

"The Prairie Boomer"

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No. 1

**NEWSLETTER OF
The Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

President's Notes

When I got back from the CMPS meeting at Garden City last August, I thought I was fairly well caught up, that I could relax some, do some fishing, and look forward to the fall seasons. Didn't work out that way, though. I squeezed these passions in between worthwhile projects, my profession, and saving the world. Never enough time, it seems. I suppose it is the same for most of us. We are lucky, though, that our profession and passions overlap much of the time.

At the fall meeting in Garden City, I discussed a little on the benefits of increasing the number of Certified Wildlife Biologists in our Chapter. I thought this was a really cool thing for us to do. I think this could make our Chapter more relevant to our members and promote the profession. We didn't solve anything at the meeting, but I promised to champion this. I'm not Certified, but I always thought I would try someday. Stopping me so far is time, and maybe not knowing exactly what to do. Same limits everyone has. So, I'll take it on to bring more information and ideas to the spring meeting. Possibilities the Chapter may be able to help with include developing a help session, financial, identifying low-hanging fruits, etc. Please bring your ideas, also.

I felt good about pushing certification, partly because I thought it was a novel idea, and belonged to me. However, after looking at other chapter's newsletters, others are doing the same thing. This shows that just when you think you are breaking the trail, you find someone else's tracks. Good to be humbled, I suppose. But, finding tracks is what a professional Chapter is all about, isn't it? There are few better places to find someone else's tracks than our meetings.

So, plan to attend the spring meeting in Wichita next month. It looks to be one of our best yet. We have partnered with other professional societies to pool our resources together, and the result is the Kansas Natural Resource Conference. Dan Meyerhoff of the SWCS has led a great group of folks organizing the conference. Matt Peek has been our lead man. More information is on our website at www.fhsu.edu/biology/kctws/kctws.htm, the conference website at state.edu/fisheries/KNRC/index.htm, or in this newsletter. See you in Wichita.

Always know where your bull is. Dan

PS. Somebody put gas in Matt Peek's truck.



KCTWS Spring Meeting 2008, Wichita KS.

The 2008 annual meeting will be held February 21st in Wichita Kansas. This meeting will be in conjunction with the first ever Kansas Natural Resources Conference.

Where do trees belong in Kansas? The Role of Trees in Kansas is the theme of the Kansas Natural Resources Conference (KNRC) to be held at the Airport Hilton, Wichita, Kansas February 21-23, 2008. "The KNRC is being organized and sponsored by the Kansas chapters of six professional natural resource societies," said Dan Meyerhoff, steering committee chairperson. "The sponsors represent a unique blend of disciplines promoting the wise use and management of Kansas's natural resources. The sponsors are the Kansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams, the Great Plains Society of American Foresters, Kansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society, the Kansas Section of the Society of Range Management, and Kansas Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society. Plenary session speakers are Dr. Elliot West, distinguished Professor of History at the University of Arkansas; Dr. Jim Sherow, Professor of Environmental History at Kansas State University; and Larry Rutter, retired from the Kansas State Historical Society. Speaker biographies are on the Web site. Conference brochure, call for papers, registration form, concurrent session topics, committee chairs, and hotel information is available on the Web site at: www.k-state.edu/fisheries/KNRC. Or contact Dan Meyerhoff, at 785-625-2588 or email at dan.meyerhoff@ks.usda.gov.

KCTWS

Thursday, February 21st, 2008
3:00 – 5:00pm
Business Meeting Agenda
(tentative)

Call to order

Fall meeting minutes approval

Treasurer's Report

Communications

1. Farm Bill
2. ND Chapter MO River Statement

Committee Reports

1. Travel Grants
2. Meeting and Conference

Old Business

1. Biologist Certification
2. New website

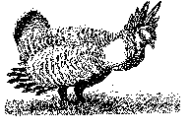
New Business

1. Chapter CD \$ question
2. New committee member shoulder tapping
3. KWF organized 5th Annual Conservation Luncheon at Statehouse
 - a. Donation
 - b. Booth/table?
 - c. 3/13/08
4. Other from membership?

Fall Meeting place and time

1. With KSU Chapter at Manhattan?
2. KS River float (connect to our aquatic roots)?
3. Early September?
4. Other ideas?
5. Let Committee decide?

Adjourn



KCTWS Fall Meeting 2007 Garden City, Kansas

Business Meeting Minutes, Finnup Center, Garden City, August 6, 2007

President Haines called the meeting to order at 10:35 am

Members in attendance: 24

Mark Sexson introduce Gary White CMPS president and John Organ, TWS President

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Brad Simpson reported on chapter expenditures and deposits since the last meeting.

Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Treasurer Report Annual Fall Meeting August 6, 2007

	Balance on	2/23/2007	\$2,307.22
Expenses	Shannan Nilz - student paper award		\$ 50.00
	Heather Barton - student paper award		\$ 50.00
	Dan Haines - refreshments for mtg		\$ 77.67
	Mark Sexson - CMPS mtg		\$ 500.00
	CMPS membership dues		\$ 52.00
		Total Expenses	\$ 729.67
Deposits	Membership Dues from TWS		\$ 194.00
	Local Membership Dues		\$ 94.00
	Registration fees - spring meeting		\$ 551.00
		Total Deposits	\$ 839.00
	Balance in Checking	8/6/2007	\$2,416.55

Committee Reports: Student Travel Grant Committee: Tom Swan announced that no applications were received for student travel grant.

No other committee reports.

Communications: Dan announced the Emporia State University newsletter mentioned our Chapter spring meeting. Good publicity for the chapter.

President Haines reviewed funding requests: TWS is seeking donations for TWS international professional travel grant.

TWS is seeking donation for the electronic and new technology systems upgrades. John Organ indicated they are looking for money to pay for all the upgrades, and would accept any amount for the donations.

TWS meeting in Tuscon, September 22-26. Dan encourage members to attend if possible and that they are requesting chapter support.

KACEE is requesting for support for their annual conference.

Dan Haines motioned that the chapter we support \$100 to KACEE, Karl Grover seconded, motioned passed.

Randy Rogers motioned that the chapter provide \$500 for the Information Technology/ Web services, Kent Montei seconded, Mark Sexson indicated that we should come out financially pretty good on CMPS meeting. Motioned carried.

Dan talked about the KCTWS strategic plan, 2 comments were received from members, comments were incorporated. The board will review and discuss the plan, prior to approval. Brad handed out the current draft to members, members should send their comments to the KCTWS board.

Cherrie Nolden reported on the status of the next Farm Bill. The House version has passed and will move to Senate. There is a tax loop hole in the House version that may result in a veto from the President, if passed as is. WHIP was authorized at \$85 million by the House version. Volunteer public access provision was incorporated at \$20 million. In general, the House version is wildlife friendly, however, the program funds were generally less than desired.

Kansas Conservation Coalition - Dan provided information on the status on the Kansas Conservation Coalition. Dan contacted all KS legislatures regarding the lack of funding of WRP, Dan received a letter back from Representative Boyda thanking the Chapter for our input.

New Business: Committee Membership: Dan reviewed committees chairs and members.

Nominations and Elections Committee: Bob Culbertson had been Chair for a number of years. Tom Swan suggested that we have co-chairs, primarily to bring in younger members and encourage them to get active. Discussion followed on committees, structure and function.

Don Kaufman suggested that the Chapter designate or have a web master to keep current information posted on the chapter website. Don commented that old newsletters should be posted on the website.

Kansas Natural Resource Conference: Matt Peek provided information on the KNRC. Spring meeting will be in con-junction with other societies (SRM, GPAF, AFS, SWCS, KAWS). February 22- 25 in Wichita, at the Hilton Airport, business meeting will be held on the afternoon of the 22nd. Theme will be "Role of trees on the Kansas landscape" but all topics will be accepted for the general sessions. A keynote speaker has been determined. Presentation will be 15 or 30 minutes, abstracts due by December 7. Don Kaufman suggested that we get the call for papers out to all members ASAP and needs to be circulated.

Logo: Dan suggested the Chapter consider changing Chapter logo, similar to the CMPS 2007 meeting logo. Discussion followed on using the CMPS Logo, Kathy Sexson indicated that the Lee Richardson Zoo holds the rights to the logo since they commissioned it and paid for it, but the chapter could use it if desired.

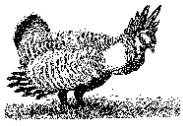
Snipe Award Nominations: Information will be in next newsletter, winner will be announced at the Spring 2008 meeting. Dan suggested we submit KCTWS members for other awards presented by other groups.

Special Proposal: Dan proposed to get as many members as certified wildlife biologists in Kansas and KCTWS members to promote professionalism in Kansas. Karl Grover suggested that the Chapter provide monetary support for students when they apply for associates. Dan will continue to formulate.

Mark Sexson suggested that we incorporate CMPS meeting attendees to become KCTWS members motion seconded. Non-KCTWS members in 2007, will be KCTWS members through 2008.

Mark Sexson provide welcome and overview on what to expect for upcoming CMPS meeting.

Meeting adjourned.



CMPS MEETING GARDEN CITY

On August 6-9, Kansas was host to over 100 wildlife professionals from places as far away as Manitoba, Canada. The Central Mountain and Plains Section (CMPS) as well as the Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society held their annual fall meeting in Garden City and were treated to the great hospitality of the southwest part of our state.



CMPS has members from seven US states and two Canadian Provinces. The meeting was sponsored by KDWP, Fort Hays State University and the Lee Richardson Zoo. The three day meeting included social events that included a backyard barbeque, KC strip steaks at the Zoo, and a lamb barbeque on the banks of the Arkansas River.



The professional side of the meeting included a mentoring program for the students, business meetings for both organizations, a full day touring of the sandsage prairie management, a tour of several ag businesses, and a full day of professional papers.



