



*South Dakota Chapter*

**The Wildlife Society**

February 2006

### **President's Message**

The annual meeting is rapidly approaching! I want to thank Bridgette for her efforts in putting together a very interesting program and a good slate of candidates for a seat on Board; a special thanks to those who are willing to be candidates for office. Also, a big thanks to my fellow Board members, your help during this past year has been greatly appreciated.

The major issues that your Board kept track off during this past year are farm programs, energy development and legislation. An ad-hoc committee was formed to look at the issues affecting wildlife resources in relation to development of wind energy. This committee will provide the members with recent information. The wind energy committee will be an important committee for TWS. The development of energy is a priority on a national level. At this time, wind energy is a "green energy" concept that has broad support. But, site selection may have a negative impact on some species of wildlife. As professionals in the wildlife resources field, we have an obligation to become informed and to provide the best scientific information to those companies that are developing energy and to the political forces that will play a major role in placement of turbines and transmission lines.

I hope to see all of you at the meeting March 6, 7 and 8 at the Cedar Shore Resort, Chamberlain. We have had a strong attendance each of the last two years and I hope the trend continues. Let's all pitch in and recruit at least one new member.

Will

# **Minutes of the November 9, 2005 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

President Will Morlock recognized a quorum & called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM at Cedar Shore, Oacoma, South Dakota. Board members present were Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Steve Griffin, Will Morlock, Laura Hubers, & Art Smith. K.C. Jensen was absent due to illness.

Smith presented minutes of the August 2005 board meeting. No discussion, Griffin motioned to accept the minutes, Flanders-Wanner second. Motion passed.

Smith then presented the Treasurers' report. No discussion, Hubers motioned to accept the report, Flanders-Wanner Second. Motion passed.

## **Old Business**

### Correspondence Sent

- Morlock sent faxes to all three congressional delegates; no response from Representative Herseth, votes on arctic drilling went as expected.
- Duck Stamp Loan – Morlock sent letters to all three congressional delegates, no responses were received. In letter, it was suggested to contact Jensen.

### Correspondence Received

- Pheasant Forever for Chapter contribution to the Leopold Education project.

### Wind Turbines

There will be a session at upcoming North American on wind turbines. K.C. Jensen is going. The Chapter Executive Board could support partial financial assistance if asked, Morlock will check with Jensen.

### By-Laws / electronic mailing

- Flanders-Wanner spoke with Wyoming Chapter President Kilpatrick – this Chapter recently transitioned to all electronic newsletters. They used a Board vote to switch to electronic distribution; twenty hardcopies are still mailed. No complaints, positives include color pictures, increased accessibility, smaller cost, and bigger issue sizes. Email address changes are the biggest problem they've encountered – similar to surface mail – look for coworkers or send hard copy with messages to bounce-back new email addresses.

Board discussion followed, with points made about posting on the national website. Comment from Section Representative Ryder, "Don't let 10 people stop e transition." Discussion, if Board or membership needs to vote on change, needing someone to manage the e-mail list. Likely details on how to handle these issues will be determined as time progresses. Next President's Message will say after 2006 annual meeting all newsletters will be electronically distributed unless hard copy is requested. Also put in an article in the newsletter. The Board will need to address mandatory electronic transition of the newsletter at the next Board meeting (Flanders-Wanner will do this).

## **New Business**

### Requests for Funding

- Crane Foundation – 24 new hatched chicks, looking for match or other contributions from TWS units (Wisconsin Chapter donated one thousand dollars). Three whooping cranes were in Nebraska and South Dakota in 2004, one is still alive. Merits of protection of whoopers vs. activism & funding focus of

Chapter issues discussed. Hubers motioned to donate \$100, Flanders-Wanner seconded, 1-3 against, motion failed.

