

North Central Section The Wildlife Society

Biennial Newsletter, Volume 48, Number 1, Spring 2008

www.crk.umn.edu/tws/NCS



Illinois - Indiana - Iowa - Michigan - Minnesota - Missouri - Ohio - Wisconsin

What's Inside

President's Column	1
Past-President's Column	3
Section Representative's Report	4
Membership Meeting Minutes	6
State Chapter Reports	10
Student Chapter Reports	15
2008 Midwest F&W Conference	22
Professional Award of Merit	22
Beginning Your Professional Journey	24
Passing of Glen Sanderson	25
2008 Officer List	26

President's Column

Jeff Lawrence

Greetings! I hope you are enjoying spring, although my thoughts are with those in the southern part of the Section that are suffering from flooding. It's late March in northern Minnesota and they are still driving on the lakes. I enjoy the ice and snow, but my thoughts have turned to open water. In this column, I wanted to touch on a couple of current issues, discuss the work of the Section, and acknowledge several groups and individuals.



Biofuels: Former NCS President David Luukkonen wrote about potential impacts of biofuels in last spring's NCS newsletter. Driven by mandates for clean energy and reduced dependence on foreign oil, there have been substantial efforts to support and require use of ethanol to supplement gasoline. Ethanol is one of the drivers for current high crop prices and land values in the Midwest -- changes that have provided incentive for landowners not to renew their conservation set-asides. Information just compiled by Ducks Unlimited

indicates that between 2007 and 2012, there will be loss of 27% of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands in Iowa, 42% in Minnesota, 60% in North Dakota, and 66% in South Dakota! These lands, and set-aside lands in other midwestern states, are important to many species of wildlife. The relatively high number of ducks since the mid-1990s was due to a combination of wet years combined with good upland nesting habitat provided by CRP and other conservation programs. The Wildlife Society and other Conservation organizations are working hard to ensure strong conservation provisions in the Farm Bill, but many of the habitat gains of recent years may be undone by current agricultural economics. This is nothing new, but a big change after 20+ years of large cropland set-aside programs.

Nontoxic Shot: The Section helped fund a Symposium at the recent Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference titled "The Impacts of Lead Poisoning to Fish and Wildlife." Gary Potts, former NCS Representative, did a great job organizing and chairing the session. This issue will be important as Natural Resource agencies and others decide on the best action. The last week of March, North Dakota recalled venison donated to food shelves because of contamination due to lead bullet fragments. At the time of this writing, Minnesota and Wisconsin were testing venison donated to food shelves before deciding on a course of action. It is too early to know the outcome of this issue and if the concern will be substantiated, but it has the potential to change the character of the lead shot discussion. Most of the issues with lead shot and bullets have focused on wildlife rather than human health concerns. The Wildlife Society is near completion of a Position statement on "Control of Environmental Contamination Due to Lead Shot" that will help guide our approach to this issue in the future.

In addition to helping fund the Lead Poisoning workshop, the Section also is providing \$500 to support the Student Conclave scheduled for April 11-13, 2008 in Houghton, Michigan. We are pleased that the conclave is being held again and appreciate the efforts of Michigan Tech University and University of Wisconsin Student Chapters, the hosts of this year's conclave. We also contributed another \$1,000 towards our commitment of \$5,000 for the TWS Endowment Campaign. The Section financially supported the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference and the TWS website update, too. We also supported efforts led by Past-President John Moriarty to get all of the published NCS Symposium Proceedings scanned and available on our website.

Congratulations to Nico Dauphine and Christopher Hamilton for 1st and 2nd place student papers and Emily Koppel and Lars Anderson for top student posters at the recent Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. The Section rewarded their achievements by providing each with memberships in the National, Section, and State Chapters of The Wildlife Society. In addition, the 1st place winners were provided a subscription to the Journal of Wildlife Management.

Special congratulations to Bill Anderson, Illinois Natural History Survey, retired, who received our Section's Professional Award of Merit. I have known Bill since my time in

Illinois, and the award was well deserved! Congratulations also to Missouri Western State University, who was awarded the Student Chapter of the Year award. This award includes \$1,000 for students to travel to the Midwest Conference. I encourage other Student Chapters to apply for this annual award.

Let me know if you have any suggestions on how to improve the effectiveness of the Section. Have a great spring and summer, and not too much open water at once.

Past-President's Column

John Moriarty

I write this column as I am looking at a wall of journals and books. Did you know that the *Journal of Wildlife Management* takes up 12 feet of shelf space? I can easily find an article or topic to use as a reference for many subjects, but not all. In the past, I would spend a great deal of time visiting the library to access information on topics not covered in my personal library, including addition journals such as Auk, Ecology, or Societies for which I was not a member.

Now in cases where I do not have the correct publication, I will use on-line publications and resources, but it is not my main method. For many wildlifers on-line publications are the preferred method for accessing this information. On-line journals make it easier to search a wider range of titles. There is no need to travel to the library. The downside is that many of the people who are using these resources do not feel the need to support the organizations publishing the journals. Reduced support, especially reduced membership, makes it more difficult for the Societies to produce and distribute the Journals, both print and on-line. Less support means fewer professional outlets for publishing which leads to use of non-professional outlets and websites with less-than-rigorous review and fact checking.

The use of non-professional websites is also growing. While the use of these sites is quick, easy, and even entertaining, it degrades the quality and reliability of the reports. Data from "Jim-Bob's Deer World" is more questionable than data from the *Journal of Wildlife Management*. Unfortunately, there are more and more Jim-Bob sites and fewer Professional sites.

One way to make sure that the professional, sites with quality journals and e-books, are maintained and become the preferred sites for information is to keep the professional societies strong. If you are reading this, you are probably already a supporter. I encourage you to remind a colleague that it is important to support their professional societies, even if they are only using on-line sources.

The North Central Section knows that on-line publications are important and economical, which is why you are receiving your newsletter on-line. We are also creating an on-line archive of our past symposium proceedings, all of which are out-of-print and difficult to

locate. **We are trying to track down multiple hard copies of these proceedings; if you are willing to donate any from your private stash, please contact one of the officers listed on the last page of this newsletter!**

Section Representative's Report

Alan Crossley

I recently returned from The Wildlife Society Council meeting that was held in Phoenix in conjunction with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference. You would think that after 20 hours of meetings over 3 days that I might be wondering, "What the heck did I get myself into?" But, far from it, I found the meetings and interactions with TWS staff and fellow council members to be invigorating! I am proud to be a member of The Wildlife Society and hope that you feel the same.

Hats Off to a variety of North Central Section members and chapters. A quick perusal of *The Wildlifer* shows that three of the top 5 finishers in the Sizzling Summer Student Membership Campaign were from the Section. Congratulations to the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point for coming in 1st; to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for coming in 4th; and the University of Wisconsin – Madison for coming in 5th!

I also want to congratulate the most recent additions to the Certification Program from the North Central Section. Take some time to congratulate these folks and ask them, "Why did you decide to get certified?"

