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### Newsletter of - The Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Vol. 43 December 2015 No. 2**

President’s Page

I’ve been honored to have the chance to serve as president of the Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society (KSTWS). This is an important responsibility with the foremost professional society in North America dedicated to wildlife biology and conservation. I’ll do my best.

We hit 2015 running with planning and hosting of the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Central Mountain and Plains Section (CMPS) of TWS, which took place from August 10 to 13, 2015, in Manhattan, Kansas. We hosted a successful meeting due to the collaboration of some very talented and motivated people. I thank David Haukos, Unit Leader of the Kansas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Kansas State University, for agreeing—on short notice—to co-host the meeting. Manhattan was a natural choice of venue for the meeting, being home base for the renowned wildlife program at K-State and providing wonderful amenities. The meeting was a great one (per assessment of many) due to the cooperation and diligence of the local committee and its many participants on subcommittees*,* including students from the K-State Student Chapter. I especially and heartily thank Dr. Haukos in recruiting leaders of workshops at the meeting on contemporary analytical software, plenary speakers, members of our discussion panelists, and paper session moderators. A hearty thanks to those workshops leaders (Brett Sandercock and Gene Albanese at K-State) and the numerous plenary speakers and panelists for contributing their time and expertise. I am also especially grateful to my Exec Board for their tremendous efforts in making the meeting not only possible but enjoyable by all. KSTWS President-elect Brad Reuschhoff provided experiential support for me in the organization of committees, leading a field trip for attendees, and leading the highly successful fund-raising efforts to assist with costs of hosting the meeting. Handling those funds, registration fees, and purchases of our well-appointed meeting was our Secretary-Treasurer, J.R. Glenn. We are indebted to J.R.’s mathematical skills and prompt actions! Board Member Megan Smith arranged for our use of the Bluemont Hotel and Flint Hills Discovery Center and made sure we were well-nourished during socials at these venues (she was very busy pulling this together! So many options!). Brad, J.R., and Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism personnel also pulled together wonderful provisions for us at the poster session and social at Konza Prairie Biological Station. Our Board Member and Newsletter Editor-Webmaster, Justin Hamilton, expertly handled the scientific program, made calls for papers, rounded up abstracts, made website updates (so many!), and made sure the paper sessions ran smoothly. A big thanks to the student/faculty/professional contributors to the paper and poster sessions for sharing their research with us as the core for this meeting’s program. The strength of wildlife science across the CMPS region was very well demonstrated. Lastly, but not least, thanks to the CMPS board for their advisement and support of the meeting. We have an impressive cadre of individuals on the CMPS Exec Board to coordinate the section’s activities, including KSTWS’s own Jim Hays (thanks, Jim, for your advice on preparing the CMPS meeting!).

While preparations for the CMPS meeting dominated our activities in the past year, there is additional business that demands attention. Regrettably, a call for applications for the Robert J. Robel Memorial Award, a scholarship awarded to a deserving wildlife student in Kansas, had not been made in 2015. We do plan to discuss and announce a new call for applications at our KSTWS business meeting at the 2016 Kansas Natural Resources Conference (KNRC). Regarding that conference, thanks to Past President Matt Smith in continuing to coordinate KSTWS’s role in KNRC. Matt has also been very helpful to me adjust to my role as chapter president, helped with the CMPS meeting, and continues to coordinate the chapter’s conservation affairs.

Thanks for **your** participation in KSTWS. I hope to see you at KNRC and elsewhere!

Bill Jensen

**Kansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society Spring Meeting 2016**

**KCTWS 2016 Spring Meeting**

**February 4th, 2016**

**Wichita, KS**

The KCTWS 2016 annual meeting will be in conjunction with the ninth annual Kansas Natural Resources Conference (KNRC) in Wichita at the Airport Hilton. The meeting will be held Thursday February 4th, 2016 from 4:30-6:00pm.

Registration is NOT required to attend the KCTWS meeting, but those wishing to attend the KNRC meeting or events need to register. The early registration deadline is January 20th. KNRC meeting and registration information can be found at: [www.kansasnrc.org](http://www.kansasnrc.org).