- Acorn Naturalists Critter Box – USFWS Education crate loaners, endangered species focus. Griffin motioned to donate \$200, Flanders-Wanner second, motion passed. Morlock will let Connie know that if more dollars are needed to contact the Chapter.
- Bald Eagle Awareness Days – Looking for 30 sponsors donating \$100-\$200 each, total event expenses are four thousand to five thousand dollars. Griffin motioned to donate \$200, Hubers seconded, motion passed.

#### Other Correspondence Received

- Roads in the Black Hills – information on road closures in the Black Hills provided by Cara Staab. Morlock will ask Staab if the Chapter needs to do anything (including a website link?).
- Farm Bill letter to delegates – Pheasants Forever and Farm Bill program individuals looking at future action on the Farm Bill. Board will ask for letter from the Chapter's Conservation Review Committee.

#### Website Update

All OK.

#### Registration Fee Adjustment

Suggestion was to make electronic receiving of Chapter newsletter a reward of Central Mountain & Plains Section (CMPS) membership. Motion by Griffin that Chapter pays one dollar CMPS dues if email is provided, Hubers seconded. Motion passed.

#### Newsletter Deadline

Will allow Higgins retirement advertisement to be put into the newsletter – concern was using the newsletter to announce what some could consider a “private” event. Other assignments were: Morlock, President's Message; Flanders-Wanner, electronic transmission of newsletter, call for papers, draft program; Griffin, annual meeting accommodations info.

#### 2006 Meeting

Flanders-Wanner and Morlock will pursue potential banquet speakers. Several comprehensive non-game bird presentations have been submitted already. Presentation lengths may vary depending on content. First-day presentations are filling-up.

Room rates will be state single \$44, federal \$60/person, no agency affiliation \$69.95, group(> two people, in a single or double additional \$10 per person). Contract is set-up for 6-8 March, 2006. Block of 95 rooms, will be released February 6<sup>th</sup>. Morlock will contact Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever for donations/sponsorships. Griffin will take over sponsorships, probably a good permanent task for Past-Presidents.

#### Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting was set for January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006, at 11:00 AM Central at Cedar Shore, Oacoma, South Dakota. Flanders-Wanner moved to adjourn, seconded by Hubers. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Smith  
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

# Committee Reports

## Fee Hunting & Ownership of Wildlife Committee

During the Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife committee report at the 2005 annual meeting, Andy Lindbloom reported that a suggestion had been made for SDTWS to draft a resolution regarding commercialization of wildlife. This request was spurred by the NDTWS draft position statement on the topic. Topics covered in the NDTWS draft included law enforcement, commercialization, wildlife & nature-based tourism, fee hunting & fishing (including guides & outfitters), hunting & fishing contests, allocation of lottery licenses, game farms & shooting preserves. After further discussion, the SDTWS chapter determined that the chapter already had a position statement related to the topic. A suggestion was made to put the old resolution on fee-hunting in the upcoming newsletter to draw discussion. Printed below is SDTWS' last resolution on privatization of wildlife, adopted by SDTWS in 1989. Based on your thoughts, the need for an updated resolution will be discussed at the 2006 annual business meeting. Thanks for taking the time to read and prepare your thoughts in advance of the annual meeting.

Andy Lindbloom, Chairperson

## Fund Raising Committee

Last year's fund-raising efforts were once again very successful. Thanks again to all sponsorships, gifts, and donations from businesses, organizations, and SDTWS members. What makes our annual auction so successful are the unique items donated by our TWS members. Please start thinking about an item to bring for this year's auction. All items are welcome and we appreciate your continued support.

Tom Kirschenmann, Chairperson

## Grasslands Committee

The Buffalo Gap National Grassland (BGNG) Office in Wall, South Dakota is presently working with a skeleton crew waiting for a new District Ranger and Range Conservation Manager to be hired. A total of 157 black-footed ferret kits were trapped and translocated from the Conata basin of the BGNG to the Rosebud Sioux Reservation in South Dakota and the Shirley basin in Wyoming in 2005. The BGNG staff has not completed a final report for 2005 on black-footed ferret populations in the Conata basin. The plague has been identified 30 miles to the south of the Conata basin and the impacts of this disease and its potential spread to the north to prairie-dog towns and black-footed ferret management in the Conata basin are yet to be seen.

