*South Dakota Chapter***The Wildlife Society**

July 2005

President's Message

Greetings from the northeast corner of our great state!

I just experienced a depressing thought! While looking at the calendar, I realized that by the time this newsletter reaches all of you, the days would be getting shorter again. It seems spring just arrived and now we are looking at summer already. I am still not convinced spring even arrived this year. It seems we went from a dry winter to a monsoon summer. Early indicators seemed to point to a very good year for wildlife in South Dakota. Seemingly continuous rains during the month of June may reduce the production of young upland birds this year. Waterfowl have excellent conditions now. Too bad we didn't have these conditions in April when waterfowl were searching for breeding waters. But nature seems to have a way of providing us with ample amounts of young wildlife regardless of how miserable we humans think the weather is. I see lots of young wildlife in my trips around the state. We are truly blessed with opportunity to observe wild critters many times each day.

I want to invite TWS members to a rare opportunity to listen and meet one of the truly great people in the world. On September 4th Dr. Jane Goodall will make a stop in Watertown. She will be doing a lecture at the D. D. Miller auditorium at the Watertown High School at 3:30PM. There is no cost to attend the lecture but a free-will offering will be accepted. The money raised will be used to continue the Roots and Shoots program at the Bramble Park Zoo. BPZ is a Regional Center for the Roots and Shoots program that is sponsored by Dr. Goodall.

TWS activities have been slow so far this year. An ad-hoc committee is being formed to gather information on wind energy development in South Dakota. The directives to the committee are to gather information on what is being planned for development, when is it being planned for and what effects will this development have on the South Dakota natural resources. The committee will hopefully be able to make a presentation to the TWS membership at the 2006 annual meeting.

Have a pleasant summer; share it with your family!

Will

Minutes of the March 6, 2005 Executive Board Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

President Steve Griffin recognized a quorum & called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM at Cedar Shore Hotel & Convention Center in Oacoma, South Dakota. Board members present were Art Smith, Steve Griffin, Diane Mann-Klager, Laura Hubers, Will Morlock, & Bridgette Flanders-Wanner.

Flanders-Wanner presented the minutes of the January 5, 2005 board meeting. Mann-Klager motioned to accept the minutes and Morlock seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Flanders-Wanner presented the quarterly treasurer's report. Mann-Klager motioned to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Hubers. Motion passed.

Old Business

Correspondence Sent and Received

Letters Received:

Letter from Organization of Wildlife Planners requesting sponsorship for an annual meeting being held in Rapid City on May 21-26. Letter from Forrest "Bump" Anshutz, President of Maga Ta-Hohpi Friends Group, requesting sponsorship for Huron Prairie Fest to be held May 14th. Letter from Wind Cave National Park

informing SDTWS of public workshops regarding the prairie dog management plan and environmental assessment.

Letter from Central Mountains & Plains Section (CMPS) President Steve Riley regarding a proposed change in the fee structure of CMPS and associated state and student chapters. Thank you letter from the Bald Eagle Awareness Days Steering Committee for event sponsorship.

Letters Sent:

Letter in support of the South Dakota Water Quality Council's decision to oppose the South Dakota Department of Agriculture's grant application (Natural Resources Conservation Service already has adequate tools in place, therefore no need for the grant). Letter written for SDTWS by Bill Schultze that followed up on comments made by SDTWS representatives regarding the James River Feasibility Study & Environmental Impact Statement.

Wind Turbines in South Dakota

Griffin reported that a status report on wind turbines in South Dakota was added to the annual meeting agenda and would be led by Alyssa Kiesow with assistance from Diane Mann-Klager.

The topic is being addressed to assess the potential need for a resolution on the topic in 2006.

