

THE MISSOURI CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY



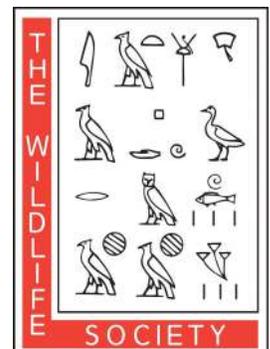
# FALL 2017



Photo Courtesy of: The Wildlife Society

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!!**

**Missouri Western State University  
Earns Student Chapter of the Year  
Honor from The Wildlife Society!**





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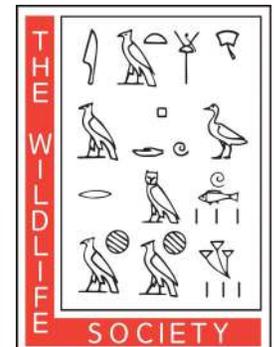
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**2017 MOTWS Committees**

- Audit**-----Kevin Hedgpeh, Rhonda Rimer
- Chambers Scholarship**-----Dan, Zekor, Luke Miller, and Ryan Diener
- Education/MU Fellowship**-----Mitch Weegman
- Farmer/Conservationist**-----Jeff Powelson
- MNRC Steering**-----Shane Kampeter
- Membership**-----Charles Anderson
- Nominating/Elections**-----Andrew White
- Professional Development**-----Jason Sykes and Andrea Schumann
- Resolutions/Public Statements**-----Tom Kulowiec
- Runge Award**-----Brad Jump
- Raffle/Auction**----- Eric Merritt and Nate Mechlin
- Operations Manual**-----Margie Mitchell
- Stephens Award**-----Anonymous
- Cons. Heritage Scholarship**-----Tom Kulowiec
- Technology** -----Tom Kulowiec (web) & Jennifer Mittlehauser (listserve)
- Historical Committee** -----Margie Mitchell



## 2018 Missouri Natural Resources Conference



# IT IS ALMOST HERE!

*“Resource Managers < — > Resource Users”*

*2018 MNRC: Missouri Chapter of The American Fisheries Society*

January 31st — February 2nd 2018 at [Tan-Tar-A Resort](#)  
in Osage Beach Missouri.

When making hotel reservations,  
remember to use the "MNRC" Group Code  
to receive the conference rate!

**TAN-TAR-A RESORT**

**GENERAL INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS:**

Toll-Free Room Reservations: 1-800-826-8272

<http://www.tan-tar-a.com/>

## President's Corner

by Brad Jump



One of the great traditions of our chapter is the recognition of wildlife professionals, conservation minded landowners, and students, both for past achievements and for the current good work that they are doing. We do this in the form of awards and scholarships. The three awards we issue are the E. Sydney Stephens Professional Wildlife Award, the G. Andy Runge Award, and the Farmer Conservationist Award. We also recognize student achievement with the Chambers Memorial Scholarship and the Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society Graduate Fellowship.

The oldest of these awards is the E. Sydney Stephens Professional Wildlife Award which was created in 1969 and is presented to a professional who has made an outstanding contribution to wildlife management or understanding in Missouri. The purpose of the Award is to define outstanding professional contributions to wildlife resource management, and to demonstrate that the Chapter recognizes and appreciates such efforts in wildlife conservation. This is often, alt-

hough not always, seen as a lifetime achievement award.

The Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society established the Farmer/Wildlife Award in 1976 to recognize farmers who have made outstanding contributions to wildlife management. The qualifications were amended in 2004. The Farmer Conservationist Award is meant to recognize and promote sound wildlife management programs on farms, because the vast majority of wildlife habitat is located within Missouri's rural landscape. The Chapter expects qualified farm operators will be nominated each year so the award can be presented at the annual banquet. However, only when qualified farmers are nominated will the award be presented.

The Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society Graduate Fellowship program was started by agreement between the Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society and the Curators of the University of Missouri in 1984. The purpose of the award is to further professional educational opportunities for students interested in obtaining graduate degrees in wildlife management in Missouri, and to promote student involvement in the Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and to enhance student / Chapter relationships. This Fellowship awards \$750.00 stipend to a graduate student who is enrolled at the University of Missouri. This award is selected by all wildlife faculty as well as the Natural Resources Department Chair at the University of Missouri.