Eddie Childers & Boyd Shultz co-chairs

## Teaming with Wildlife Committee (Fish and Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative)

October 2005 was a historic month for fish and wildlife conservation. All U.S. states and territories completed comprehensive planning documents that addressed the status, needs, and goals for fish and wildlife species and the habitats they depend on. Called various things by individual states during development, these planning frameworks are now known as Wildlife Action Plans. Plans were submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for approval, and they will form the backbone of future wildlife diversity funding and program direction in this country. Teaming with Wildlife is a grassroots-driven

funding initiative to secure stable, long-term funding for rare species and vulnerable habitats. The initiative will build on the momentum generated by the Wildlife Action Plans.

During 2006, the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies will lead a rejuvenated Teaming with Wildlife campaign on several fronts.

The original Teaming coalition set a record for wildlife conservation movements with more than 3,000 members. The new goal is to expand coalition membership to more than 5,000 members, with at least 100 members per state.

In addition to seeking continued and increased funds for State Wildlife Grants, the coalition will work for passage of legislation that could help meet fish and wildlife funding needs.

South Dakota's Teaming Coalition currently has 30 members, including SDTWS. The South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks will be contacting additional potential members soon, both to help us reach the state goal of 100 coalition members and to broaden this important conservation partnership with new constituents. Please consider whether groups that you belong to might be willing to join South Dakota's Teaming with Wildlife Coalition. We have a long way to go to reach 100. For more information, contact Eileen Dowd Stukel at [eileen.dowdstukel@state.sd.us](mailto:eileen.dowdstukel@state.sd.us) or 605-773-4229.

Eileen Dowd Stukel, Chairperson

#### Wildlife Diseases Committee

A new special committee has been organized - Wildlife Diseases. It is co-chaired by Teresa Zimmerman and Steve Griffin. If you wish to contact them, Teresa's phone number is 605-433-5378 and Steve's is 605-394-2391.

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## 2006 SDTWS Annual Meeting Announcement

The 2006 SDTWS Annual Meeting will again be held at the Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, South Dakota. The dates for the meeting are March 6-8, 2006. Please mark these dates on your calendar, and while you are doing so, make your reservations with the Cedar Shores Resort. A block of rooms has been reserved and you can make your reservation by calling 1-888-697-6363. **These rooms will be held until February 6, 2006.** Please call and make your reservations soon. Room rates for Cedar Shores will be as follows:

State Government Rate- \$44 single occupancy with Identification

Federal Government Rate- \$60 single occupancy

Group Rate- \$69.95 single or double occupancy (\$10 extra per person up to two more persons)

If you are retired with no affiliation to a state or federal agency and are a member of SDTWS, Cedar Shores may give you the State Rate if you ask them. If they question this, have them talk to Kathy Anderson.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 605-394-2391.

Steve Griffin

# 2006 SDTWS Annual Meeting

March 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006

**Cedar Shore Resort and Convention Center, Oacoma, SD**

If you have not already made reservations for the 2006 annual meeting, a block of rooms is being held under the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society until February 6<sup>th</sup> (after which they will be released). Please make your reservations early! Phone number for reservations is 888-697-6363.

Monday evening will again be reserved for our fund-raising event. The evening is a good time to meet the new members of our chapter and get reacquainted with old friends. The success of the event is partially hinged on the variety of items that we have to sell at the live auction. Please remember to bring along an item or two that will help us generate the revenue for SDTWS to fund our worthwhile projects in 2006. And plan to be there for a relaxed evening of fun.