Associate Wildlife Biologists:

Chadwick D. Rittenhouse, Columbia, MO
Denise Leann Roberts, Trenton, OH
John Simpson, Howell, MI

Certified Wildlife Biologists:

Chad Q. Alberg, Rice Lake, WI
John Matthew Buffington, Indianapolis, IN
Joe N. Caudell, W. Lafayette, IN
Richard Carl Hinnah, Fulton, MO
Victoria L. Jackson, Warrensburg, MO
Jamie Nack, Fall River, WI
Dan Svedarsky, Crookston, MN

Who's Doing Great Work – YOU ARE! Our magazine, *The Wildlife Professional* – wants to hear from you. Are you doing some interesting work in the field, applying a novel technique to managing habitat, have some thoughts on how best to manage a species,

have a successful learn to hunt program that you want to tell folks about, or just have some ideas that you are just busting to share? Then Philippa Benson wants to hear from you. Philippa is the editor-in-chief of *The Wildlife Professional* and would love to be able to publish stories from TWS members working in the field. If you've got an idea for a story that you want to share with wildlife professionals from around the country and around the globe, then please contact Philippa (philippa@wildlife.org). I would love to see one story per issue from a North Central Section member. I'm working on one for the fall issue.

What's Happening? The following is a list of just a few of the many accomplishments that have occurred over the last 6 months thanks to the hard work, dedication and support of TWS staff, members, and council.

- Completion of a revised draft of the *TWS Strategic Plan, 2008-2013*. We spent another day reviewing and revising it while at the Council meeting – but we're getting close.
- Received pledges of \$35,000 from USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, \$10,000 from U.S. National Park Service, and \$15,000 from The Walt Disney Company in support of *The Wildlife Professional*
- The first themed issue of *The Wildlife Professional* will be published in the fall and will focus on climate change and wildlife
- Increased the bandwidth and speed of the Website to accommodate increased traffic. I got to the point where it pained me to visit the website because it was so unbelievably slow. But it seems to be working great now and there is a lot of information for our profession on the site. You should definitely check it out – www.wildlife.org
- Completion of a proposal to organize a special symposium on federal policies restricting federal employees from assuming leadership positions in professional and scientific organizations for the 2008 Annual Conference in Miami.
- Formation of an ad hoc committee on the misuse of science in policy development that will be compiling and classifying various ways in which science is used inappropriately.
- Completion of the draft technical report on lead in the environment in cooperation with the American Fisheries Society. Council approved the report in Phoenix so publication of the report will begin soon.

Wildlife Policy Priorities for 2008 – TWS staff are working hard on our behalf. Here are the policy priorities that TWS is focusing on this year:

- Federal budgets for wildlife and habitat conservation, management, research, and education
- Energy development on federal lands
- The Farm Bill
- Teaming with Wildlife/state wildlife agency nongame funding

- Endangered Species Act reauthorization
- Global climate change and wildlife
- Wetlands conservation
- Federal employee participation in professional societies
- Science policy for FWS and USGS-BRD
- Wildlife baiting and feeding
- Wildlife diseases
- Federal land management agency planning/land use regulations
- North American Model/Public Trust Doctrine

So What IS The Wildlife Society Doing for You? In a nutshell – quite a bit! Part of my interest in serving on Council was to explore ways to make TWS more relevant to its membership. One thing I have learned in my short time on Council is that TWS has been, and continues to be, quite relevant to its members. I just wasn't paying close enough attention! There is always room for improvement, but so far I am impressed. I hope you are, too. And if you are not yet a member of TWS at the national level – I hope you will seriously consider adding your voice and your support to its important work.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve the North Central Section. I am enjoying every minute of it.

North Central Section TWS Website

Please visit our website (<http://www.crk.umn.edu/tws/NCS/>) for Awards and Nomination Forms, specifically, the Professional Award of Merit. This award is given periodically to living conservationists who are or have recently been active within the geographic boundaries of the Section. There are many wildlife biologists in the Section who have inspired excellence in their colleagues and the next generation of wildlifers coming through the ranks; do not hesitate to nominate someone deserving of this honor!

2007 North Central Section (NCS) TWS Membership Meeting Monona Terrace Conference Center, Meeting Room O Madison, Wisconsin – 10 December 2007

President John Moriarty called the meeting to order at 5:26 PM. Attendance was about 30 (similar to the 2006 meeting).

1. Executive Board Reports

a. President's Report—John Moriarty: John stated that it was a quiet year with no major problems. Putting together the Lead Symposium was a major priority. We donated some

funds towards the Lead Symposium, Midwest Conference, and national's website development, as reflected in the Executive Board meeting minutes. John noted that the national website is becoming a very useful site.

b. President Elect's Report—Jeff Lawrence: Jeff is interested in membership issues and getting people from state chapters to become more involved in the NCS. We need to build the Endowment and Symposium Funds and will spend some time on that this year. Jeff is open to ideas for increasing membership.

c. Past President's Report—Dave Lukkonen: Dave was unable to attend the meeting and had nothing else to contribute.

d. Secretary's Report—Clay Nielsen: Draft minutes were distributed to those attending and there was a brief review of the minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

e. Treasurer's Report—Mark Shieldcastle: Mark was unable to attend the meeting, but John summarized the report and reviewed the increase from last year to this year. John discussed the Continuing Education fund, that it is up to nearly \$25 K and that we are looking at ways to increase that amount to the \$50 K that was originally planned. John also mentioned the \$12 K in the Symposium Fund, and that the face of publications was changing given the advent of the digital age. How can we publish and maintain NCS items in the future? John noted that all income comes from folks paying membership dues. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report and carried.

f. State and Student Chapter Reports—Chapter Representatives

Michelle Windsor (Wisconsin): Michelle noted that the Wisconsin chapter had one of the highest attendances recorded at their last winter meeting, and had many student papers given at the meeting. Wisconsin has continued to increase communications on-line and had success with that and their webpage, and is hoping to switch over to the national's website soon. Wisconsin is no longer doing their summer meeting, but is switching that out into a one-day "technical workshop" to deal with low turnout during summer. Their next winter meeting is a joint meeting with AFS.

Brett Beatty (Ohio): Ohio has recently had small meetings, and the group is trying to increase interest in reinvigorating the group. Now, the state chapter meets in conjunction with Ohio DNR meetings. They are looking for ways to jump-start their chapter again, and noted that Suzie Prange is their current president.

Mitch Marcus (Indiana): Indiana had a successful fall workshop and spring meeting, and is currently working with Indiana State University to start a student chapter there. The state chapter is also improving communications with the 2 student chapters in the state: Purdue and Ball State.

John Schulz (Missouri): Commented that the Missouri Natural Resource Conference is the big site for their TWS meeting, but the specific societies involved are no longer really involved in the development of their conference. Missouri has been active in providing workshops for the student chapters.