All attendees must make their own room arrangements with the DoubleTree by Hilton at the $102.00 per night conference rate. The block of rooms will be held until January 20th, 2016. Contact the DoubleTree Hilton by phone:1-800-247-4458 or online at [www.wichitaairport.hilton.com](http://www.wichitaairport.hilton.com).

The KNRC is hosted by six professional conservation societies from Kansas, including KCTWS. The meeting has had over 250

attendees annually, and includes a broad range of conservation-related presentations. This year’s plenary session theme is:

***“Conversations on Conservation-Engaging Landowners thru Effective Communication”.***

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Speakers for the plenary session will include:

* Mary Tyrrell – Yale University School of Forestry & Environmental Studies
* Danielle Brigida – US Fish and Wildlife Service
* Jason Bergtold – Kansas State University
* Russell Davis – Wineinger-Davis Ranch

For more information about this year’s plenary speakers check out the Kansas Natural Resource Conference website at www.kansasnrc.org

**KCTWS to offer wildlife awards**

KCTWS will offer a $150 Best Student Paper award and a $100 Best Student Poster award again this year at the KNRC. Student presenters addressing wildlife related subjects were asked to state their intent to compete for the awards along with their abstract submission. For additional information about student travel grants or wildlife awards contact Bill Jensen at wjensen1@emporia.edu.

**Dues Notice**

Dues expire December 31. If you haven't renewed your membership recently, it's likely past due. Dues are $10 for regular members and $2 for students. Dues should be sent to KCTWS Secretary J.R. Glenn. Members will also be able to renew at the KCTWS business meeting at KNRC, or TWS members can renew through National at: www.wildlife.org.

**Other News**

The 76th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference will be held January 24-27, 2016, at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Check the website for more information and updates on the meeting [www.midwestfw.org](http://www.midwestfw.org).

The 23rd Annual TWS Conference will be held October 15-19, 2016, in Raleigh, NC. See <http://wildlife.org/> for more information.

**(Meeting announcement of the Central Mountains and plains Section below.)**

**Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

**Minutes of Spring Meeting**

**January 29, 2015**

Matt Smith opened the meeting by introducing the board members

Minutes: J.R. Glenn reported that the minutes had been published in the latest newsletter for membership review. Minutes approved

Treasurer Report: (J.R. Glenn) 2014 financial report was provided to the membership on the meeting agenda, The current checking account balance at the time of the meeting was $3,408.05.

**Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

**2015 Financial Report**

**Annual Spring Meeting January 29, 2015**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **Balance 1/1/15** | **$3,408.05** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Expenses** |  |  |  |
|  | Justin Leon – Robel Award | **1/30/15** | $500.00 |
|  | KNRC Student Paper Award | **1/30/14** | $150.00 |
|  | KNRC Student Poster Award | **1/31/14** | $100.00 |
|  | Sponsor Legislative Luncheon | **2/20/15** | $250.00 |
|  | Student Travel Grant | **3/4/15** | $300.00 |
|  | CMPS Expenses\* |  | $9,390.85 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **Total Expenses** | **$10,690.85** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Deposits** | Dues |  | $792.00 |
|  | KNRC share |  | $1,067.00 |
|  | CMPS Revenue\* |  | $13,261.17 |
|  | RJR Award Donations |  | $205.00 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **Total Deposits** | **$15,325.17** |
|  | Robert J. Robel Memorial Award Fund Balance |  | **$542.00^** |
|  |  | **Balance 12/31/15** | **$8,042.37** |