## **Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

- 11:00am-1:00pm Registration and *FREE* Lunch
- 1:00pm-1:15pm Welcome and introductions
- 1:15pm-5:00pm Special Session: Incorporating Non-Game Birds into Management Decisions
- 6:00pm Social and Auction

## **Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:30am-12:00pm Chapter Business Meeting
- 12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm-5:00pm Professional Presentations
- 6:00pm Social
- 7:00pm Annual Awards Banquet

*Banquet Speaker: John Cooper, Secretary of SD Dept. of Game, Fish & Parks.  
Speaking on: "Human Dimensions in Wildlife Management – What I Have Learned"*

## **Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00am-12:00pm Student Presentations
- Adjourn

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What is the most environmentally friendly country in the world? According to the pilot 2006 Environmental Performance Index (EPI) it would be New Zealand, which scored an 88.0 on the 0 to 100 EPI scale. The EPI was developed by researchers from Columbia and Yale Universities in collaboration with the World Economic Forum and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission. The researchers used sixteen indicators to track six policy categories: environmental health, air quality, water resources, biodiversity and habitat, productive natural resources and sustainable energy. 133 countries were ranked, with Sweden, Finland, the Czech Republic and Great Britain rounding out the top five. The lowest ranked country was the African nation of Niger with a score of 25.7. The United States, with a score of 78.5, ranked 28<sup>th</sup> out of the 133 countries. The U.S. was penalized for high greenhouse gas emissions, overuse of water and unsustainable agriculture practices. The U.S. did well in providing drinking water and sanitation. The full report for the 2006 EPI can be found at Yale's web site at <http://www.yale.edu/epi/>.

## **“A Prairie Voice” Has Gone *Electronic***

Yes, the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society has taken the plunge. At the executive board meeting on January 4<sup>th</sup>, the board unanimously voted to convert to an all-electronic newsletter - starting with the first newsletter after the annual meeting. For the majority of you, nothing will change (60% of our membership already receives their newsletter electronically). However, if you are not currently receiving your newsletter electronically, you will want to provide us with an e-mail address as soon as possible. For those of you attending the annual meeting, your registration form will include a space to provide this information. If you don't plan on attending the meeting this year, the membership renewal form included in each newsletter also has a place to provide your e-mail address. Of course, as was mentioned in the previous newsletter, special considerations and exceptions can be made. For individuals who don't have a computer, internet access, or an e-mail address, SDTWS can still send them a paper copy of the newsletter.

In addition to making sure we have your e-mail address, we also would like to continue to receive your feedback. As the electronic newsletter is implemented, please let us know how things are going on your end. For instance, it was brought to our attention during the comment period that if the electronic newsletter becomes too large, it could be problematic for dial-up users to download and view. If this becomes a problem for you, please let us know and we will try to make adjustments. As with any new endeavor, a few kinks usually need to get worked out in the beginning before things run smoothly. But all-in-all, the electronic newsletter will have many benefits, including the use of color, the ability to share more information with the membership, and money savings! We estimate that our all-electronic newsletter will save the chapter as much as \$1,600 on printing and postage that can now be better spent supporting on-the-ground conservation initiatives.

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## **SDTWS AWARD NOMINATIONS**

This is a reminder that the Awards Committee is currently soliciting nominations for the 2006 awards. The awards include the Wildlife Professional of the Year Award, Citizen's Wildlife Award, and Master of Science scholarship for the 2005-2006 academic year.

The deadline for the Wildlife Professional and Citizen Awards has been extended. If you would like to nominate an individual for either of these awards, please submit a letter of nomination to the Awards Committee no later than February 3, 2006. One wildlife professional and one state citizen are recognized each year for their outstanding contribution in the arena of wildlife resource management. This is a great opportunity to recognize those who go the extra mile in their stewardship of South Dakota's wildlife resources.

The deadline for the Master of Science scholarship is also fast approaching. The SDTWS also recognizes academic and/or research excellence achieved by graduate students. This year there will be one (1) MS scholarship for the 2005-2006 academic year. If you would like to nominate a student for this award, please complete and submit the nomination form to the Awards Committee no later than February 11, 2006.