Jamie Jansen (Missouri Western State University): Mentioned that the Missouri student chapters really enjoyed the Missouri TWS workshops. Jamie discussed the chapter activities that they do, such as helping managed hunts, grassland restoration, quail counts, deer aging, hunter education instructor course, and red card certification.

Luke Anderson (Minnesota-Crookston): Crookston has 8 students present at the Midwest Conference, and Luke discussed all other chapter activities, such as wildlife refuge work, deer browsing protection, wood duck boxes, buckthorn removal, and community service projects.

Laura Bies (National, Government Affairs): Laura discussed Technical Reviews, Wind Energy, and publication order forms now available on the national webpage (but no PDFs). Next report is on Lead (related to symposium here), that will likely be coming out in Spring 2008. National has oil/gas, biofuels, North American conservation model, and public trust doctrine technical reviews in the works. Three position statements are on-line and require comment by early 2008. National has been working a lot on climate change and the farm bill on the governmental affairs side. Laura has also been working on the new Leadership Institute. Applications for that will be available in January 2008. Laura also mentioned the “toolkits” that she has developed at national.

Dan Svedarsky (National, President): Dan first thanked us for being involved and reviewed Laura Bies’ progress. Other highlights were discussed by Dan. There’s a disturbing trend of state/federal agencies in terms of their discouragement of biologists getting involved in professional societies. Dan mentioned strategic plan refinement in the upcoming council meeting. The Kleberg Institute is donating an endowment of \$125 K for a “wildlife excellence in applied management” annual award. There was discussion of the climate change committee. Jim Miller is donating 4 guns (all owned previously by Aldo Leopold winners) for raffle to up membership. National is looking into a Certified Wildlife Technician grade, with a requirement of continuing TWS membership (which isn’t the case currently). Wildlife programs at colleges and universities are being assessed via a committee. Dan noted that TWS is often perceived by biologists as an academic institution, which isn’t a good thing. The Wildlife Professional will be expanded in size; the upcoming fall issue will focus on climate change. Dan stated that membership is up to 7,761 members as of the end of October 2007 (a 3% increase over 2006). There’s been a large focus in recruiting students, but Dan noted that there are many retirements. Dan finally thanked the Wisconsin planners for making this such a “green” meeting.

2. Committee Activities

a. Nominations and Elections—John Moriarty: We had 102 votes for officers this year: Clay Nielsen (Vice President) in a tie-breaker, Michelle Windsor (Treasurer), and Rebecca Christoffel (Secretary).

b. Awards—John Moriarty: Awards were presented this morning during the Plenary Session; John presented the student chapter award to Missouri Western State University, who were not present at the Plenary Session to get it. Bill Anderson was top out of 4 to get the Professional Award of Merit. Best student paper and poster awards will go out tomorrow at the conference; awards are memberships to TWS.

c. 2007 Symposium—Lead Symposium—Gary Potts: Gary discussed the history of putting together this symposium a few years ago and discussed the importance of the issue. Gary has spent 2 years working on this and it will come together tomorrow at the conference; 18 speakers will be presenting their work. A position statement may ultimately arise from this symposium and others working on the lead issue. Gary thanked the section and national for supporting and endorsing this issue.

d. Strategy to recruit committee chairs and members: John discussed the importance of getting involved with committees, etc.

3. New Business

a. NCS Digitizing of Symposium Proceedings: John talked about digitizing the 13 symposia and making them available on the NCS/national website. John discussed the challenge of getting old symposia that we can cut apart...(2 copies...one to tear apart and then one to give national for their library)...we approved \$500 towards that cause during the Executive Board meeting. Motion from Ollie and second from Gary, no discussion, motion passed unanimously.

b. NCS Student Conclave: Jeff noted that Wisconsin Stevens-Point put on last year's conclave, and it was very well-attended. Michigan Tech/University of Wisconsin-Madison are doing the 2008 conclave. During the Executive Board meeting, we decided to fund the student conclave; Ollie Torgerson motioned, Tom Nelson second, no discussion, motion passed unanimously. Dan mentioned that someone should promote conclave from within the section executive board. He mentioned for Alan Crossley (Section Representative) to potentially do this, and discussed putting this in the by-laws as an official duty. Ollie Torgerson mentioned that it would be a good committee task, to develop a committee to keep the conclave going over time. Gary asked that Shannon Pederson be asked more about this...the tool kit she is putting together should probably include a "how to put on a conclave" guide. John asked about whether the conclave could be planned into the future, and to work with faculty advisors to do this. It was decided that this would be a good idea.

c. 2009 Chapter Dues: Jeff discussed keeping the dues the same at \$10. No vote was deemed necessary.

Jeff Lawrence asked for additional items of new business, and none were spoken. The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM. Tom made a motion, Clay seconded, motion passed unanimously.

State Chapter Reports

Illinois

Jeff Walk

The Illinois Chapter recently held our annual meeting, March 3-6th in East Peoria. Our plenary session on the effects of alternative energy sources (wind energy, corn-for-ethanol, and biomass crops) on wildlife and wildlife habitat drew a sizeable crowd and lots of discussion. We enjoyed a number of great presentations, including from students in each of our three chapters at Eastern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University, and the University of Illinois.

The meeting was a rich one for awards as well. The chapter's Professional Award of Merit was presented to Stan Etter by last year's recipient, Steve Havera. Stan is best known for his efforts in research and management of ring-necked pheasants in east-central Illinois. Gary Potts was acknowledged for his years of service to The Wildlife Society, including the past 6 as section representative. Paul Wilms was presented with the Pittman-Robertson Award by Michael Vanderford of the US Fish and Wildlife Service for his long-standing administration of the Statewide Public Lands Wildlife Habitat Development Project (better known in these parts as federal aid project W-76-D). Also acknowledged was Bill Anderson's Professional Award of Merit from the North Central Section, and Scott Simpson's Spirit of the Shack Award from the Midwest Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies. And finally, Amy Kelly of the University of Illinois won the Best Student Paper Award for "Resolution of Genetic Structure in White-Tailed Deer: A Tool for Investigating an Outbreak of CWD in Illinois." Congratulations to all!

Indiana

Dan McGuckin

The ICTWS again participated in the annual Indiana Conservation Alliance – Conservation Day at the State House on January 10, 2008. This provided an opportunity for our membership to meet with their legislators in a friendly environment and discuss important natural resource issues. The priorities of focus for this year's event included the support for the Great Lakes water Resources Compact, the passage of a State Renewable Energy Standard Bill, the establishment of an Apprentice Hunting License and the maintenance of dedicated funding to the State Division of Forestry.

The Chapter is holding its Spring Annual Meeting March 12 and 13, in Nashville, Indiana. This year's theme is Managing Wildlife in Indiana's Changing Agricultural Landscape. We will have speakers discussing the bio-fuels initiative, wind energy, pesticide use in fish and wildlife resources and a landowner's perspective. We have also planned a technical session including a variety of wildlife topics.

