented are Game, Fish and Parks (32%), US Fish and Wildlife Service (17%), SDSU (17%), Retired (6%), and USFS (5%).

The membership committee and members of the Board are working on putting together a brochure to help get our Chapter's mission and membership information out to more individuals. If you have any more ideas for increasing our efforts for membership recruitment, please contact Nora Kohlenberg via email nora.kohlenberg@state.sd.us or by phone (605) 773-6228.

Resolutions and Public Statements Committee

If you have a resolution for the Chapter to consider you may send it to the Committee Chair at any time. In order to be considered, a resolution only needs to be sponsored by two voting Chapter members. You can send it, preferably as a Word attachment to an email, to the Chair, Dan Hubbard at daniel.hubbard@sdstate.edu. You needn't worry too much about format. As long as the draft has the appropriate background and facts, Dan can put it in the correct format. If you have any questions, contact him (Phone: 605-688-4780). Additionally, if you have an idea for a resolution but aren't sure that you have enough of the "facts" to put one together, contact

Dan anyway and perhaps the appropriate committee or person can be identified to help put together a credible resolution.

Submitted by Dan Hubbard

Certification Committee

A new web page has also been created for Certification on the state chapter website. Please feel free to visit it at <http://www.sdwildlife.org/Certification.HTM>.

Submitted by Dr. Susan Rupp

Wildlife Diversity Committee Report

Black-footed Ferret Petition

The SD Chapter expressed its opposition to a petition requesting that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) designate three reintroduced populations of black-footed ferrets as endangered, rather than non-essential experimental populations. The populations are located in the Conata Basin in South Dakota, Shirley Basin in Wyoming, and Aubrey Valley in Arizona.

The Service recently rejected the petition filed by WildEarth Guardians. The Service's decision was applauded by state wildlife agencies in Wyoming, Arizona and South Dakota.

Osprey Reintroduction

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks will conclude its osprey reintroduction project at Lake Yankton in 2010 with the release of 20 chicks this summer. If you observe a banded osprey, please note the band color and which leg was banded and report that information on the form supplied at this website: <http://gfp.sd.gov/wildlife/management/diversity/osprey-recovery.aspx>

South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks is sponsoring a repeat of the first South Dakota Breeding Bird Atlas, which spanned 1988-1993. The project is being coordinated by Nancy Drilling of the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory. Anyone interested in helping with this important monitoring effort is encouraged to visit the project website to learn more: <http://www.rmbo.org/SDBBA2/>

Even if you can't participate by completing atlas blocks, any confirmation of breeding during the atlas period is useful information.

Submitted by Eileen Dowd Stukel and Silka Kempema

Newsletter Submissions and Schedule

If you have an announcement, information item, or committee activity report that should be included in the next edition of *A Prairie Voice*, or if your email or mailing address has changed, send the information to: Charlene "Charlie" Bessken at ladyhawk155@hotmail.com or call 605-222-9445. Thanks.

The newsletter is published four times a year in February, June, September and December.

Special Note: If you change your mailing or email address please let Charlie or Nora know. Thanks.

Certification

If you are already certified – great! If not, please consider doing so. See the new page on our website about certification . . .

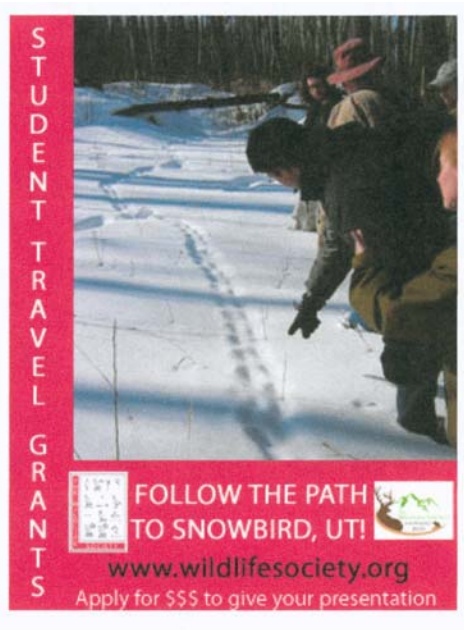
www.sdwildlife.org/Certification.HTM

and see the list of Certified and Associate Wildlife Biologists in South Dakota.