Information regarding the nomination process for these awards and the Student Award Nomination Form can be found on the SDTWS webpage at <http://www.sdwildlife.org/awards.htm>. If you have any questions regarding the nomination process or the formulation of nomination letters, please contact Nora Kohlenberg at 605-773-4675, Fax: 605-773-6245, e-mail: [Nora.Kohlenberg@state.sd.us](mailto:Nora.Kohlenberg@state.sd.us), SDTWS Awards Nominations, c/o Nora Kohlenberg, 523 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501

# Privatization of Wildlife

During the Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife committee report at the 2005 annual meeting, Andy Lindbloom reported that a suggestion had been made for SDTWS to draft a resolution regarding commercialization of wildlife. This request was spurred by the NDTWS draft position statement on the topic. Topics covered in the NDTWS draft included law enforcement, commercialization, wildlife & nature-based tourism, fee hunting & fishing (including guides & outfitters), hunting & fishing contests, allocation of lottery licenses, game farms & shooting preserves. After further discussion, the SDTWS chapter determined that the chapter already had a position statement related to the topic. A suggestion was made to put the old resolution on fee-hunting in the upcoming newsletter to draw discussion. Printed below is SDTWS' last resolution on privatization of wildlife, adopted by SDTWS in 1989. Based on your thoughts, the need for an updated resolution will be discussed at the 2006 annual business meeting. Thanks for taking the time to read and prepare your thoughts in advance of the annual meeting.

## A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE SDCTWS POSITION ON THE PRIVATIZATION OF WILDLIFE IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Whereas, Our definition of privatization is “the ability or practice of private groups of individuals to dictate or control the access and/or utilization of public and private lands, waters, and/or fish and wildlife resources, and subsequent to this control, the state is obligated to transfer it’s trust responsibilities over public wildlife resources to private groups or parties,” and

Whereas, It is legally vested that the state of South Dakota, by statute, maintains ownership, dominion and control of public wildlife and that this wildlife shall always, and under all circumstances, remain the property of the state unless such ownership is specifically relinquished as provided by SDCL 41-1-3, and

Whereas, South Dakota Statutes specifically recognize and define “wild animals”, “big game”, “small game”, and “migratory waterfowl” without distinction or reference to their origin either domestically reared or raised by wild parentage, and

Whereas, The public administration, management, control and conservation of wildlife resources, in direct contradiction to the European Principle, has proven over the past 50 years, to be best suited to address all issues of public use, enjoyment and involvement with wildlife in South Dakota (a.k.a. access to), and

Whereas, Prior to the advent of public administration of wildlife management species such as the passenger pigeon, american bison, giant canada geese, white-tailed deer, Audubon bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, elk, wild turkey, and other indigenous wildlife species were exploited to the point of near or complete extinction, and

Whereas, The advent of publicly supported management of fish and wildlife resources has resulted in reestablishment of viable populations of species such as white-tailed deer, giant canada geese, pronghorn antelope, elk, wild turkey, and

Whereas, Privatization of wildlife, by its very nature and intent, places private enterprise economics above all other traditional wildlife values by marketing and selling public wildlife and imposing upon the public, a fee for the use of a resource that is already granted to the public in common and legislated law, and

Whereas, Our definition of commercialization is, “the sale, trade, exchange, or barter of access to free ranging, public fish and wildlife resources by private groups or individuals,” and

Whereas, The SDCTWS recognizes that some land management practices resulting from commercial endeavors on private lands benefit wildlife resources, it neither endorses nor disapproves of such operations and the unregulated commercialization of public fish and wildlife resources may eventually lead to privatization.

Therefore be it resolved, that the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society, at its annual meeting assembled this third day of March 1989 at Pierre, South Dakota, stands opposed to the concept and practice of wildlife privatization or any proposal that places any control of public fish and wildlife resource in the hands of the private sector.

Be it further resolved, that the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society urges the South Dakota Legislature, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission, the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks and all other public minded organizations concerned with the welfare of wild, free roaming wildlife in South Dakota, to maintain vigilance in opposition to the concepts of “Privatization of wildlife” as herein defined, by adopting laws, rules, policies, and procedures that are consistent with the laws herein referred to and strictly interpreted.