**\*See separate CMPS Financial Report for details**

**^Included in balance**

**Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

**2015 CMPS Annual Meeting Financial Report**

**August 10-13, 2015**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Expenses** |  |  |  |
|  | FHDC – Opening Social Deposit | 3/31/15 | 500.00 |
|  | Konza – Poster Social Venue | **7/15/15** | 275.00 |
|  | FHDC – Opening Social | **7/28/15** | 900.00 |
|  | Staples – Admin supplies for CMPS | **8/10/15** | 64.68 |
|  | Bartenders on the Go – Opening social | **8/10/15** | 467.00 |
|  | Hyvee – caterer opening social | **8/10/15** | 767.78 |
|  | Rickels – Beverages for Poster social | **8/11/15** | 248.89 |
|  | Brad Rueschhoff – tshirts, banner, food | **8/12/15** | 990.86 |
|  | Friendship House – Banquet Meal | **8/12/15** | 2,051.60 |
|  | Bluemont Hotel | **8/12/15** | 3,125.04 |
|  |  | **Total Expenses** | **$9,390.85** |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Deposits** | Registration – PayPal (2.7% charge/transaction) |  | 5,171.17 |
|  | Registration – Check/Cash |  | 3,715.00 |
|  | KDWPT – Sponsor |  | 1,500.00 |
|  | Westar Energy – Sponsor |  | 500.00 |
|  | NWTF – Sponsor |  | 500.00 |
|  | SCI – Sponsor |  | 250.00 |
|  | TNC – Sponsor |  | 250.00 |
|  | Feyh Seeds - Sponsor |  | 250.00 |
|  | KFHA - Sponsor |  | 100.00 |
|  | KWF – Sponsor |  | 250.00 |
|  | Raffle/Silent Auction (50%) |  | 775.00 |
|  |  | **Total Deposits** | **$13,261.17** |
|  |  | **Total Revenue** | **$3,870.32** |

**Committee Reports**

1. Newsletter/Website: Justin Hamilton reported that plans are to make the newsletter available via email, the KCTWS website, and Facebook.
2. Student Awards: (Brad Simpson) No applications were received for travel grants, there was $300 available to travel to meetings and the application is available on the web page.
   1. Robel award – This was the 2nd year for the award and 3 applications were received. **Justin Leon** was the recipient of the award.
3. Resolutions and Public Comment – Matt Smith
   1. Comment on program standards for Chronic Wasting Disease
   2. HB 2118 attempt to repeal the non-game act was struck down
   3. HB 5008 which addressed the right to hunt & fish in KS was discussed
   4. Keystone pipeline may force FWS to de-list the Lesser PC but may reappear as a rider
   5. Jim Hays indicated there was currently an attempt to defrock conservation easements.
4. CMPS: (Justin Hamilton) Justin attended the CMPS meeting in Wyoming and reported that there was an abundance of activities and educational opportunities provided to attendees and highly recommended KCTWS members attend in the future.
   1. CMPS will be held in KS in 2015
5. Student Chapters:
   1. Kansas State University – Officers and committee members were introduced. There are currently 45 members but attendance at meetings can reach 90-100 students. KSU student chapter members were provided the opportunity to participate in numerous activities including a black-footed ferret survey and spotlighting on Konza Prairie. Members planned to attend Student Conclave in March and organize a float trip in April
   2. Emporia State University – Officers were introduced. The student chapter hosted its annual cookout for members and discussed the activities planned for

the future

**Old Business**

The 40th anniversary celebration was discussed which provided a chance for the Charter members to meet and share stories and past accomplishments.

Bob Wood was received the Distinguished Service Award and traveled to the TWS Annual meeting in Pittsburgh, PA to be recognized.

Nominations for the TWS Fellow are currently open.

KCTWS sponsored the KS Wildlife Federation Conservation Award, the regional Envirothon in Manhattan and the KWF banquet in Hays in 2015.

The Conservation Affairs Network was discussed the goal of which is to engage chapters in discussion across state lines on conservation issues via conference calls. KCTWS members should let a board member know of any issue that they felt should be discussed in this venue, fliers were made available.

Matt Smith reported that KCTWS was unsuccessful in obtaining a Commissioners big game permit which would have been used for Chapter fundraising.

Elections: 34 KCTWS voted in the officer elections.

1. Bill Jensen ran unopposed for President-Elect
2. Justin Hamilton and Megan Smith were elected to board member at large positions

Matt Smith passed the gavel to Bill Jensen

**New Business**

* Legislative Luncheon – Brad Rueschoff

Brad led discussion regarding KCTWS setting up a booth for the KS Legislative Luncheon on March 25. Everyone agreed it was a good idea to help communicate what KCTWS mission was. Discussed the need to develop materials for these types of events, some materials may be available from National.