New Business

Huron Prairie Fest

Forrest "Bump" Anshutz, President of Maga Ta-Hohpi Friends Group, sent a letter requesting \$300 in support for the 1st Annual Huron Prairie Fest on May 14, 2005. The festival is being developed in collaboration with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as a free, educational event geared towards families. Morlock commented on the increasing popularity of festivals and suggested that the chapter should not get into the habit of funding events on an annual basis – it is in the best interest of festivals and other events to become self-sustaining. The board expressed concern that some events, including Bald Eagle Awareness Days and Becoming an Outdoors Woman, may be operating under the assumption of annual sponsorship without exception because they have consistently received monetary support from SDTWS. Hubers motioned to provide \$300 in support for Huron Prairie Fest based on the fact that it was a first-time request for a 1st annual event. Smith seconded

the motion. Motion passed.

Organization of Wildlife Planners

The International Organization of Wildlife Planners sent a letter requesting sponsorship for their annual meeting to be held in Rapid City on May 21-26, 2005. Smith suggested that for each funding request received by SDTWS, the question should be asked, "Does the funding benefit TWS or provide wildlife education/conservation benefits to the people of South Dakota?" Upon further discussion, the board concluded that the funding request would not meet either of those criteria. Morlock motioned to provide no funding for the conference, second by Smith. Motion passed.

2004 Audit of Financial Records

Flanders-Wanner provided Smith with the 2004 Treasurer's records and check register for review.

Review of Ducks Unlimited Sponsorship

The board reviewed the value of purchasing a decoy from Ducks Unlimited (DU), along with a SDTWS sponsorship of the Pierre chapter of DU. Morlock offered to assess how much the decoy makes at the SDTWS auction/raffle and get a list of items that DU donates to the SDTWS auction. The board agreed that the chapter is locked in to a DU sponsorship this year because the decoy has already been committed for the auction.

The impetus for reviewing the DU sponsorship is based on three main concerns. First, sponsorship of the Pierre chapter may be foreseen as biased support of only one out of many DU chapters in South Dakota. Second, DU sponsorship does not provide direct benefits to South Dakota because proceeds from all DU banquets go first to the national level. Third, there are several conservation organizations in the state that are donating auction items to SDTWS without the expectation of a sponsorship in their organization.

CMPS Fee Proposal

Griffin reviewed an informational item that will be presented at the SDTWS annual meeting. CMPS is proposing a new fee structure that would drop CMPS dues from \$5 to \$1. In conjunction, each state within the section would charge an additional \$1 and automatically provide a CMPS membership to each state member. The board discussed whether the membership dues could be increased by a simple vote from the membership or whether a change would need to be made in the bylaws, which would require a 30-day notice to members. Smith added that it isn't just CMPS that is struggling to retain members. All sections are facing the same struggles because it is difficult for states to find applicability in regional issues.

TWS Endowment Fund

Smith and Flanders-Wanner

purported that an option to provide additional funding to the TWS Endowment Fund should be brought before the membership during the annual meeting. They recalled that the option to do so had been included in the discussion of whether to sponsor the Fund at the \$2000 or higher level during the 2004 annual meeting. However, the request to review sponsorship of the Fund was not found in the minutes of the 2004 annual meeting. (In an effort to condense extensive conversation to a reasonable length, the final minutes had been summarized to a point where the specific statement was not apparent.) The board agreed to present the option to the membership if time permitted.

Hotel Accommodations for Citizen's Award Recipient

Upon request from Kurt Forman, Smith motioned to pay for two nights of hotel accommodations and banquet tickets for Mike Williams and his wife. Mann-Klager second the motion. Upon further discussion, Smith amended the motion to also state that this motion would be used as guidance (a template) for future recipients of the Citizen's Award. Mann-Klager second the amendment. Motion and amendment passed.

Meal Counts for Luncheon and Banquet

Griffin reported a change in hotel policy now required final meal counts had to be made 24 hours in advance & could not be

adjusted. Therefore, meal counts for the Tuesday luncheon & banquet would be due to the hotel immediately after the first meeting break on Monday afternoon. Thus, the board must ensure that everyone that wants to attend those meals registers on or before the first break.