The chapter has many sub-committees who are actively monitoring conservation issues and providing a voice from the society to the public as well as updating the membership on issues that arise. Our committees include Farm Bill Monitoring, Teaming With Wildlife, Forest Technical Advisory, Wetlands Technical Advisory and many in-house support topics.

Iowa

Doug Chafa

The Iowa Chapter of The Wildlife Society held a meeting March 4th and 5th at the Annett Nature Center in Indianola. Fifteen new members brought meeting attendance up to 79. The first day of the program focused on land use and factors influencing land use. Dr. Michael Duffy, Dr. J.G. Arbuckle, and Dr. John Tyndall presented information on biofuels, land values, landowner demographics, and rural life survey results. Senator Harkin's staff, Nathan Vanderplaats followed these presentations with a discussion of the farm bill. The following day focused on quality deer management, deer biology and scoring of trophy racks for entry into the state record book.

Missouri

John Vogel

During 2007 the Missouri Chapter became an affiliate member of the Conservation Federation of Missouri. The Conservation Federation of Missouri is the largest and most representative conservation group in Missouri and is comprised of 70 conservation organizations and 30,000 members. The Conservation Federation of Missouri is the Missouri affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation and has a mission to educate, inspire, and empower individuals and organizations to take action to conserve and to support the sustainable harvest and wise use of fish, wildlife, forest and other natural resources, to help protect our planet's environment, and to nourish an ethic of stewardship and enjoyment of our natural world.

In late January of this year the Missouri Chapter held our annual business meeting in conjunction with the Missouri Natural Resources Conference. Holding our meeting in conjunction with a large conference (typically 800-1,000 attendees) has always provided an opportunity for the majority of our membership to attend the annual meeting. Our Chapter is currently in the process of reviewing our by-laws and operations manual to make some updates.

Several Chapter members and students from Missouri's five student chapters participated in our 2007 Spring Student Workshop held in southeastern Missouri. The workshop provided students with sessions on forest wildlife, international bird conservation, nuisance bird capture and control methods, cable restraints as a trapping tool, and an opportunity for obtaining prescribed fire training. The Chapter is actively prepping for our 2008 workshop to be held this April in St. Charles County, Missouri. This spring we will be focusing on big river ecology to take advantage of our close proximity the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. In addition we will be incorporating an 'amazing race' format to the workshop to encourage cooperation and teamwork with the students. The workshop always provides for great interaction between students and professionals in the field.

Officers for 2008 include: John Vogel – President, Rochelle Renken – President-Elect, Mike Schroer – Past-President, Alan Leary – Treasurer, Mike Hubbard – Secretary, and Bob Alexander – Board Member At Large.

Ohio

Suzanne Prange

The Ohio Chapter of The Wildlife Society (OCTWS) sponsored the 2007 Wildlife Awareness Awards. Gary Comer, Chair of OCTWS's Wildlife Awareness Committee, served as judge for the event. These awards were presented at the Ohio Academy of Sciences' State Science Day held on May 12th. First place was awarded to Ms. Andrea Hope Jeffries, a 12th grade student from Glen Oak High School in Canton, Ohio. The title of her project was "Phylogeography of the *Liasis mackloti*". Second place was presented to Mr. Noah R. McDonald, a 7th grade student from Dempsey Middle School in Delaware, Ohio, for his project "The Toads of Delaware County." Third place went to Ms. Kelsey M. Lecerf, a 10th Grade student from St. Vincent-St. Mary in Akron, Ohio, for "The Effect of Ultraviolet Light on the Development of *Daphnia pulex*." All 3 students were outstanding scholars and well spoken young people. Students received plaques for all 3 placements.

The OCTWS was also a sponsor of the 2007 Ohio Avian Ecology & Conservation Conference, held on August 24th. Including speakers, 208 people attended this event. The 2007 theme was "Hot Topics in Bird Conservation," and issues covered included global warming and climate change, energy development with emphasis on biofuels and wind turbines, emerging infectious diseases, and technological advances that will allow biologists to better monitor and study avian populations and their ecology.

Our annual meeting was held in conjunction with the Ohio Fish & Wildlife Management Association Conference on February 1st, 2008. The conference's theme was "Habitat Restoration: Providing a Landscape of Opportunity for Fish and Wildlife." Two hundred and eleven attendees enjoyed invited speakers from River and Stream Restoration, Inc. and The Wilds (a large and innovative wildlife conservation center located Cumberland, Ohio) during the morning session, and a diversity of presentations during the afternoon.

Additionally, numerous posters and exhibitors were a large attraction during breaks. Those who attended the keynote luncheon enjoyed great food and an entertaining and informative presentation by Mr. Hannibal Bolton, Chief of the Division of Fish and Wildlife Management and Habitat Restoration in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The day was capped off by the winter business meetings of the OCTWS and the Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Plans are already underway for the 2009 conference.

Wisconsin

Jamie Nack and Karl Martin

On February 5-7th, 2008, the Wisconsin Chapter of The Wildlife Society held a joint annual meeting with Wisconsin Chapter of The American Fisheries Society at Stoney Creek Inn in Wausau, WI. The conference theme was "Helping science to persevere in a political and social world". Approximately 250 natural resource professionals from around Wisconsin attended the meeting.



The Wednesday morning plenary session was informative, thought provoking and entertaining. Dr. Christine Thomas, Dean of the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point College of Natural Resources and Chair of the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board started the morning out with a dynamic presentation that captured the audience's attention with examples of how science and politics are intermingled, but yet need to maintain separation for the sake of the resource. This was followed by an excellent presentation by Dr. Dan Svedarsky from the University of Minnesota and current President of The Wildlife Society. Dan focused his talk on the relationship between sustainable agriculture and natural resource management and future challenges and opportunities. The plenary session concluded with a presentation by George Meyer, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and former Secretary of the Wisconsin DNR. George provided some thought provoking examples of how politics impacted him in his former position and how his current position meshes the science and politics of natural resource management in Wisconsin.

The general session on Wednesday included interesting presentations on cormorant management, lakeshore restoration, agriculture and energy policy, chronic wasting disease, bovine tuberculosis, and wolf management in Wisconsin. The WCTWS business meeting followed and included a discussion on the interaction of the WCTWS and the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, increasing of the amount of the annual student Leopold scholarship from \$500 to \$1,000, approval of a new chapter logo depicting the Aldo Leopold shack similar to what was used for the 2005 National TWS conference, and deer and government affairs issue committee updates by Keith McCaffery and Chuck Pils, respectively. New officers were elected: Harvey Halvorson (President elect), Dan Hirschert (Secretary/Treasurer), and Kay Brockman-Mederas (Board member). Ron Eckstein also presented an impressive presentation of his journey to the annual 2007 TWS meeting in

Tucson, Arizona. Laine Stowell was presented the Don Rusch Memorial award recognizing his dedication to the profession and his role in Wisconsin's elk reintroduction program.