Be it further resolved, that the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society hereby recognizes that landowners contribute greatly to the well being of wildlife and the recreational opportunities afforded by these wild creatures to the citizens and guests of this democratic state, and while the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society stands opposed to privatization of wildlife as stated above, we certainly recognize and appreciate all that landowners have historically provided to the benefit of these natural resources and to the benefit of the public.

# South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society

## 2006 Executive Board Elections

Information on candidates for President Elect and Executive Board Member is presented below. If you are not able to attend the 2006 SDTWS annual meeting at the Cedar Shores Resort, an absentee ballot is available on Page 13 of this edition of *A Prairie Voice*.

### Candidates for President-Elect:

#### **Kurt James Forman**

I was raised on a small farm in southwestern Minnesota and spent much of my youth observing, trapping, snaring, hunting and catching about every kind of fish, fur or fowl endemic to Cottonwood County. However, ducks were always the ones that captured my attention and imagination. Where did they come from? Where were they going? And.....what ancient mysteries guided them up and down the flyways?

Upon high school graduation I bought a new set of duck decoys and my first Sportsman's Atlas and enrolled at South Dakota State University (SDSU). In the spring of 1990, I graduated with a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from SDSU and started an M.S. project at the University of Montana studying the effects of predator management on upland nesting ducks. In 1993, a gentleman named Carl Madsen hired me and I have been in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) program ever since. Thanks to the thoughtful career assistance of Carl Madsen and Tom Tornow I have been very fortunate to stay within the PFW program and consider it to be my dream job primarily because of the dedicated people I have the privilege of working with.

My wife Lucy and I have been married for fifteen years and together for seventeen hunting seasons. We have two boys, Jimmy ten and Michael five, who are showing early signs of what Aldo Leopold termed "congenital hunting fever." I hope there is no cure.

In my opinion, the best part of any wildlife job in South Dakota is the collective spirit we all have that motivates us every day to work for the greater good. Working with all of you I hope to leverage that spirit to do even more for the resources we all value.

#### **Cara Staab**

**Personal Data and Principle Interests:** I am a native South Dakotan, and was raised near the banks of the Big Sioux River. I left South Dakota early in my career to explore new habitats, and lived for varying periods of time in Arizona, California, Utah, and Washington. I gratefully and humbly returned to South Dakota in 2002, and take every opportunity I can to experience the subtle beauty and diversity within the borders of our great state. I started hunting when I came back, and have now harvested two Black Hills elk. I add this to my list of favorite things to do, alongside my tried-and-true non-consumptive activities such as hiking, traveling, and birding.

**Career Positions:** I am currently a wildlife biologist with the Black Hills National Forest, and have responsibilities in both South Dakota and Wyoming. I have also worked for the Forest Service in other western states. Before entering the realm of public land management, I worked with spotted owls, desert tortoises, and other cool critters while employed by the Arizona Game & Fish Department and a private

consulting firm.

Education: M.S. Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences, University of Arizona (Tucson, 1995); B.S. Biology, Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff, 1990).

Memberships and Affiliations: I have been a member of The Wildlife Society since 1986. I have a life membership with the South Dakota Chapter, and recurring annual membership with the Wyoming Chapter. I currently serve on the SDTWS Chapter History Committee, and wish to increase my participation as President-Elect. I have been an active committee member for the Southern Hills Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation since 2003. I am also a member of the South Dakota Ornithologists' Union and The Nature Conservancy.

SDTWS Views: I have been a TWS member since my freshman year of college, and have benefited greatly from the information and contacts obtained from meetings across states and over the years. I am now well-established in my career, and am wanting and able to make significant contributions back to the Society. There is no place I would rather do this than in my home state. I would love to see SDTWS actively promote new funding sources for non-game wildlife that could be administered through South Dakota Game, Fish & Park's Wildlife Diversity Program and/or regional offices. I witnessed the birth of an incredible non-game program in Arizona that arose from lottery dollars, and believe it is time to champion this and other ideas in South Dakota.