Mann-Klager moved to adjourn, second by Hubers. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridgette Flanders-Wanner
Secretary/Treasurer, SDTWS

SDTWS Committee Reports

Arrangements Committee

Arrangements were again made with Cedar Shores Resort to host the 2005 SDTWS annual meeting. The central location in South Dakota appears to attract larger numbers of SDTWS members to the annual meeting and seems to be favorable to most of the SDTWS members. Cedar Shores Resort has in the past treated SDTWS very well and this year was no exception. We are utilizing the new addition of Cedar Shores Resort and will see how it goes. It is very easy to come back to the same location on a yearly basis due to the convenience of familiarity with the SDTWS and the Cedar Shores staff. The staff at Cedar Shores Resort is very easy to work with and all of the needs of the SDTWS annual meeting were met. Cliff Stone has acquired the services of Maynard Jensen for our annual auction and fund raiser. Mr. Jensen has stated that he is glad to help out the SDTWS.

Submitted by Steve Griffin & Cliff Stone

Fee Hunting & Ownership of Wildlife Committee

A suggestion has been made that we consider developing a position statement on commercialization of wildlife. Perhaps this may have been more appropriately funneled through the Resolutions & Public Statements Committee. Regardless, this issue was probably spurred by the NDCTWS draft

position statement on commercialization of wildlife. The NDCTWS draft covered the following topics: law enforcement issues related to commercialization, wildlife/nature based tourism, fee hunting & fishing (including guides and outfitters), hunting and fishing contests, allocation of lottery licenses, game farms and shooting preserves. I want to bring this up for the SDTWS membership to consider and discuss. I have mixed feelings on the issue and think that we need to weigh the pros and cons of developing this position statement. It has been suggested that we already have a position statement on fee hunting. I checked this appears to be true. It was suggested that someone in the SDTWS membership propose we look into this more through the resolutions committee. Someone later suggested that the older fee hunting position statement be put in the newsletter for review.

Submitted by Andy Lindbloom Committee Chair

Fund Raising Committee

The live auction raised \$2,900 and the raffle netted \$455. Special thanks to Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Cabela's, UAP Timberland, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and all the members who donated items.

Submitted by Tony Leif and Tom Kirschenmann

Grasslands Committee

Two issues regarding private land grasslands:

1. Sod busting – the conversion of native grassland to tillage agriculture is a concern to many NGO's state and federal agencies. The 2007 farm bill may provide an opportunity to address this issue. Rough data from the Farm Service Agency has shown that 60,000 acres have been converted in each of the last three years. Ducks Unlimited, with a grant and funding from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks, is developing a risk assessment model for the prairie Coteau of North Dakota and South Dakota. Preliminary data shows a 0.6% average loss of native grass in this area each year for the past twenty years (12% loss in twenty years).

2. Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) – In fiscal year 2004 approximately 44,000 acres were enrolled in CRP in South Dakota. SDGFP and Pheasants Forever staff should be commended for their effort in FY04 enrollment. In 2007, approximately 800,000 acres of CRP in South Dakota will expire. Stay tuned.

Submitted by Boyd Schulz, Committee Chair.

Membership Committee

Special invitation letters to join the SDTWS and information on the 2005 annual meeting were sent to 39 agencies, organizations or individuals. This included: National Park Service - Badlands National Park & Wind Cave National Park, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Gavins Point, Big Bend & Oahe Projects, U.S. Forest Service - Black Hills National Forest, Fort Pierre National Grassland, Buffalo Gap National Grassland, USDA-NRCS State Conservationist, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, South Dakota Conservation Officer Association, SDDENR Secretary, SDGFP Secretary, North Dakota Wetlands Habitat Office, Cheyenne River Sioux, Crow Creek Sioux, Lower Brule Sioux, Ogalala Sioux, Rosebud Sioux, Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux and Standing Rock Sioux Tribes, South Dakota Ornithologists Union, Bearlodge, Hell Canyon, Mystic and Northern Hills Ranger Districts.

Submitted by Chad Switzer, Committee Chair.