The G. Andy Runge Wildlife Award was first presented in 1994. The award is presented to an individual, group, or organization who has made an outstanding contribution to wildlife management or understanding in Missouri. The awards purpose is to recognize significant contributions to the field of wildlife conservation by individuals, groups, or organizations not necessarily affiliated with the Chapter, and to provide a vehicle by which the Chapter may recognize non-professionals and/or professionals whose accomplishment(s) may be one time, short-term, or long-term.

The James D. Chambers Memorial Scholarship was established in 1994 following the untimely passing of James (Jim) D. Chambers due to a malignant brain tumor. Jim was the son of avid conservationists Glenn and Jeannie Chambers, of Columbia, Missouri. Jim was an exceptionally fine ornithologist. This memorial scholarship awards a \$500.00 stipend and very nice plaque to a student who is enrolled in a wildlife curriculum at any of Missouri's accredited Colleges or Universities.

I hope that you will consider nominating someone for one of the awards listed above. You may obtain more information or nominate someone by contacting any executive board member.

May this fall and winter find you at peace in the wonderful outdoors of Missouri.



## Winter/Spring Travel Grant Deadline is February 15!

### Get your requests in today!

The MOTWS Travel Grant is available to all paid MOTWS members for travel to conferences. The Grant was developed to assist members in travel costs to conferences and workshops. The travel grant funds can be used toward travel not only to Wildlife Society events (such as

the National Conference), but also other professional workshops and conferences throughout the country. In these days of tight budgets for all agencies, additional funds such as the MOTWS travel grant could be just what you need to convince your boss to let you make that trip! **There are two application periods for the Travel Grant. The 2018 summer deadline will be August 15. The 2018 winter**

*The 2018 Winter/Spring application deadline for travel grant funds is February 15.*

**application deadline for travel grant funds is February 15.**

Application Link:  
<http://wildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/MO-Travel-Grant-Application.pdf>

## Student Chapter Reports

### University of Central Missouri



The UCM Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society has had a busy start to the new school year. Our first meeting was August 23rd, and we've totaled 60+ members so far. This year's executive board (pictured above) is comprised of (from left to right); Secretary M. Fletcher, Treasurer Ivonne Kessler, Vice President Savannah Penney, Reporter Chris Edmondson, and President Daniel Akin. So far this year our members have worked with numerous organizations both on campus and in our community to better the environment around us and to gain experience in public outreach and numerous wildlife areas.

- Get the Red Out is an annual tradition at the University of Central Missouri that involves student organizations setting up booths along Holden Street to interact with the community and celebrate

the beginning of a new academic year. TWS members set up a booth with animal pelts, skulls, and baked goods to encourage visitors to learn more about wildlife, and get some sweet treats while they're at it! New members were able to get some experience with public outreach by teaching others about local Missouri wildlife.

- TWS members assisted the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) in collecting dove wings for research data collection on age at James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area.
- Members assisted the Citizens for Environmental Action (CEA) in a fall prescribed burn on a locally restored prairie, Turkey Foot Prairie. Before the burn, members were given a brief introduction to the prairie entrance and areas to be burned. They were also taught how to conduct the burn and what to do to control the fire as it burned through portions of the prairie. The Daily Star Journal also wrote an article about the event, featuring TWS.
- For the remainder of fall UCM TWS will be participating in; the

Missouri Chapter of TWS Fall Student Workshop, Deer Aging with MDC to collect sample data for research on Missouri herds, hunter's education course offered through MDC in which members will receive hunting certification, volunteering for the GLOW festival at Powell Gardens, volunteering for Hallowfest at Knob Noster State Park, small mammal trapping, and others soon to be confirmed. Members are also looking forward to the Missouri Natural Resources Conference in the spring. They will be preparing for the job fair at this event by utilizing their experiences to build resumes and CVs, which we will be working on during meetings prior to the conference.



## Student Chapter Reports Continued

### Missouri State University

During the summer of 2017, our chapter helped with Quail Surveys with the MDC. During the fall semester of the 2017-2018 school year, our chapter helped with dove check-ins with the MDC at Bois D'Arc Conservation Area. In the month September of the fall semester of the 2017-2018 school year, our chapter members helped with picking up trash along the Niangua River along with the Missouri Stream Team. Throughout the month of October, The Wildlife Society-MSU Chapter have helped with Quail Surveys with the MDC at Bois D'Arc Conservation Area. Then on October 26th and 27th, MSU Wildlife Society members helped out at the Springfield Nature Center for their annual Halloween event.