Following the business meeting there was an awards banquet that included a pig roast with all the fixings, silent auction, garage sale, and raffle. During the banquet Jerry Bartelt was presented the chapter's highest award – the Wisconsin Award for his life-long dedication to protecting and enhancing Wisconsin's wildlife resource. Joe Welch from UW-Stevens Point and Linda Lyon from UW-Madison were awarded the chapter's Leopold student awards for their outstanding performance at their respective institutions.

The meeting concluded on Thursday morning with outstanding presentations on red-shouldered hawks, bottomland hardwoods, spruce grouse, prairie chickens, waterbird die-off, citizen science, and Wisconsin's Wildlife Action Plan. After the morning presentations we celebrated the conclusion of a great winter meeting with a picnic lunch of grilled burgers, brats, and chicken. During the luncheon Janet King was presented the award of best student presentation for her talk on red-shouldered hawks.

The meeting provided a combination of thought provoking scientific presentations as well as social time that seemed to be appreciated by attendees. This joint meeting marked the 37th anniversary from when the Wisconsin Chapters of TWS and AFS first met in Stevens Point as fledgling societies. We've come a long way!

WCTWS to Host First Technical Training Workshop

On September 25, 2008 the WCTWS will have its first technical training workshop at the UW Arboretum in Madison. The workshop topic is Wildlife Damage Management and will include indoor presentations on the principles of wildlife damage, laws and regulations, and an overview of the agencies/organizations that are available to help. The training will also include outdoor, hands-on demonstrations of techniques used to reduce and/or solve common wildlife damage issues. The chapter will host a workshop on a new wildlife-related topic and in a different location each year. Trainings will be open to anyone, but free for WCTWS members. Seasoned wildlife professionals will provide the training to our new biologists, technicians, and students.

WCTWS Establishes Telemetry Database Coordinator – Dr. Scott Walter

The WCTWS Executive Committee has acted to establish a database for all transmitter frequencies being utilized by wildlife researchers in the state. Dr. Scott Walter at UW-Richland Center will be serving as the Telemetry Database Coordinator. Scientists who are currently either conducting or designing telemetry-based research in the state are asked to submit information regarding their project, so scientists designing telemetry projects can avoid frequencies currently in use in a particular area. Overlap of transmitter frequencies in the field can cause much confusion, lead to wasted time and effort, and potentially introduce error into data used for survival and/or spatial analyses. The database will be housed locally, and information submitted will be held in strict confidentiality. Once the

database is established, individuals developing projects will be able to avoid purchasing transmitters with frequencies currently used on or near their intended study area.

Student Chapter Reports

Ball State University

Reed Stiller

After a very successful Fall semester the Ball State University chapter of The Wildlife Society has launched the spring semester meetings with a movie night where members watched a segment of The Planet Earth series. We have also had a pet night where members brought in pets or pictures and told the group about them. The Wildlife Society also has many speakers planned for this semester including Scott Johnson, the state Mammalogist, and John Castrale, the state Ornithologist.

We are going to be expanding our nest box project implemented last spring. The nest boxes have been installed on the Cardinal Greenway, a local biking and hiking trail, and more are being installed this semester. In order to ascertain if the target species are utilizing these boxes the chapter will be observing them and recording which species are found in them. We will also be mist-netting for spring migratory birds on the Cooper Farm property owned by Ball State. As in the past we volunteered at Great Cats of Indiana, a big cat sanctuary located near Idaville, Indiana, and also as in the past we participated in a raffle at the Indiana State Wildlife Society Meeting in Nashville, Indiana, this March and would like to thank all those who participated.

Central Michigan University

Heather Shaw

Our fall semester went out like a lion. Our carnivore tracking project (created to confirm a GIS model for suitable habitat for Bobcat/ Marten, etc.) in the Huron National forest was a success and included a confirmed bobcat track, yet winter wasn't kind enough to give us continuous tracking conditions! We had success trapping white-tailed deer with the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians as well. Spring semester is off to a busy start this year with a continuing group of new and dedicated members. To



kick the season off we have just completed the second outing of our Wildlife Education Project at local elementary schools which we will build and expand upon for next semester. Upcoming events include a Raptor Rehabilitation presentation and a BioBlitz at CMU's Neithercut Woodland which will consist of a full species inventory alongside other biology student organizations. We have volunteer activities planned with the Chippewa

Watershed Conservancy and an informational wildlife walk for city residents during our Earth Day festival. Wildlife professionals and graduate students are planned to speak with the chapter and we all look forward to the North Central Section TWS Conclave in April!

Michigan State University

Michael Hassett

The Fisheries and Wildlife Club at Michigan State has been having a busy, yet still enjoyable spring semester. In February, club members had the opportunity to help the Michigan DNR with a pine marten winter track survey. Club members learned to identify the tracks of marten, snowshoe hares, and wolves. Club members were also able to participate in habitat restoration for ruffed grouse and cleaning out wood duck boxes at nearby Rose Lake Wildlife Research Station.



A group of students from the club raised money to donate to the Polar Plunge, a fundraiser for the Special Olympics, at Hawk Island County Park in Lansing, MI. As part of the fundraiser, our club members jumped into the icy-cold water wearing various homemade animal costumes including a tiger, a beaver, a clownfish, and even krill.



Recently, peregrine falcons have been spotted on and near campus. Our club and several others are currently collaborating together to monitor the falcons and to set up a nest box on campus.

Later in the semester, we will have our regular Red Cedar River Cleanup on campus, which looks to set record numbers of volunteers that we have never had before. We are also planning a faculty-student barbecue as a send-off for our graduating seniors and to wish them well as they begin their careers as professionals.

We also plan to send a group of students to the Student Conclave at Michigan Tech. We are looking forward to see what you guys have planned!

Missouri State University

Kara Bader

At Missouri State University, membership is up and seems to be rising. This past fall, our chapter assisted the Missouri Department of Conservation with the annual deer aging survey at several meat lockers throughout the state. In January, we attended the MNRC conference at Lake of the Ozarks, where a few members found potential internships for the

summer. It looks like we are going to have a busy spring, as we have many activities planned. In April, we will be attending the state chapter's Spring Workshop at Klondike Park. We have also decided to have a spring float trip sometime in late April or early May. It should be a good stress-reliever before finals! We are planning on many different fundraisers this spring in order to send members to the national conference in Miami.

Purdue University

Carol Mahara

Much has happened at Purdue since the last newsletter was distributed. Last spring, we partnered with Tippecanoe County Parks Department to make nesting structures at Celery Bog Nature Area. Our project this year has been to maintain those structures and create interpretative signs for the public that explain what the nesting structures are for. During the fall, we hosted our second hunter education course and had a great turnout. We are grateful for Officer Matt Tholen and other conservation officers for their participation and support. We are also getting ready for Purdue's annual Spring Fest. During this event, we will teach visitors about Indiana's native wildlife and we will have a few interactive activities for all the children who stop by. Still in the works is a project with local high school science and ecology classes. If all goes well, we will be giving a guest lecture about wildlife management and ecology.