Newsletter Committee

Starting with the December 2004 issue, the newsletter has been printed by Harold's Printing of Brookings, South Dakota. This was necessitated by Reynolds Printing, our previous printer, going out of business. The latest printing of the newsletter showed that 83 members were signed up to receive the e-mail version of the newsletter and 118 members were signed up to receive the printed version of the newsletter.

Submitted by Greg Pavelka, Newsletter Editor

Non-game and Endangered Species Committee

The Chapter provided monetary support to several projects related to non-game or endangered species. One example was the 13th annual Bald Eagle Awareness Days event held each February in Pierre. This year's event brought educators from Wildlife Experiences in Rapid City to Sioux Falls and Pierre for eight programs to 1,000 participants. The chapter also helped fund a birding trail guide for southeastern South Dakota. This guide is the second of four planned to correspond with the four tourism associations in the state. This guide is currently being printed and supplies should be available soon from the South Dakota Office of Tourism or the Southeast South Dakota Tourism Association. The Chapter also sponsored, but with no monetary support provided, a symposium called "Managing prairie dogs and black-footed ferrets in the Conata Basin, South Dakota," held on February 26-27 in Rapid City. The symposium featured technical presentations and discussion sessions. Approximately 75 people attended. Other sponsors included the National Wildlife Federation, the World Wildlife Fund and the South Dakota Wildlife Federation.

Black-tailed Prairie Dog: On August 12, 2004 the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service found that the black-tailed prairie dog was not warranted for listing under the Endangered Species Act. "We make this determination because recent distribution, abundance and trend data indicate that the threats to the species identified in a twelve month finding are not as serious as earlier believed." The Service will continue to annually seek information on this species. The South Dakota legislature approved the South Dakota Black-tailed Prairie Dog Conservation and Management Plan. The bill has been sent to the governor for his consideration. The state legislature also passed a bill to define the circumstances under which the black-tailed prairie dog would be considered a pest. This bill, SB 216, has been delivered to the governor.

Topeka Shiner: Critical habitat for this federal endangered species was finalized on August 26, 2004. South Dakota, Missouri and Kansas were excluded from this designation. The conclusion for

South Dakota was that the benefits of excluding critical habitat in the state outweighed the benefits of critical habitat designation. This successful effort was facilitated by much assistance from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Ecological Services Office in Pierre. The "Topeka Shiner Management Plan for the State of South Dakota" can be found on the Wildlife Diversity Program's link on the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks web site. The South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks is currently funding Topeka shiner monitoring through a State Wildlife Grants project. The Manhattan, Kansas U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Ecological Services Office will be conducting a five-year review on the status of the Topeka shiner.

Black-footed Ferret: The following population estimates were provided by Scott Larson of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Conata Basin had approximately 210 animals this winter. The Rosebud Sioux Tribe released 67 animals in 2004, which have had good survival. The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe estimated they have 40-50 animals in the fall of 2004. They believe the habitat at their main reintroduction area is now filled.

Greater Sage Grouse: The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service completed a status review for the greater sage grouse and announced its twelve month finding on January 6, 2005. The Service concluded that the species is not warranted for listing as a threatened or endangered species. The Service is encouraged by cooperative efforts by state, federal and local entities and urged these partners to continue sage grouse management planning and implementation. John Wrede of the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks is a member of the WAFWA Interagency Sage and Columbian Sharp-tail Grouse Technical Committee. The South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks is hosting a committee meeting and workshop in June 2006 in Spearfish, South Dakota.

Missouri River Endangered Species: Federal, state, tribal and non-government organization partners continue to work together on four listed species found in and along the Missouri River in South Dakota: the pallid sturgeon, least tern, piping plover and bald eagle. For more information on this planning effort, visit the Wildlife Diversity

Program's link to the South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks' web site. The 2003 amendment to the Biological Opinion issued by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is being implemented. Examples of projects related to this effort include emergent sandbar habitat creation and sandbar habitat clearing on the Missouri River.