On November 8, 2017, 10 MSU TWS students (and 2 MDC employees) took the Level 1: Fire Management course at the Southwest Regional MDC Office in Springfield, MO. I am pleased to announce that all the participants PASSED! This course is typically a two-day class, but for convenience sake it is compressed into one long night. Class started at 5p with dinner provided and ended around 11p. Staff that helped teach this class include: Kevin Hedgpeth, Brad Jump, Greg Cassell, Ashley Schnake, Rhonda Rimer, Rod Tucker, Tim Russell, and Allison Leisenring.



### Missouri Western State University



### Southeast Missouri State University

-No report

### University of Missouri

-No Report



### Student Chapter of the Year Award

*Student Chapters are invited to nominate themselves for the award by completing the [Student Chapter of the Year Application Form](#). Email all materials as a **single PDF file** (suggested length of no more than 20 pages) to [Awards@wildlife.org](mailto:Awards@wildlife.org)*

## Forming a New TWS Student Chapter

Wouldn't it be great if every college or university in Missouri with a Wildlife program had a student chapter of the Wildlife Society? Have you ever wondered how to assist a local college or university in starting a chapter? Well, here are some pointers from the National web site to get started with.

1. File a petition to form a student chapter with the National Chapter.
2. Fill out and draft a copy of your bylaws.

Once these two documents are done you can send them to: Mariah Simmons at [msimmons@wildlife.org](mailto:msimmons@wildlife.org):

The national chapter has provided some helpful information to assist the local

chapter once it is established. This information can be found on their website at: <http://wildlife.org/next-generation/student-chapters/resources/>

This information includes :

## TWS Student Chapter Toolkit

Download the [student chapter toolkit](#) for helpful advice on how to run your student chapter, including advice on fundraising, student chapter operations, and professional development.

## Reporting Requirements:

**By March 31**, the treasurer must complete and submit the student chapter's [Tax Report Form](#).

The Wildlife Society staff and Council actively encourage the formation and success of student chapters and provide ongoing assistance to them. Administrative support is provided primarily by the TWS Wildlife Programs Coordinator.

Staff support of student chapters may consist of, but is not limited to, promoting membership; collecting annual dues; maintaining membership lists; providing space for student chapter news in TWS' publications and on TWS' website; fostering meetings, seminars, and other forums for student chapters; providing technical assistance with e-newsletters, other pub-

## TWS Administrative Support

lications, and electronic communications; and other actions as Council or the Executive Director deem appropriate.

## TWS Promotional Materials

A video about TWS, titled 'The Wildlife Society – 75 Years and Counting', is available [here](#) for student chapters to use during their meetings. The video provides an overview on the history of the Society, member benefits, professional development opportunities, and potential careers in the wildlife profession.

## TWS Reporting Requirements

Submit the following forms to Mariah Simmons at [msimmons@wildlife.org](mailto:msimmons@wildlife.org).

**Within 20 days of your annual elections**, submit the [Student Chapter Officer Report](#) to ensure that your officers continue to receive important news and updates from TWS headquarters.



## Travel Grant In Action!

I am a master's student at the University of Missouri working on eastern spotted skunks in the Ozarks. I want to give a huge thank you to the MO Chapter of TWS for providing a travel award for me to attend the 24<sup>th</sup>



Annual Conference of TWS in Albuquerque, NM. At the meeting, I helped moderate and host a symposium that I organized with two other eastern spotted skunk students from Clemson University. The symposium was entitled "Mesos in the Middle: Strategies for Researching Understudied or Elusive Mid-Sized Mammalian Carnivores" and amassed several attendees. We also garnered interest from the Journal of Mammalogy Special Features editor and are currently in the process of developing a Special Feature based on the symposium. I also presented a research talk entitled "Estimating detection of prey items in bobcat diet using an occupancy framework." In addition to attending research talks and viewing posters, I met



and networked with other students and professionals. These connections are undoubtedly important as I move forward in the field of wildlife biology and pursue a career in research.

