

ANNUAL MEETING

Approximately 30 people attended the annual business meeting convened by President Jim Unsworth February 28, 1997 at the Red Lion Downtowner, Boise, ID. Minutes from the 1996 meeting were read by secretary Frances Cassirer and accepted by the membership. Treasurer's report was read by treasurer Robin Garwood and accepted by the membership.

Beginning balance - January 1, 1996	\$11,522.89 (checking=\$8,795.46)
Income 1/1/96 through 12/31	<u>\$ 9,725.90</u>
Subtotal	\$21,248.79
Expenses 1/1/96 through 12/31/96	<u>\$ 6,985.00</u>
Balance - December 31, 1996	\$14,263.79 (checking = \$11,374.52)

Income sources:

Annual Meeting	\$6,942.00	
Membership		\$2,090.00
Interest-checking		\$ 194.06
Dividends-short-term bonds		\$ 161.84

Major expenses:

Annual Meeting	\$4,736.54	
Newsletter		\$ 644.46
4-H Contest		\$ 500.00
Inland Empire Youth Camp		\$ 100.00
TWS-Teaming with Wildlife		\$1,000.00

Frances Cassirer reported the Membership Committee will compile a state directory this year including e-mail addresses collected at the meeting. If you or someone you know is not receiving the newsletter, but should be, please contact Frances.

Kerry Reese reported the Annual Meeting Committee would welcome ideas for the meeting format next year - possibilities include a workshop, a symposium, and/or a session with 10-minute project updates such as sharptail monitoring, or Neotropical Migratory Bird day activities.

Don Kemner volunteered to chair the Nominations Committee and will be contacting people to help him select candidates for 1998-99 officer positions.

President Unsworth will contact Bill Wall about chairing the Awards Committee.

Jon Haufler reported the Conservation Affairs Committee met several times in 1996 but did not write any position statements or send any letters. President Unsworth added that things were pretty quiet, perhaps because it was an election year. Jon said the chapter is in a unique position this year because Idaho legislators are in prominent national positions on natural resource issues. The committee will be responding to Larry Craig's revision of NFMA and Dirk Kempthorne's bill to reauthorize ESA. The committee is working with AFS on joint responses to be completed in March. The committee will also work on the UCRB and Bitterroot Grizzly Bear EIS's when they come out, and develop a position statement on Forest Health. Other issues brought up were the draft EIS for the enhanced training range and perhaps other more local actions. Anyone interested in helping on these or other issues, contact Jon.

Jack Connelly reported on the Northwest Section for section representative Dale Towell who was unable to make it. The Wildlife Society Council is proposing a dues increase to hire journal editors, because it has been very difficult to get volunteer editors. The dues increase will be discussed at the North American and at a members forum at the national meeting in Snowmass. The newsletter is also going to be sent out with the bulletin to cut costs. Certified wildlife biologists will have to renew their certification every 5 years.

Daryl Meints reported that the newsletter is being written in Pocatello and sent from Lewiston for economic reasons, however it is inefficient, and results in 10-14 day delays. The editors will work on a better way to get the newsletter out. They will also start sending the newsletter by e-mail to those people who have it. Jack Connelly suggested sending/e-mailing the newsletter out to nonmember biologists in the state to inform them of our activities and hopefully get some to join. It was suggested that they be sent something asking whether they would like to receive the newsletter before they are put on the mailing list. President Unsworth will be asking all committees to write quarterly reports for the newsletter.

Paul Moroz said the Awards Committee has had difficulty getting nominations. Karen Steenhof suggested sending out a list of past award winners so that people know who has and has not received an award. Paul is putting together a list of all officers and award-winners since the start of the chapter. This will be published in the newsletter. Barry Keller volunteered to write a history of the chapter when Paul has completed the list.

Toni Holthuijzen suggested developing a chapter web page to post the newsletter and position statements. Oz Garton will investigate the feasibility of developing and maintaining a web page.

Jim Unsworth proposed developing an ad hoc Teaming with Wildlife committee to help contact individuals, groups, and businesses to provide information and get support for the initiative and to write letters to politicians and newspapers. A bill will be introduced this year. Idaho Fish and Game is no longer taking the lead on this important issue so the chapter can provide some needed help. The issue will be included under the conservation affairs committee, contact Paul Moroz, Jon Haufler, or Christine Saxton for information.

The chapter is setting up a scholarship at Boise State University. We currently have scholarships at University of Idaho (Elmer Norberg - Idaho Chapter TWS) and Idaho State University (Edson Fichter - TWS). We have committed to contributing \$5,000 to each fund, but have only contributed \$1,900 to U of I and \$3,000 to ISU. President Unsworth proposed fulfilling our commitments to these scholarships and fully funding the BSU scholarship (\$5,000) this year. This would cost \$10,100. There was some concern that this might preclude us from responding to any new requests for funding or not leave us enough operating money. The only request we received this year was for \$1,000 towards the 4-H national meeting in Sun Valley. Members supported funding this request. Members and the treasurer felt that \$2,000 in checking was adequate for operating. Sam Matisse made a motion that we fully fund the U of I and ISU scholarships, the 4-H meeting, and fund BSU as much as we can (up to \$5,000) while maintaining a \$2,000 balance in checking. The motion passed.

Next year's meeting will be March 5-7 at the University Inn in Moscow. The social will be on Thursday night and the business meeting will be held on Thursday afternoon, possibly with a special raffle at the meeting to encourage attendance. We did not commit to meeting at the Red Lion Downtowner in 1999 because there are other better, more economical hotels in Boise.

1997 AWARD WINNERS

Professional Wildlifer Award - Lloyd Oldenburg

Ted Trueblood communication recipients

Best professional paper - Steve Knick

Best student paper - Gary Nohrenberg