Submitted by Eileen Dowd-Stukel Committee Chair

Public Lands Committee

1. Digitized full ownership of state public lands in South Dakota, 820,000 acres, is available from the SDGFP in shape file format.
2. There was a land exchange with the Fort Pierre National Grasslands.
3. The SDGFP leased 5,035 acres of the McIlravy Ranch in northeast Pennington County adjacent to the Cheyenne River. State Public Lands Office purchased this ranch from income from the sale of small tracts with limited access. With this purchase and adjoining Bureau of Land Management and other state public lands there is now public access to over 10,000 acres.

Submitted by Dennis Mann Committee Chair

Teaming with Wildlife Committee

National efforts continue to secure a stable, long-term national funding source for fish and wildlife species that have historically been underfunded, such as that are not eligible for current federal funding sources or that are low priorities for state, tribal or federal agencies. The overall emphasis of this legislative campaign, called Teaming with Wildlife, is to secure funds for a more comprehensive approach to wildlife management and in the process to help prevent species from becoming endangered. The present political climate does not appear favorable to passage of long-term, dedicated funding source, so the emphasis is on making the best use of State and Tribal Wildlife Grants funding, annual appropriations available through the Department of the Interior and the completion of state Comprehensive Wildlife Plans or Strategies.

Senator Tim Johnson has been a national leader on Teaming with Wildlife and has consistently supported increased funding for underfunded species and habitats. Federal funding available in FY05 totals \$62 million for State Wildlife Grants and \$6 million for Tribal Wildlife Grants.

The State Wildlife Grants program is entering its fifth year, with \$340 million in federal funds allocated to date. Although a popular and effective program, the issue of non-federal match is challenge for many states and more attention is being given to this funding challenge. South Dakota's Comprehensive Fish & Wildlife Conservation Plan is in progress and a draft will be available for review and comment this spring. These plans are due from all states and territories to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service by October 1, 2005 as a condition of acceptance of State Wildlife Grants funding.

Submitted by Eileen Dowd-Stukel Committee Chair

South Dakota State University Chapter of the Wildlife Society

1. This past year we split from the Wildlife & Fisheries Conservation Club into the Wildlife & Fisheries Conservation Club and the Fisheries Conservation Club.
2. Thus far for this year we have honored our contract with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for the maintenance of wood duck boxes at Conservation Park and have exchanged ideas to remove "dead and down" fuels for a possible prescribed burn in the fall of 2005.
3. Provided Future Farmers of America (FFA) testing for FFA students of South Dakota and southwest Minnesota.
4. The student chapter was invited to attend a wildlife concave at the University of Minnesota and participated in the wildlife quiz bowl.
5. Implemented a Save Our Streams (SOS) committee for our chapter.
6. Started an urban raccoon study in Brookings.

Submitted by Brian Baslantle

2006 SDTWS Annual Meeting

Hello from Huron. I hope you are all enjoying the summer field season. I would like to take this opportunity to inform everyone that the 2006 meeting will again be held at the Cedar Shore Resort & Convention Center in Chamberlain. We had excellent attendance at the 2005 meeting (126 registrants), which may partially have been because of the central location of Chamberlain. In addition, the executive board has found the staff at Cedar Shore very accommodating and easy to work with. Therefore, the 2006 meeting will head back to Chamberlain on March 6th to the 8th.

I am also looking for members that are interested in serving on the board. We will be electing a new president-elect and one new board member. If you have an interest in becoming involved with the SDTWS Executive Board, please contact me: (605) 352-5894 Ext.14.

This is also the first call for papers for the 2006 meeting. If you have a paper that you wish to present, I would like to start getting the program in order. I am hoping to develop a half-day session around the theme of non-game, grassland-dependent birds. I chose the theme because there is currently some excellent research on this topic being conducted in South Dakota that is not well-known because it is being conducted by out-of-state researchers. I would love to take this opportunity to share that research with you. If you have a suggestion for a presentation that fits this theme, please let me know. I'm sure we can work it in somewhere!