-Summer Higdon



## Meet the State Wildlife

### Veterinarian

### Sherri Russell D.V.M.

2901 W. Truman Blvd

Jefferson City Mo,65109

573-522-4115 ext.3617

[Sherri.Russell@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Sherri.Russell@mdc.mo.gov)



## **Meet Your Executive Board Candidates!!!!**

### **Voting Opens in December for Chapter Members**

#### **President-Elect**

##### **Josh Wisdom**

**Personal Data:** Originally from Southeast Missouri, or as we call it, the “boot heel.” I grew up bowfishing the hand dug ditches that drained that flat part of the world. Dove season was something I always looked forward to and was practically a holiday in my family. When I was 11 my father bought me and my brother matching .270’s and then nothing was safe! We predominantly hunted the Ozarks around Van Buren growing up and spent summers floating the Ozark National Scenic Riverways or milling around Wappapello Lake. After years of moving and trying to climb the ladder, I was able to land in Southwest Missouri and I purchased my first home this year. I now live in Republic and have no plans to leave the Southwest as long as there are crappie in Stockton Lake.

**Education:** B.S., Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences, Univ. of Missouri-Columbia, 2009

**Employment History:** As an undergraduate I worked for various professors, the Department, and volunteered for USDA Wildlife Services. My biggest projects being a raccoon study that included catching, collaring and disease monitoring raccoons as well as an independent research project that looked at salamander densities in headwaters streams. I also worked as an hourly for the Missouri Department of Conservation at Little Dixie Lake and Whetstone Creek Conservation areas. After graduation I quickly was hired on with USDA Wildlife Services and stayed with them for about 8 years working in three different states. My work load changed a little with each move inside that agency but the bulk of career with USDA included 3 years spent at Chicago O’Hare as an airport biologist, being a feral hog coordinator and trapper, urban deer sharp shooting, wildlife disease monitoring and managing nuisance wildlife of all kinds in urban and industrial settings.

**Wildlife Society Activities:** I was an active member of the Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society at Mizzou, including being chapter president one year. I have been a member of the Missouri Chapter ever since I returned to the state, nearly 2 years ago. I am

also a certified Associate Wildlife Biologist through TWS.

**Professional Affiliations:** The Wildlife Society

##### **Adam W. Jones**

**Personal Data:** I was born and raised on a small hog farm in Northeast Missouri’s Lewis County. There I grew up learning an appreciation for the state’s natural resources through agriculture and especially through quail hunting. At a very young age I knew I wanted a career in conservation and more specifically a career in habitat restorations. After graduation from high school, I attended the University of Missouri, where I was awarded a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife in 2008. Approximately a year after graduation I married fellow Mizzou graduate Heather and we have three children Jackson, Wade, and Hadley. I now spend my personal time either working to expose them to the outdoors or enjoying it myself deer, turkey, or waterfowl hunting.

**Education:** B.S., Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Missouri, Columbia, 2008

**Employment History:** As an undergraduate, I started my agency career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2005. After a brief summer experience there, my career with the Missouri Department of Conservation began in May 2006 as an Hourly Resource Assistant at Davisdale CA. Immediately following graduation from college in 2008, I accepted a Resource Technician position with Forestry Division in Blue Springs. Next in 2010, I was promoted to Wildlife Biologist, Elsberry doing public land wetland management. Lastly in 2014 I accepted my current position, Wildlife Management Biologist in Linn.

**Wildlife Society Activities:** I was an extremely active member of the Mizzou Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, where I was president in 2007-2008. I have been an active member of the Missouri Chapter since graduation from college in 2008, assisting with MNRC and attending professional workshops.

**Professional Affiliations:** I am a current member of the Quality Deer Management Association and a past

## Executive Board Candidates Continued

member of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, National Wild Turkey Federation, and Ducks Unlimited.

### **Treasurer**

#### **Allison Leisenring**

Personal data: I was raised in Webster Groves, Missouri and have always had a fondness of nature. I grew up camping alongside relatives back when it was cool to have a card between the bike spokes. I currently live in Springfield, Missouri with my husband Bobby (who works as a security guard at Bass Pro Base Camp), 3 year old German shepherd mix dog Gideon and a small of flock of chickens. In my spare time, I enjoy watching movies, spending time with family and friends, hiking, camping, and kayaking.