## **Candidates for Executive Board:**

### **Chuck Dieter**

Personal Data: Born and raised in Nebraska. I moved to South Dakota in 1984. I have been married to Carla for 28 years. We have two children (Rachel and Nick) and one grandson (Bridger).

Education: Bachelor of Science in Biology from Concordia, Nebraska in 1977; Master of Science, Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, South Dakota State University in 1987; Doctor of Philosophy, Biological Sciences, South Dakota State University in 1993.

Present Position: Professor, Department of Biology, South Dakota State University, 1995- present.

Former positions: Research Associate, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, South Dakota State University, 1987-1994. Teacher/Coach, 1977-1984.

Professional Interests: I love teaching and working with college students, both undergraduates and graduates. I also enjoy conducting research on a variety of wildlife ecology topics. My past and current research projects have been on furbearers, small mammals, Canada geese, ducks, herps, and environmental contaminants.

I have been a member of The Wildlife Society, The South Dakota Chapter of TWS, and CMPS for 21 years, and previously worked as a board member and Secretary/Treasurer for the SDTWS. I am very active in the Wildlife Federation and several sportsmen's groups. I absolutely love hunting and fishing in South Dakota and I want to help preserve our wildlife heritage here and nationally for my grandson and his generation. It is imperative that we work both professionally and individually to protect our wildlife resources.

## Tom Kirschenmann

Personal Data: Grew up in Eureka, South Dakota, where I acquired the interest in animals assisting at my parents' veterinarian practice. My wife Crystal is an OB/GYN nurse at St. Lukes Hospital in Aberdeen. We have two black labs, Dakota and Drake.

Education: Bachelor of Science, Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences, South Dakota State University (1993), Master of Science, Wildlife Management, South Dakota State University (1996)

Present Position: Sr. Wildlife Biologist, Upland Game Management, South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks, Huron, South Dakota

Previous Position: Regional Wildlife Biologist, Pheasant Forever (1995-2000, Illinois and Indiana; 2000-2004 South Dakota and Wyoming)

Memberships and Affiliations: The Wildlife Society, SD Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Pheasants Forever (Life Member), Ducks Unlimited, Prairie Grouse Technical Council, Midwest Pheasant Study Group

Interests and Hobbies: My main interest in wildlife management is bird and habitat relationships. On a personal level I enjoy hunting, fishing, landscaping, and home remodeling projects.

TWS state chapters are an important unified voice for its members and act on behalf of our natural resources. With the ever-changing landscape, along with uncertainties within farm policy, it's important to be involved and active as deliberations and decisions are made which will impact our resources for the next decade. If elected to the executive board of the SDTWS Chapter, I would enjoy the opportunity to work with like minded conservationists and represent resource professionals from across the state.

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## South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society Lifetime Membership Dues

Tired of writing a check every year to renew your membership in the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society? Then consider becoming a life member! Dues are prorated by age and can be seen in the column to the right.

Age 20 to 35: 25 x annual dues  
 $\$10 \times 25 = \$250$

Age 36 to 45: 20 x annual dues  
 $\$10 \times 20 = \$200$

Join the other Life Members in the SDTWS and help the Chapter maintain a long term funding source. If you are interested in becoming a Life Member, visit the web site at [www.sdwildlife.org](http://www.sdwildlife.org) and look under the membership section for information or contact Chad Switzer at 605-353-6699.