Bridgette Flanders-Wanner, President-elect

Awards from the 2005 SDTWS Annual Meeting



2005 Wildlife Professional Award

Boyd Shulz, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, presented Kurt Foreman with the 2005 Wildlife Professional of the Year Award from the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Kurt Forman has been working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since 1993. He currently holds the position of State Coordinator of Partners for Fish and Wildlife in South Dakota. Kurt is invaluable to South Dakota when activities are related to Federal Farm Programs and private land management. He has always maintained a great working relationship with whomever he meets, and he is a great professional to have working for wildlife.



2005 Citizens Award

Paul Coughlin presented Mike Williams with the 2005 Citizen of the Year Award from the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

Mike is a man that is dedicated toward wetland conservation in South Dakota. He has been a tireless advocate for wetland education and conservation on many fronts, and nearly always as a volunteer. Mike has represented the Isaac Walton League of America on many wetland issues. He has served as Project Coordinator for the Upper Big Sioux Watershed Project. Mike's volunteer efforts and advocacy work will have a long lasting positive impact on the South Dakota Landscape.

2004 Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Steve Griffin presented Christopher Swanson with the 2004 Outstanding Master's Student Award from the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Christopher is a graduate student at South Dakota State University.

2005 Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Steve Griffin presented Meagan Hall with the 2005 Outstanding Master's Student Award from the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Meagan is a graduate student at South Dakota State University.

2005 Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Steve Griffin presented Krysten Schuler with the 2005 Outstanding PhD Student Award from the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Krysten is a doctoral candidate at South Dakota State University.

2005 Special Award

Steve Griffin presented Charlene "Charlie" Bessken with a special award from the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society for her dedicated service to the SDTWS Webpage. Charlie has been instrumental in advancing the organization and use of the SDTWS Webpage.

2005 Special Award

Gregory Pavelka was recognized with a special award for his service to the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Greg has served as the newsletter editor for the SDTWS since 1999. Greg has done a wonderful job in disseminating information through our newsletter.

2005 Best Student Presentation Award

Dan Thompson was presented with the 2005 best student presentation award at the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society's annual meeting. Dan is a doctoral candidate at South Dakota State University.

2005 Best Open Presentation Award

Tony Leif was presented with the 2005 best open presentation award at the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society's annual meeting. Tony is the Wildlife Program Administrator for Game Management with the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks.

Congratulations to -

Bridgette Flanders-Wanner - President-Elect

Art Smith - Secretary-Treasurer

K.C. Jenson - Board Member

Bridgette, Art and K.C. were elected to the Executive Board at the annual SDTWS Meeting, which was held in March 2005 at Cedar Shores.

From the Grasslands Issues Committee

The U.S. Forest Service is working on an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) “The black tailed prairie dog conservation and management plan for the Nebraska National Forest and associated units.” This EIS has gone through public review and is awaiting the issuance of the final EIS and Record of Decision — a record of decision is expected by early July. For more information on the EIS and its status see the web site: www.fs.fed.us/r2/nebraska

Also, the U.S. Forest Service will be initiating an allotment management planning revision process for Fall River County within the Buffalo Gap National Grasslands — all grazing allotments will be revised in the Cottonwood and Indian Cooperative Grazing Districts. The major issue for this area is the fact that this area has the only sagebrush and sage grouse habitat in southwestern South Dakota. SDTWS members need to be aware that an opportunity exists to comment/participate on these issues as the SDTWS has been very influential in guiding the management on the National Grasslands in the past (e.g. prairie chicken management on the Fort Pierre National Grassland). SDTWS members will be able to review these guidelines via news releases. Greg Schenbeck (308.432.0313), U.S.

Forest Service Wildlife Management Biologist will also keep us informed on these issues by notifying our chapter president as information becomes available.

From the Resolutions and Public Statements Committee

Please be thinking of possible resolutions for the Chapter to consider at the next annual meeting. In order to be considered, a resolution only needs to be sponsored by two voting Chapter members. If you have an issue that merits a resolution, 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, he can put it in the correct format. If you have any questions, contact him at 605-688-4780.