Education: B.S., Wildlife Conservation and Management, Missouri State University, 2012

Employment History: While I was attending MSU, I worked at the southwest regional MDC office as a conservation assistant for fisheries and wildlife division. During the summer months, I broaden my skills by working at the Clinton MDC field station assisting with the stream bank stabilization project.

After graduation, I took a temporary position via Student Conservation Association with the National Park Service Heartland Inventory and Monitoring. Our crew travelled between national parks in the Midwest evaluating the streams, springs, and prairies. Finally, I decided that my heart was set on working at a fish hatchery. I took a seasonal position at the Chesapeake Fish Hatchery which later became a permanent position overseeing the largemouth bass and grass carp production. I might be a fish-head, but I still help out wildlife when possible.

Wildlife Society Activities: I joined the MSU TWS during my first year at MSU and took the public relations position during my junior year. During my final year at MSU, I was the president and helped conduct two spotlight surveys (Neosho and Springfield). I continued my participation by joining the MO TWS

chapter after graduation. I still stay in contact with MSU TWS to let them know about volunteer and job opportunities.

Professional Affiliations: MO TWS

#### **Bryan R. Gasper**

Personal Data: A Missourian and naturalist at heart, I was born, educated, and work in Missouri. I was born in St. Joseph and grew up outdoors fishing and boating on the Missouri River. I currently live in Kansas City, Missouri with my wife and son. I am the eighth generation to manage my family farm near Whitesville, Missouri and am always trying to leave it better than I found it. This includes managing for game and non-game species, restoring native prairie using prescribed burning, and enrolling miles and acres of CRP using the various buffer strip, diverse native planting, wetland restoration, and tree planting components of the Farm Bill program.

Education: B.S., Biology, Missouri Western State University, 1999

Employment History: I worked in several positions with the Missouri Department of Conservation during the period of 2003 to 2005. The majority of my time with the Department was spent in the Private Land Services Division assisting with implementing CRP programs for quail management. This included working one-on-one with landowners to demonstrate the implementation process, explain cost sharing, and providing technical advice.

Since 2005 I have been a Wildlife Biologist in private consulting for Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. in Kansas City, Missouri at our World Headquarters. I am currently Senior Environmental Scientist/Wildlife Biologist. In my time as an Environmental Scientist I have conducted field work on projects in 32 states, but currently I focus primarily on the Midwest and Great Plains. My professional responsibilities include working with all industrial development markets (energy generation, energy transmission, transportation, aviation, municipalities, etc.) regarding compliance, studies, reporting, and mitigations for state or federal natural resources juris-

## Executive Board Candidates Continued

dictions including the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, National Environmental Policy Act, state policies, among many others. I work on projects in all aspects of development from conception to post construction compliance. I am our company's technical lead for ecological studies which primarily includes oversight of wildlife and aquatic studies, mentoring staff, quality control, and project management.

Wildlife Society Activities: I have participated nationally with The Wildlife Society in their selection committees for nomination of candidates. I received The Farmer/Conservationist Award from the Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society in 2012.

Professional Affiliations: I am a member of The Wildlife Society and the American Fisheries Society. I participate in conferences and meetings for the Avian Powerline Interaction Committee, American Wind Energy Association, Electric Power Research Institute, and American Wind Wildlife Institute, among several others. I also hold memberships to the National Wild Turkey Federation and Quality Deer Management Association.

### **Board Member At-large (Student Chapter Liaison)**

#### **Jessi Tapp**

Personal data: I am privileged to have been raised in rural Western Kentucky with a backyard that consisted of 140 acres of old pasture, forest, ponds, and creeks. I was holding a cane pole as soon as I was able and my childhood playmate was a chocolate lab-I was allowed to wander wherever I wanted as long as he was at my side. I have worked in 11 different states and feel lucky to be able to forge my career in a state that has a long and successful history in conservation. When I'm not duck hunting or attempting to chase a new game species, I'm searching for new music, mountain biking, kayaking, or hiking a new trail.