We have had a variety of speakers come to our meetings this year. From graduate students explaining their research to our district wildlife biologist updating us on the local deer herd, we have learned a lot about what is going on around us. Last fall, we sent six club members to the national meeting in Tucson, Arizona last September. Our officers had a great time competing in the quiz bowl and we were all grateful we had the chance to attend and meet so many people who work with wildlife. Also during the fall, we went to Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area and saw the tens of thousands of sandhill cranes that take refuge in the marshes during their fall migration. It was a real treat. In the new future, we will be going on herping trips and early morning birding walks. We are also looking forward to a behind the scenes tour of Wolf Park in April. During our last meeting, we will use eInstruction's CPS pads to have a quiz bowl for our chapter members. This will be a great chance for everyone in our club to test what they have learned in class.

For our new business, Dr. Dunning became our new faculty advisor this semester and we are excited to have him with us. We have just elected next year's officers and we will transition them this summer. Adam Janke will lead as president, Cody Marks will be our vice president, Bart Kraus will be secretary/treasurer, and Keith Norris will be our student council representative. We had some very enthusiastic people run for office and there is no doubt that our chapter will be as strong as ever.

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Catherine Hebert

The SIUC Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society is winding down from a busy semester. With only eight weeks left we are planning our annual end of the year cookout, The Beast Feast. We have been working closely with the Zoology Club to provide more activities for members to participate in, such as a trip to the National Tiger Sanctuary in Missouri, the LaRue-Pine Hills Natural Area, where members searched for herps during the bi-annual snake migration, and a group of officers attended the State TWS Meeting in Peoria. We also hosted a variety of guest speakers at our bi-weekly club meetings; Rachel Urbanek, an SIUC graduate student, Dr. Eric Hellgren from the SIUC Cooperative Wildlife Research Lab, Gary Potts from the IDNR, and more. Some of our upcoming speakers include three Student Conservation Association alumni and Karen Mangan from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. All in all, we have had a great year at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and we look forward to next year.

University of Central Missouri

Gary Blagg

The University of Central Missouri's Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society has been active in a number of areas this past year. Members of our executive board attended the national meeting in Tucson and we have a group of members scheduled to attend the State Chapter Spring Workshop April 5th at Klondike in St. Charles, Missouri. Several members attended a seminar conducted by Tony Mong, MDC and University of Missouri, about his ongoing Dove Research Project. Volunteers worked at James A. Reed Wildlife Conservation Area on opening day of Dove season, clipping wings for aging. Lonnie Hansen from MDC conducted a deer aging workshop for our members and we singlehandedly manned a field data collection site where we processed approximately 150 deer. We are still committed to our ongoing recycling efforts here on campus and our Fall Fundraiser, Fright Night, was a gruesome success. More recently our Education Committee chairperson and several other members have rallied behind an effort to revitalize an existing but dilapidated Environmental Education Center belonging to the University. After a community petition drive and a society clean up day we had about 30 children attend the first event held at the facility in several years. We hosted a booth at the Missouri Natural Resources Conference in January and several members had the opportunity to take part in Society business at the State Chapter level as well as meeting society members from other universities and organizations. Our annual spring fundraising event, BioBlitz, is in the planning stages and is scheduled to take place at Pertle Springs on April 26.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Ben O'Neal

The UIUC chapter of TWS has had a solid year. Our monthly meetings have had great attendance, averaging close to 40 students. That's due in large part to a great docket of speakers including Dr. Jeff Hoover (avian conservation), Gary Potts (national TWS activities), Dr. Nohra Mateus-Pinilla (wildlife disease), Dr. Corey Suski (fish ecology), Dr. Paul Garber (primate ecology), and Dr. Eric Freyfogle (Aldo Leopold). We sponsored a newspaper recycling program to provide bedding for animals at the wildlife rehab clinic on campus. We initiated a 'featured photographer' program to give our student artists an outlet to share their work. We placed 4th in the national membership drive. Over a dozen of our student members attended the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. In December we hosted a wildlife photography contest for the campus, and published the winning entries in a color calendar that we sold as a fundraiser. We've increased our outreach efforts by giving several wildlife demonstrations at local grade schools. In February, we held a carton collection contest to provide materials for a local research project that uses the cartons for nest boxes. We are also having a workshop to help construct those nest boxes. In March, we took a weekend trip to Richardson Wildlife Foundation, where we helped in frost-seeding a savannah restoration site. We recently hosted a booth at our college's annual recruiting weekend. Dr. Mike Jeffords recently offered a wildlife photography workshop to 16 of our students. Several of our members presented talks at the Illinois state chapter meeting where we also hosted the raffle event. In April, we will be contributing a chapter to the online toolkit that will be published on the national website. Finally, we are gearing up for the second year of our American golden-plover project.



University of Minnesota, Crookston

Jessica Holmes

The University of Minnesota, Crookston TWS chapter has been very active this spring semester. During the winter months, outdoor activities have been limited so we focused our efforts to bringing in professionals or students in our related field of study as guest speakers. We had the great opportunity for Laura Bies to come and share the basics of policy and how we, as students, can get involved. After her talk, we became very intrigued to become more active at a national level and we joined the teaming with wildlife coalition. We also had Ross Hier, our area's assistant wildlife manager, share his vast amount of knowledge about the prairie. Jim Berdeen shared about duck banding and the analysis of the data recorded from banding. Many of our members had the opportunity to attend the North Dakota and Minnesota TWS state chapter meetings. One of our projects during these winter months is native prairie seed separation for the area's wildlife manager to reseed

prairie with native seed. We will start a wood duck research project at Rydell National Wildlife Refuge to end our semester.

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Andres Morantes

The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities student chapter has kept busy over the winter months. After cleaning up trash and removing invasive species from their Sarita wetland project and going camping in the fall, the chapter won a grant from the University of Minnesota to participate in a multi-student group activity- ice fishing at Upper Red Lake for 3 days. In the new year, chapter members attended the Minnesota TWS/AFS joint conference in Grand Rapids, looking to build professional relationships. Chapter members also participated in a hands-on habitat project for sharp-tailed grouse alongside DNR retiree Bill Berg, where they felled tamarack trees to help maintain brush-land habitat for this species. On April 17th, as part of the University's 'Beautiful U Day', chapter members will lead the annual Sarita wetland re-vegetation project in efforts to restore the native plant communities and the understory bird habitat of this mesic woodland wetland. The chapter has received \$2,090 funding for this project thanks to the Beautiful U Day Committee and the Institute on the Environment.

University of Missouri

Danielle Guilliams

The University of Missouri Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society has had a quiet semester thus far. We have had our bi-weekly meetings and a few social events, but our activities outside of campus are coming up shortly.

On April 4-6, our chapter plans to attend the TWS Spring Workshop in St. Charles, MO, where we will send 10 members to participate in those activities. Then, from April 11-14, a few of our members will be attending the North Central Section of TWS' Spring Conclave in Michigan where they will partake in a quiz bowl and other wildlife activities. Then, a few weeks later, on April 27th, we plan to take a trip out to Bradford Research Farms in Columbia, MO as a club and participate in a field day, where we will assist in burning a field plot they have out there. The last activity we have planned will be a volunteer tree-planting day (the date has not been set yet).