Age 46 to 65: 17.5 x annual dues  
 $\$10 \times 17.5 = \$175$

Age 66 to 75: 12.5 x annual dues  
 $\$10 \times 12.5 = \$125$

Age 76 and over: Free

**South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society—Absentee Ballot**  
**For President Elect:**  
**(Vote for One)**

**Kurt James Forman**

**Cara Staab**

\_\_\_\_\_ **(Write in)**

**For Executive Board Member:**  
**(Vote for One)**

**Chuck Dieter**

**Tom Kirschenmann**

\_\_\_\_\_ **(Write in)**

If you are unable to attend the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society, 2006 Meeting, please complete this absentee ballot and return it by February 28, 2006 to Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, 819 Kansas Avenue SE, Huron SD 57350-2826.

## **South Dakota Chapter TWS - Executive Board**

### **President**

Will Morlock  
SD Game, Fish & Parks  
400 West Kemp Ave.  
Watertown SD 57201  
phone: 605-882-5200

### **Past-President**

Steve Griffin  
SD Game, Fish & Parks  
3305 West South Street  
Rapid City SD 57702  
phone: 605-394-2391

### **President-Elect**

Bridgette Flanders-Wanner  
Huron WMD  
200 Fourth Street SW  
Huron SD 57350  
phone 605-352-5894 ext 14

### **Secretary-Treasurer**

Arthur Smith  
SD Game, Fish & Parks  
523 East Capitol  
Pierre SD 57501  
phone: 605-773-7595

### **Board Member**

Laura Hubers  
Waubay NWR Complex  
44401 134A Street  
Waubay SD 57273  
phone 605-947-4521

### **Board Member**

K.C. Jensen  
Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries  
Sciences NPB 138D  
PO Box 2140B  
South Dakota State University  
Brookings SD 57007  
phone: 605-688-4781

## **South Dakota Chapter TWS - Standing Committees**

**Audit** - Steve Griffin, Chairperson, 394-2391

**Awards** - Nora Kohlenberg, Chairperson, 773-4675

**Conservation Review** - Paul Coughlin, Chairperson, 773-4194

**Education and Information** - Laura Hubers, Chairperson, 947-4521

**Membership** - Chad Switzer, Chairperson, 605-353-6699

**Program** - Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Chairperson, 352-5894

**Nominations and Elections** - Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, Chairperson, 352-5894

**Resolutions and Public Statements** - Dan Hubbard, Chairperson, 688-4780

## **South Dakota Chapter TWS - Special Committees**

**Arrangements** - Cliff Stone 734-4530 & Steve Griffin 394-2391, Co-Chairs

**Book Service** - Bob Klaver, Chairperson, 594-6067

**Certification** - Pat Russel, Chairperson, 226-7587

**Chapter History** - Cara Staab 673-9347 & Corey Huxoll 773-41953, Co-Chairs

**Fee Hunting and Ownership of Wildlife** - Andy Lindbloom, Chairperson

**Fish & Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative** - Eileen Dowd Stukel, Chairperson, 773-4229

**Fund Raising** - Tom Kirshenmann, Chairperson - 352-1874

**Grassland Issues** - Eddie Childers, 433-5263 & Boyd Shulz, 697-6041, Co-Chairs

**Missouri River Issues** - Vacant

**Newsletter** - Greg Pavelka, Editor, 402-667-2581

**Nongame/Endangered Species** - Eileen Dowd Stukel, Chairperson, 773-4229

**Private & Public Land Management** - Dennis Mann 394-2391 & Tom LeFaive 223-2316, Co-Chairs

**Resource Activism** - Chuck Dieter, Chairperson, 688-4555

**Tribal Fish & Wildlife** - Diane Mann-Klager, Chairperson, 226-7621

**Wetlands** - Kurt Forman, Chairperson, 692-8359

**Wetlands and Waterbirds Recognition Honor Roll** - John Koerner & Ken Higgins, 688-6121

**Wildlife Diseases** - Teresa Zimmerman 433-5378 & Steve Griffin 394-2391.

**Wind Turbines** - Alyssa Kiesow, Chairperson, 605-773-2742

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 address has changed, send the information to: Greg Pavelka at the Gavins Point Project, PO Box 710 Yankton SD 57078, or call 402-667-2581, or fax the information in at 402-667-2588.

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