Education: B.S., Fisheries and Wildlife, Murray State

University, 2009; M.S., Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Missouri, 2013

Employment History: I have held several temporary field positions and internships, including (but not limited to) oak-savanna restoration research, monitoring several different types of waterbirds, and trapping small mammals. These varied experiences helped me determine my career path and desired graduate research focus. I attained a graduate research assistantship with the U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Research Unit/University of Missouri and evaluated Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) easements that were managed through financial incentives. Days after graduation, I moved to northern Iowa to work for Iowa Department of Natural Resources/Americorps as a Private Lands Habitat Specialist where I assisted landowners with WRP enrollment and collected data for a watershed improvement project. Currently, I am a Wildlife Biologist with Missouri Dept. of Conservation based out of Columbia Bottom Conservation Area in St. Louis where our major focus is prairie restoration and moist-soil management for migratory waterfowl.

Wildlife Society Activities: I currently serve as the Missouri TWS board member. I have been a member of the Missouri State Chapter of the Wildlife Society for 3 years, and a national member since 2006. I was a member of student chapters of the Wildlife Society every year I attended college and served as secretary at Murray State. I have presented to student chapters about the importance of gaining hands-on experience and the different wildlife career paths. Due to the many opportunities I was afforded by TWS as a student, I really enjoy giving back by using my broad background to help young wildlifers gain their footing in a challenging and rapidly evolving field.

Professional Affiliations: Ducks Unlimited

#### **Nicole L. Walker**

Personal Data: I was born and raised in central Illinois. My family owned a little piece of woodland and farm ground where I played, fished and spent hours

## Executive Board Candidates Continued

exploring the outdoors building forts and getting dirty. I knew from an early age that I was going to work in a scientific field and found a true passion for animals which my dad helped to feed, by allowing me to raise goats, chickens, bearded dragons, and even a pet rat. Once I graduated high school I walked across the street and started college at Eastern Illinois University where I obtained a bachelors and master's degree in biological science. When I'm not working I love to go swimming, biking, hiking, or canoeing. I begin my hunting career a little later in life and didn't really learn how to hunt until I was 22. Since then I enjoy hunting waterfowl, deer, and rabbits.

Education: B.S., Biological Science, Eastern Illinois University, 2006; M.S., Biological Science with a concentration in Conservation, Eastern Illinois University, 2009

Employment History: During my undergraduate years at the university, I was able to complete two internships. One was working with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources as an environmental interpreter, teaching campers, summer school children, and hosting events for local daycares on nature and the plants and animals they would see daily. I also worked with the Illinois Natural history Survey as an intern at their lake and water quality monitoring station. Here I mostly focused my work in fisheries identifying macro-invertebrates and conducting routine water monitoring samples. I begin working on a master's degree in 2007 and took an internship with the Missouri Department of Conservation in 2008 as a natural history resident in Cape Girardeau. Here I was able to work extensively in the sand prairies, wetlands, and several of the diverse ecotypes available in the state. This internship is where I found a true passion and saw my vision on where I wanted to be once I completed my education. I focused on two main projects while in this position, one was working on water quality monitoring in the karst system located in Perry County and the other was catching and marking alligator snapping turtles on the tributaries associated with the Mississippi River. After this internship, I went back and finished my degree then spent a short time in Mississippi working as a teacher while my husband was in the military. When I was

offered a wildlife biologist assistant position with MDC in 2011 I jumped at the chance to come back to Missouri and work in the agency. I spend the next two and a half years working at Otter Slough CA in a heavily managed wetland system then took a promotion in 2013 as a wildlife biologist at Whetstone Creek CA where I am focusing on quail and deer management.

Wildlife Society Activities: I was an active member of the Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society while attending Eastern Illinois University. I have been an active member of the Missouri Chapter for the past year.

Professional Affiliations: I currently serve on the committee of my local NWTf Chapter in Fulton. I am also a committee member for the DU Chapter in Fulton. I hold memberships for the cattleman's association, quail and pheasants forever through the Columbia Chapter, Quality Deer Management Association, and the Conservation Federation of Missouri.