Our chapter has also brought back the Mammals Program, which is an educational outreach program for local elementary students that our chapter had a few years back, that we have renovated and hope to implement early next fall.

We will end the year with our annual bar-b-q in May. As you can see, we have a handful of exciting activities to participate in and we are very excited about it all! Thank you and if you have any questions please let us know.

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ashley Gramza

The UW-Madison student chapter has a very busy schedule lined up for this Spring semester. We've started out this unusually cold spring semester by doing some elementary school science nights and winter brush burning for some TNC and Prairie Enthusiast's prairies. We also held a private screening of the movie "Here Kitty Kitty", a documentary about the controversy surrounding the proposal to list feral cats as unprotected species in Wisconsin. Our own Stan Temple was interviewed and shown in the movie.

We are just finishing up the North Central Section Conclave planning that will be held near Houghton, MI April 11-13. We are so excited and grateful to have had such a great fundraising drive and received many more sponsors than expected. We would especially like to thank the Wisconsin chapter and the North Central Section for their generous sponsorship. Some of our key speakers from Wisconsin include Curt Meine, Alan Crossley, and Tim Van Deelen. We also have amazing field trips planned to do some northern bird watching and to see bats at one of the largest colonies in the Midwest.

Highlights for the rest of the semester include a trip to the Leopold Shack and our annual trip to Kettle Moraine State Forest in search of herps. We also have a trip planned to view prairie chickens at Buena Vista and make some maple syrup up north. Looking towards spring we're very excited to do some more prairie restoration and outreach activities around south-central Wisconsin.

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Jeremiah Heise

As the weather is beginning to warm, many of our winter projects are coming to an end. The grey squirrel project is finishing up with some of the best results that the project has ever gotten. The woodpecker project has also had great success this year in catching downy woodpeckers, hairy woodpeckers, red-headed woodpeckers, red-bellied woodpeckers, nuthatches, chickadees and even blue jays! The newly expanded deer project had some great success with the use of a drop net in catching and collaring deer in the university's reserve area.

Even though many have cursed to amount of snow this winter, it has been an asset to many of our projects that involve tracking. This has been the best year in recent memory for detecting fisher sign inside Sandhill Wildlife Area. The continual fresh blankets of snow have also helped out our wolf trackers and the newly started coyote project. With the warmer weather approaching, these projects will be finishing up.

That is not to say that our semester is winding down, as once the snow is gone many more projects will be starting up. The small mammal project will be setting up trapping grids again this spring as will the flying squirrel project, both in the university's reserve area.

The major project that will be starting up this April is the ever popular prairie chicken project. There is nothing that quite spells out dedication to wildlife like heading out to a cramped, cold blind at 4:30 AM to see a lek full of booming chickens!

We were able to send a large number of members to the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference as well as to the state chapter winter meeting. And I cannot believe it but it is getting to be that time when we need to start thinking about making arrangements to head to the national conference in Miami! We are hoping to be able to send 8-10 members down. We are also looking forward to attending this year's student conclave being co-hosted by UW-Madison and Michigan Tech in Houghton, Michigan. We have already heard great things about it and are hoping to send a large group from UWSP.

Attendance at meetings has continued to be strong. So far this semester we have had a graduate panel speak about grad school and had Dan Dessecker from The Ruffed Grouse Society speak about ruffed grouse and woodcock management issues. Scheduled to speak yet this semester include Madison PhD student Ashly Steinke, Raptor Education Group, Inc., Emilie Travis from UW-Madison speaking about her research dealing with various bird strike issues and Jason Suckow from USDA APHIS Wildlife Services speaking about the increasing importance of addressing human/wildlife interaction issues. We are continually pushing the members to get their resumes together and apply for summer jobs. Quite a few of our members already have great jobs across the U.S.

2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference

The 69th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio, during 14-17 December 2008. See the conference website for further details:

http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/Home/wild_resourcessubhomepage/mastercalendar/MidwestFishWildlifeConference/tabid/19507/Default.aspx



William L. Anderson Receives the 2007 Professional Award of Merit from the North Central Section of TWS

William (Bill) L. Anderson was the recipient of the 2007 Professional Award of Merit from the North Central Section of The Wildlife Society on December 5th at the Annual Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference held in Madison, Wisconsin. The Wildlife Society's Professional Award of Merit is given periodically to outstanding wildlife

professionals, who live in the eight-state North-Central Section, for their contribution to scientific knowledge and their leadership over a period of several years.

Bill Anderson has been providing professional service to the State of Illinois and its natural resources since he joined the Illinois Natural History Survey in 1958. In 1977, he continued his prolific career with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, formerly the Illinois Department of Conservation, where he served as a Conservation Resource Manager, Conservation Resource Project Manager and Public Service Administrator during his 20 years of service. Bill's hunter survey questionnaires were cutting-edge, and the information generated from his surveys was in high demand and important for management. He was a guiding beacon for waterfowl surveys conducted in other states. Although Bill semi-retired in 1997, a decade later he still remains active in the biological arena and maintains an affiliate appointment with the Survey.



During his career, Bill served as President and Councilman-at-large of the Illinois Chapter of The Wildlife Society. He is a Life Member of The Wildlife Society. Bill served on several committees of the Mississippi Flyway Technical Section. He is listed in American Men in Science.

Bill's research studies covered a wide spectrum of species and topics but generally centered upon physiology and environmental contaminants of ring-necked pheasants and waterfowl. Bill has published 42 papers in scientific journals and publications, and has written over 77 papers for proceedings and selected reports.

Bill was perhaps best known internationally for his decades of work on the waterfowl lead poisoning/nontoxic shot issue. He was in the forefront of and a principal player in this contentious, emotional, and political issue during a most controversial time. When it would have been easy to distance himself from the lead poisoning issue during these trying and difficult times, Bill persevered and remained honest, forthright, and dedicated to the resource – a true professional.

Bill is highly respected for his many biological accomplishments, but also for his personal integrity and loyalty. He has contributed remarkably to our natural resources, to our profession, to our goals, to his peers, and to many young biologists that benefited from his tutelage. For all these efforts, Bill received the Professional Award of Merit.

Third Annual “Beginning Your Professional Journey” hosts record number of students in 2007!

Rebecca Christoffel

A record-breaking 60 students attended the third annual “Beginning your Professional Journey” workshop, hosted by the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Thank you to the Steering Committee of the 68th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference for sponsoring the workshop. We also thank the Wisconsin and Ohio chapters of The Wildlife Society for their generous donations that enabled us to provide “A Guide to Fisheries Employment” for each conference participant: And thank you to the many professionals who volunteered their time and expertise during the workshop!

At the start of the day, in addition to a copy of the AFS “Guide to Fisheries Employment”, each student participant was presented with a binder full of resource materials for their use as they prepare for their first post-baccalaureate positions and a supply of “business cards” to be used while networking with professionals during the conference.