2010's New Associate Wildlife Biologists:

Nate Baker

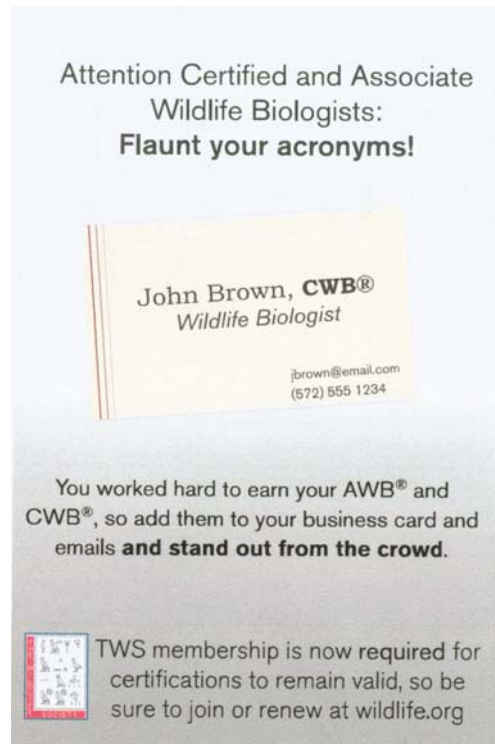
Troy Grovenburg



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South Dakota Chapter TWS - Standing Committees

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Awards - Nora Kohlenberg, 773-6228

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Education & Information - Laura Hubers, 947-4521, Sandy Uecker, 352-5894, and
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Membership - Nora Kohlenberg, 773-6228

Program - Rocco Murano, 353-7185

Nominations and Elections - Rocco Murano, 353-7185

Resolutions & Public Statements - Dan Hubbard, 688-4780

South Dakota Chapter TWS - Special Committees

Arrangements - K. C. Jensen, 688-4781 & Tom Kirschenmann, 352-1874

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Certification - Susan Rupp, 688-4779

Chapter History - Corey Huxoll, 773-4195

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Energy Subcommittee - Wind Power - K C Jensen, 688-4781 & Silka Kempema, 773-2742

Fee Hunting & Ownership of Wildlife - Andy Lindbloom, 223-7709

Fund Raising - Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, 352-5894 ext. 14

Grassland Issues - Boyd Schulz, 697-6041, Bill Smith, 773-3096 & Jim Madsen, 882-5250

Missouri River Issues - Cliff Stone, 734-4530 & Greg Pavelka, 402-667-7873 ext 3334

Newsletter/Website - Charlene "Charlie" Bessken, 222-9445

Public Lands - Eddie Childers, 433-5263, Dennis Mann, 394-2391, & Tom LeFaive 223-2316

Tribal Fish & Wildlife - Diane Mann-Klager, 226-7621, KC Jensen, 688-4781, and Shilo Comeau, 685-6508

Wetlands - Kurt Forman, 692-8359 & Peter Bergmann, 692-9820

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947-4521

Wildlife Diversity - Eileen Down Stukel, 773-4229, Silka Kempema, 773-2742, Thomas LeFaive, 223-2316, and
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SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
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Please Note:

The SDTWS List Serve is a one-way, non conversational list serve used on an infrequent basis solely to inform members about important conservation issues and legislation. Due to the sensitive nature of some list serve content, we strongly advise that you provide us with a home e-mail address.

SDTWS's newsletter, *A Prairie Voice*, is all-electronic. Therefore, an e-mail address must be provided above in order to receive it (paper copies will be provided only to individuals who do not have a computer, internet access, or an email address).

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Life Membership dues are prorated by age as follows:
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For more information on becoming a life member, contact Nora Kohlenberg (605) 773-6228.