**Online Voting Will Begin In  
Late December! A Ballot  
Form To Be Mailed In Or  
Brought to the Annual  
Meeting Will Also Be  
Provided to Members  
During That Time.**

## Communique From The Wildlife Society President—John McDonald

I appreciate the opportunity to share a few updates with the chapter. Hopefully some of you were able to attend our 24th annual conference in Albuquerque in September. As usual, we had an array of excellent sessions each day, inspiring keynote addresses, and opportunities to present all of our awards. Attendance was around 1830, in the top 6 conferences in terms of attendees. Next year, our 25th annual conference will be in Cleveland and I am fortunate to be able to set the theme, Recognizing and Sustaining Conservation Success. Just in the 25 years of these conferences, we as a profession have made real progress in restoring wildlife and their habitats across North America and other parts of the world. Often, when we get together, it is to present and discuss problems and challenges to wildlife conservation, and we still have no shortage of those. But, we should also be mindful of and appreciate the successes we have achieved, which have involved creating partnerships, doing research and monitoring to provide information and test alternative management strategies, and working to engage the public to sustain that progress. I am already excited about some of the potential speakers and sessions and am looking forward to working with a lot of people to pull it all together.

Over the last year, The Wildlife Society has implemented a few member benefits, the most significant being providing all members electronic access to all of our journals as part of their member dues. We did this without raising dues and negotiated this change with our publisher in the

first year of our 7 year contract. Obviously, it is a cost to TWS, but one we could absorb and one that we hope may lead to increasing membership and higher retention of existing members. The Council thought this was a move worth pursuing to allow all members access to our science without the additional burden of a subscription fee and I certainly hope you agree it was a good move and will share that information with potential members. You may have also noticed we increased the frequency of The Wildlife Professional, from 4 issues per year to 6. We also have implemented a new Member Center and Directory on TWS' website, improvements which were long overdue and make searching for other members much easier and user-friendly. Another new option has been the Give Back program, where when a member renews their membership they can nominate someone else to receive a 6 month, full membership trial, at no cost to either party. We are hoping that if wildlifers have half a year of access to all the member benefits (the journals, TWP, the weekly e-newsletters, etc.) they will see the value in becoming a dues-paying member on their own. When we started the program, it was not available to student members to nominate other students, but Council voted in September to also allow student members to nominate someone to receive a 6 month student membership, in response to request from student members. It is still too early to tell if the Give Back program will attract a significant number of new members, but I encourage you to think of someone who might be interested in what TWS does and nominate them to accept the 6 month membership when you renew your membership.

Continued on next page.

### Please Don't Forget to Pay Your Dues!

State Chapter dues (\$15.00 for regular member and \$8.00 for students) are important to maintain our funds towards projects, the website, scholarships, workshops, and travel reimbursements. Please remember to pay your dues by

mailing your payment to:

**Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife  
Society  
PO Box 743  
Columbia, MO 65205 – 0743**

Or you can pay annually at MNRC, or  
when you renew your parent Society  
membership.

As you all know, TWS maintains an active policy program and maintains many partnerships with other conservation organizations and government agencies. These partnerships have been a priority in recent years and will remain so, and we work together to submit joint letters to various Congressional committees, Executive agencies, and state agencies on a wide range of topics. TWS is also in the process of revising a number of our position statements; these typically expire after 5 years unless renewed, a number were due to expire in October and are in the process of revision and renewal, so please look for those soon. Finally, one of my priorities is to raise our profile as a profession with the broader society. My vision is for TWS to be more proactive in using all kinds of media to promote the science in our journals, our policy positions, and the work of our members. If you are on any of the major social media platforms, look for us, follow TWS, share our posts, tweets, and photos, and help us profile work that is important to you. We already have tens of thousands of followers on each of our platforms and I am hoping we can get all of those people to raise the awareness of our profession amongst their friends, biologist or not, as the stuff we all do is really interesting to most of society. We've even created a @TWSPresident Twitter account where I will try to do my part in promoting what all of you do and the issues important to us. Please follow if you are on Twitter and share our website, [wildlife.org](http://wildlife.org), with people who have an interest in conservation and wildlife. Please be in touch with me at [tws-mcdonald@gmail.com](mailto:tws-mcdonald@gmail.com) if you have ideas, questions, or concerns.



## Leadership Workshop of the North Central Section- Pat Lederle

The 2018 Leadership Workshop Series: The 2018 Leadership Workshop Series will be held on the first day of the 2018 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Sunday, January 28, 2018). Based on feedback from previous workshops, we will conduct a full day workshop titled "Adaptive Leadership: Concepts and Practical Examples." The presentations and exercises will be interactive, giving workshop attendees the opportunity to participate directly with their peers and discuss the difficult challenges we face every day in the conservation community. This year we will have professionals from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Management Assistance Team to help facilitate the workshop and several National Conservation Leadership Institute Alumni to share their practical leadership experiences and expertise.