“Beginning your Professional Journey” consisted of four sessions. Mike Pagel, Natural Resources & Sciences Employment Specialist at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, kicked off the day with a presentation entitled, “10 Ways to Cut your Journey Short.” Students were given advice in an entertaining and memorable fashion on how *not* to land a position in graduate school or as an employee. Jim Schneider, Academic Advisor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University, led a session that focused on professional correspondence, particularly resumes. After a mid-morning break, participants heard from academic and employer panels. The academic panel consisted of speakers from various academic institutions who presented information on the requirements for getting into graduate schools, and tips for developing a dialogue with a faculty member with whom a student would like to work. The employer panel consisted of four individuals from federal and state agencies. Panel members discussed the desired skill sets, variety of positions, and current and predicted opportunities within their organizations. An interactive question and answer period followed the panel presentations. Following the lunch break, Mike Pagel and Jim Schneider co-led a session on interviewing. The day’s final session, Networking, was presented by Rebecca Christoffel, a former graduate student at Michigan State University. Kandi Schnurer, a recent graduate of Lake Superior State University and student participant at the 2005 workshop, gave a brief presentation to students on pulling everything together that they were presented with during the day to provide coherent guidance in career and/or graduate school preparation. Students were invited to meet with Mike Pagel during the conference to receive one-on-one consultation regarding their job or graduate school searches, and at least 36 elected to do so.

Students and professionals greatly appreciated their participation in the workshop. Fifty-four of 56 participants indicated that the workshop had been worth the time and money they spent in order to attend. The interviewing and business correspondence sessions

seemed especially helpful to students based on their assessments. All but one student indicated that they would recommend participation in the workshop to others. Selected student comments in reply to the question, "Would you recommend this workshop to a friend? Why or why not?" included:

"Definitely, because all undergrads should go to this workshop, it helps a lot."

"Absolutely. It was the most informative workshop I have attended. It is nice to not have anything else to worry about. The 1 hr, 30 minute workshops you get at school just don't cut it!"

Students were asked to use the backside of their evaluation forms to share any other comments that might be helpful in improving future workshops. These comments will be used by co-organizers in preparation for the 2008 "Beginning your Professional Journey" workshop.

Plans are underway for the next "Beginning your Professional Journey Workshop" to be held at the 2008 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus, Ohio. If you plan to attend the conference and would like to be involved in the workshop as a professional leader or potential session leader, please contact Jim Schneider (schne181@msu.edu) or Bob Gates (gates.77@osu.edu). We look forward to seeing you in Columbus!

Passing of Dr. Glen C. Sanderson

Dr. Glen C. Sanderson of Champaign, Illinois, a renowned scientist with the Illinois Natural History Survey, passed away on March 22, 2008 at the age of 85.

Dr. Sanderson served four years as an officer in the Army in the South Pacific during World War II. He earned a B.S. in agriculture and wildlife and a M.A. in zoology at the University of Missouri. He received a doctorate from the Department of Animal Science at the University of Illinois.

Dr. Sanderson worked as a Game Biologist with the Iowa Conservation Commission from 1949 to 1955. He was employed by the Illinois Natural History Survey in 1955, promoted to the rank of Professional Scientist in 1963, and made Director of the Center for Wildlife Research in 1964. He was appointed Adjunct Professor at Southern Illinois University in 1964, and Professor of Zoology and member of the faculty of the Graduate College at the University of Illinois in 1965. He advised numerous candidates for advanced degrees, taught classes in wildlife ecology at the University of Illinois, and lectured at numerous colleges and universities. In 1989, he was promoted to the distinguished rank of Principal Scientist, a level only three other scientists held at that time in the 133-year history of the Survey.

Dr. Sanderson's primary area of scientific expertise was mammalogy, a field where he is highly regarded nationally and internationally. He was very probably the world's leading authority on the biology and ecology of the raccoon. In the early 1960's, he headed an important study on rabies in raccoons, skunks, and foxes.

Dr. Sanderson was a highly respected waterfowl biologist, and acquired national and international prominence as an authority on lead poisoning in waterfowl. He has been characterized as a giant in the crusade for nontoxic shot.

For almost 30 years, Dr. Sanderson played the lead role in cooperative efforts to preserve two remnant flocks of critically endangered native Illinois prairie chickens. These combined efforts of the Illinois Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, the Illinois Department of Conservation, and the Natural History Survey have resulted in innovative approaches to land acquisition and management at the national level.

The publication record of Dr. Sanderson was exemplary. He had more than 90 scientific publications, edited three books, contributed 15 chapters to books of others, and edited and made significant contributions to Dr. Frank Bellrose's, Dr. Harold Hanson's, and Dr. Stephen Havera's award-winning books.

Dr. Sanderson was a member of several professional societies at the local, state, national and international level. He served on numerous national committees. He has received many professional honors, including the Aldo Leopold, the Honorary Life Membership and Professional Merit Award of The Wildlife Society, the Oak Leaf Award of The Nature Conservancy, Conservationist of the Year from the American Motors Company, the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writer's Golden Glow Public Service Award, and, in 2007, induction into the Illinois Conservation Foundation's Hall of Fame.

Through a productive and distinguished career, Dr. Glen C. Sanderson contributed enormously to the international wildlife profession. During his three decades of exemplary leadership and guidance as Center Director, he elevated the Illinois Natural History Survey to the forefront of wildlife research.

Dr. Sanderson and his wife of 60 years, Beverley, were blessed with a son, Bill, and daughter, Laurie. The family requests memorials be made in Glen's honor to: University of Illinois, INHS Waterfowl Research Station, and mailed to Illinois Natural History Survey, P.O. Box 590, Havana, Illinois 62644.

2008 North Central Section TWS Officers

Jeff Lawrence - President

Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources
102 23rd Street NE

Bemidji, MN 56601
Telephone: 218-308-2284/ Fax: 218-755-2604
Email: jlseclaw@charter.net

John Moriarty - Past President

Ramsey County Parks
2015 N. Van Dyke St.
Maplewood, MN 55109
Telephone: 651-748-2500/Fax: 651-748-2508
Email: john.moriarty@co.ramsey.mn.us

Clay Nielsen - President-Elect

Wildlife Ecologist
Cooperative Wildlife Research Laboratory
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, IL 62901
Telephone: 618-453-6930
Email: kezo92@siu.edu

Michele Windsor - Treasurer

DNR-Black River Falls,
910 Highway 54
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Telephone (715) 284-1403
Email: Michele.Windsor@dnr.state.wi.us

Rebecca Christoffel - Secretary

Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
13 Natural Resources Building
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824
Telephone: 608-259-9209 / 517-432-1699 (FAX)
Email: chris317@msu.edu

Alan Crossley - Section Representative

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
PO Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921
Telephone: (608) 266-5463 / Fax: (608) 267-7857
Email: Alan.Crossley@wisconsin.gov