If you are not already a member of The Wildlife Society, please consider joining. It does not matter what division or section you work in, if you consider yourself a wildlife professional, the organization would love to have you as a member. Your participation in the future of our profession is requested and the fee to belong to the Kansas Chapter and the CMP Section is very reasonable. Please join us in making the future of wildlife management in Kansas strong.

Mark Sexson





SNIPE AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT



Nominations for the KCTWS Snipe Award for Outstanding Professional Contributions to Wildlife Conservation are now being accepted by the Board of Directors. Please give this some thought, complete the nomination form and **return it to Bob Culbertson by February 1st, 2008**. This award is presented annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to The Wildlife Society and wildlife conservation as a professional. Past recipients include: Randy Rodgers, Stephen Capel, Marvin Schwilling, Robert D. Wood, Keith Sexson, Robert J. Robel, David Wiseman, William Hlavachick, Steve Sorenson, Charles Lee, Lee Queal, Ron Little, Bob Culbertson, Kathy Sexson and Tom Swan.

Include name, address, phone number and current position help by the nominee. Describe Professional Involvement with The Wildlife Society-Offices held, committee involvement, etc. Describe Contributions to Wildlife Conservation through Professional Positions. Describe Professional Contributions through Involvement with other Organizations, Groups, etc.

Email nominations to Bob Culbertson bobc@wp.state.ks.us or mail to: 207 Cheyenne, New Strawn, KS. 66839-8923

CALL FOR ORAL AND POSTER ABSTRACTS

The Central Mountains and Plains and Canadian sections of The Wildlife Society invite submission of abstracts for oral and poster presentations for their joint summer meeting: ***Crossroads in Wildlife: New Great Plains Initiatives and Canadian Directions*** to be held at the Lakeview Resort and conference Center in Gimli, MB from 14-17 August 2008. A plenary section of invited speakers will be held on 16 August to address the topic of *Climate Change from the Great Plains to the Arctic*, and an oral presentation session for students is planned. Additional information on abstract submission can be found at:

<http://www.wildlifesociety.mb.ca/>,
or at: <http://www.wildlife.org/sections/Canada/>
Direct questions to Merlin Shoemith, Program Chair, (204) 222-4651, 109mejo@mts.net or to Evelyn Merrill, Past President, Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society, (780) 492-2842, emerrill@ualberta.ca.

Network. Learn. Explore. Enjoy!

Take your seat in the sun!

Registration opens June 2008

The Wildlife Society 15th Annual Conference

November 8-12, 2008

Miami, Florida

www.wildlife.org

THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

C. Alex Bramwell

The Kansas Chapter Of The Wildlife Society

"Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions in his sphere."

Theodore Roosevelt

KCTWS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Dan Haines
Wolf Creek Nuclear
Operations Corp
1550 Oxen Lane
Burlington KS. 66839
(w) 620-364-8831 ext 4672
(h) 785-733-2829
dahaine@wcnoc.com

President -Elect

Matt Peek
Emporia Research Ofc.
1830 Merchant
P.O. Box 1525
Emporia KS. 66801
620-342-0658
mattp@wp.state.ks.us

Past – President

Don Kaufman
232 Ackert Hall
Division of Biology
KS. State University
66506-4901
785-532-6622
dwkaufma@ksu.edu

Secretary -Treasurer

Brad Simpson
Kansas Dept. Wild. Parks
512 SE 25th Ave
Pratt KS. 67124
620-672-0757
brads@wp.state.ks.us

Board Members

Karl Grover
Cheyenne Bottoms WA
56 N.E. 40 Rd.
Great Bend KS. 67530
cheybott@wp.state.ks.us

Cherrie Nolden
614 N Thompson
Pratt, KS. 67124
620-388-3913
ksagliaison@yahoo.com

NewsLetter Editor

Matt Smith
P.O. Box 177
Wilson, KS 67490
(W) 785-625-2588, 785-658-2465
mattas@wp.state.ks.us

Please do not hesitate to contact the KCTWS or Newsletter Editor with Newsletter suggestions, additions, or related comments.

**KANSAS CHAPTER - TWS
P.O. Box 177
Wilson, KS 67490**

Objectives of the Kansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society.

- 1. To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environments upon which wildlife and man depends.**
- 2. To undertake an active role in preventing man induced environmental degradation.**
- 3. To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.**
- 4. To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.**

**Application for Membership
Kansas Chapter TWS**

Membership Dues (Payable April 1)
Regular Member.....\$10.00
Student Member.....\$2.00
(Applicant may pay multiple years)

Total Enclosed \$

Are you a member of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY?
Yes _____ No _____
Are you willing to be called to help the board?
Yes _____ No _____

If so, what is your phone number?
Home _____
Office _____
Area of Expertise _____
Area of interest _____
Date _____ Signature _____

Make Check Payable to: KS Chapter TWS

Full Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____
Present Position _____

**Mail application with dues to:
Kansas Chapter TWS
Brad Simpson
512 SE 25th Ave
Pratt KS. 67124**