We will limit the workshop to 40 participants and the cost is \$50 for Wildlife Society members and \$80 for non-members. The workshop is from 9 am through 4 pm, and lunch is included.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

See you in Milwaukee!

Patrick E. Lederle, PhD  
Michigan Dept of Natural Resources  
517-243-0700  
[lederlep@michigan.gov](mailto:lederlep@michigan.gov)



# THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

*Leaders in Wildlife Science, Management and Conservation*

## Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society Treasurer's Report November 27, 2017

Reporting Period: January 1, 2017 – November 27, 2017

### CHECKING ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance (1/1/2017):	<b>\$5,836.66</b>
2017 Net Income	<b>\$ 937.43</b>
Ending Balance (11/27/2017):	<b>\$6,774.09</b>

### Credits (Income)

<u>MNRC Income</u>	
Silent Auction, Gun Raffle, & Membership	\$2,051.57
<u>James D. Chambers Memorial Scholarship Gun Raffle</u>	\$ 513.12
<u>Memberships</u>	\$1,535.00
<u>Dividends</u>	\$ 11.42
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$4,111.11</b>

### Debits (Expenses)

<u>MNRC Expenses</u>		[\$1,117.34]
Gun	\$328.44	
Change for booth	\$500.00	
Awards & Plaques	\$288.90	
<u>James D. Chambers Memorial Scholarship</u>		[\$528.32]
Gun	\$384.95	
Clay Shoot	\$ 43.37	
Reimbursement	\$100.00	
<u>2016 Spring Student Workshop Expenses</u>		[\$138.21]
<u>Travel Grants (2)</u>		[\$947.58]
<u>Miscellaneous Expenses</u>		[\$442.23]

## Treasurer's Report Continued

CFM Affiliate Dues	\$150.00
CFM Affiliate Summit	\$111.55
CECU Error	\$100.68
PO Box Rental	\$ 80.00

**Total Expenses** **[\$3,173.68]**

**Credits less Debits (Net Income)** **\$937.43**

### PRIMARY SHARE ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance (1/1/2017):	<b>\$54.99</b>
Ending Balance (11/27/2017):	<b>\$55.09</b>

### Credits

Dividends	\$0.10
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**Total Income** **\$0.10**

### Debits

None	\$0.00
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**Total Expenses** **\$0.00**



Allison Leisenring, Treasurer  
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 E-Mail:  
[Allison.Leisenring@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Allison.Leisenring@mdc.mo.gov)

# MOTWS Application Information

The Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society cordially invites you to join us! If you haven't already done so, take a look at [what we are all about](#).

You do **not** have to be a member of our parent society, [The Wildlife Society](#) to join our State Chapter. However, if you would like more information about our parent society, visit their site at [www.wildlife.org/](http://www.wildlife.org/).

Annual Dues are just \$15.00 for regular members and \$8.00 for students. As a member you will receive:

- The opportunity to interact with other wildlife professionals in Missouri.
- The opportunity to serve on committees and working groups which actively influence wildlife conservation and management in Missouri.
- **The opportunity to attend professional development workshops and symposia.**
- **A semi-annual newsletter**

**To Join:** Down-load a membership form (in PDF format)

OR

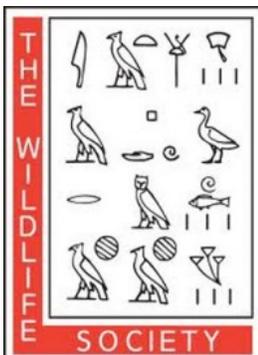
Send us your: **name , mailing address , phone number (optional) , Fax number (optional) , e-mail address (optional)** , along with your \$15.00 dues (make Checks payable to Missouri Chapter TWS) To:

Missouri Chapter of The Wildlife Society , P.O. Box 743, Columbia, MO 65205 - 0743

If you just would like more information, you can look us up at: <http://wildlife.org/missouri-chapter/>

**We Hope to Hear From You!!**

*The 2018 Winter/Spring application deadline  
for travel grant funds is February 15.*



**Missouri Chapter of  
The Wildlife Society  
PO Box 743  
Columbia, MO  
65205 – 0743**