What is the use of a house if you don't have
a decent planet to put it on?

Henry David Thoreau

South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Life Membership Dues

Two new life members were recognized at the 2005 SDTWS annual meeting. Tony Leif is Life Member #16, and Gregory Schenbeck is Life Member #17.

Join the seventeen 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 website at www.sdwildlife.org and look under the membership section for information or contact Chad Switzer at 605-353-6699.

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

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

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

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

Age 76 and over: Free

Upcoming Meetings and Events

The annual meeting of the Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society will be held August 10-12, 2005 in Medora North Dakota. Medora is 35 miles west of Dickinson on I-94, in the heart of the North Dakota Badlands and the Little Missouri National Grasslands. Highlights will be a Technical Session on Western Lands – Past, Present, and Future, a full day field trip and an evening social, barbecue, and auction. Registration will be about \$50.00 and will include the field trip (with lunch) and the Wednesday evening social and barbecue. Other optional activities include “Bully, the Play”, a Pitchfork Fondue, and the Medora Musical. This would be a great way to explore the Badlands of North Dakota and show your support of your Section. For more information about the meeting agenda as it develops see www.cmpswildlife.org. For information on lodging and Medora activities, including registration, see www.medora.com.

The 12th Annual Conference of The Wildlife Society will be held September 25-29, 2005 in Madison, Wisconsin. The Plenary will be “Following Leopold’s Footsteps: Six Decades After a Sand County Almanac” and will feature Leopold’s daughter, Nina Leopold Bradley. There will also be a number of workshops, symposia, and contributed papers and posters. Two field trips will be offered: one to Leopold’s shack and the International Crane Foundation, and another to the U.S. Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center. If you register by August 26, 2005 you can save \$50 as well as get your name in a drawing for a prize. For more information on meeting details see www.wildlife.org. Register online at <https://store.wildlife.org/>.

World renowned primatologist Dr. Jane Goodall is coming to South Dakota! For more than forty years Dr. Goodall has studied the great apes of Africa and has become a passionate spokesperson for the conservation and protection of primates. Dr. Goodall will be giving a lecture at the D.D. Miller Auditorium, Watertown High School, Watertown South Dakota on September 4. The lecture will begin at 3:30 P.M. and is free to the public. A free-will offering will be accepted as a donation to the Bramble Park Zoo, Roots and Shoots Program. For those wanting more information on Dr. Goodall and the Jane Goodall Institute please go to her web site at <http://www.janegoodall.org>.

THANK YOU!

To Past President Art Smith, Secretary-Treasurer Bridgette Flanders-Wanner and Executive Board Member Diane Mann-Klager for their hard work and contributions to the SDTWS.

To Diane Mann-Klager, Chad Switzer, Steve Spawn and Greg Wolbrink for making the commitment to run for the positions of President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Board Member.

To all the donors and participants in the SDTWS fund raiser auction.

NOTICE

This will be the last newsletter for all 2004 members that have not paid their 2005 dues. We encourage all members to recruit new members into the South Dakota Chapter of the Wildlife Society by using the blank membership application on the back of the newsletter.

South Dakota Chapter TWS - Executive Board

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Past-President

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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 - Tony Leif, Chairperson - 353-7145
Grassland Issues - Eddie Childers, 433-5263 & Boyd Shulz, 697-2500, 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, 697-2500
Wetlands and Waterbirds Recognition Honor Roll - John Koerner & Ken Higgins, 688-6121, Co-Chairs

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.

Email: Gregory.A.Pavelka@usace.army.mil

SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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Yes, please use my e-mail address to send me the SDTWS newsletter electronically in place of mailing me my newsletter.

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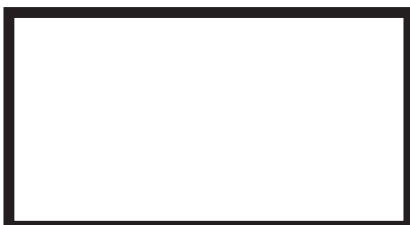
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