* CMPS Meeting in KS

Discussion regarding the need to begin planning for the CMPS meeting in KS immediately as it would be for 3-4 days in August. General consensus that a Flint Hills location would be the best choice with Manhattan as the likely host city. It was decided that a committee would be put together to begin planning for the meeting.

* Rangeland Wildlife Working Group – Shelly Wiggam

The goal of the group would be to unify interest into a coalition of stakeholders and there was a need for KS involvement. Joining the group costs $5 which includes a forum. The group would be holding a symposium at the TWS national meeting and sponsoring a workshop at the Society of Range Mgmt meeting in Corpus Christi. Nominations are currently open to serve on the Working Group.

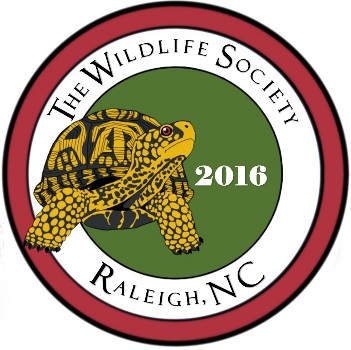
A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by

J.R. Glenn – Secretary/Treasurer

**TWS News**

**The Wildlife Society 2016 Annual Conference**

North Carolina will be hosting The Wildlife Society’s 23rd Annual Conference at the [Raleigh Convention Center](http://www.raleighconvention.com/) October 15th-19th. There will be more than 500 educational sessions, 3 plenary sessions, over 40 networking opportunities, and much more! The Calls for Contributed Papers and Posters is available at [www.wildlife.org](http://www.wildlife.org).  

**The Leadership Institute**

Soon TWS will be opening the application process for The Leadership Institute. The Leadership Institute was developed in 2006 for “early career professionals.” This means individuals who are 1-5 years out of school and working in the field of wildlife biology or conservation. The purpose of the institute is to provide leadership training, mentoring, and networking opportunities to new professionals who are underrepresented in the society due to low membership. These new professionals have an important role in wildlife management and conservation as we begin to see a large turnover of retiring employees throughout the profession (70% within the next 10 years). The goal of the institute is to help prepare new biologists for leadership roles within their profession and within the National society. Each year the institute selects 10-15 participants, nationwide, through a competitive application process. Those selected spend several months engaged in a series of exercises (reading, writing, conference calls, collaborative projects, etc.) to improve a range of leadership skills. The

Institute culminates with a paid trip to attend the national meeting. Check the TWS website ([www.wildlife.org](http://www.wildlife.org)) for updates on The Leadership Institute and the application process.

**CMPS News**

The 60th annual meeting of the Central Mountains and Plains Section of The Wildlife Society was held August 10-13, 2015, in Manhattan, KS. There were 99 registrants that enjoyed two days of paper and poster sessions, a day of workshops, three evening socials, and field trips to Kanza Prairie Biological Station, Bolton Wildlife Area, and Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. The meeting was a success and a great time was had by all!

Left: Photo of CMPS members at Tallgrass National Prairie Preserve. Right: Rob Manes address CMPS members at the banquet in Manhattan, KS.

The 2016 annual meeting of CMPS will be held August 8-11 in Steamboat Springs, Colorado! It’s a great time of year to be in Steamboat Springs and we are going to be on the mountain with easy access to hiking, mountain biking, wildlife, and great scientific programs. The Colorado chapter is currently looking for suggestions for workshops. If you have suggestions please contact Mindy Rice with ideas at [mindy.rice@state.co.us](mailto:mindy.rice@state.co.us)



The Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society

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

Theodore Roosevelt

**Objectives of the Kansas Chapter of the Wildlife Society.**

**1. To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environments upon which wildlife and man depends.**

**2. To undertake an active role in preventing man induced environmental degradation.**

**3. To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.**

**4. To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.**

**Application for Membership**

**Kansas Chapter TWS**

Membership Dues (Payable April 1)

Regular Member...........$10.00

Student Member...........$2.00

(Applicant may pay multiple years)

Total Enclosed $

Are you a member of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to be called to help the board?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_

### If so, what is your phone number?

## Home \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

### Office \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Area of Expertise \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Area of interest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Make Check Payable to: KS Chapter TWS

# Full Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Present Position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail application with dues to:**

**Kansas Chapter TWS**

**J. R. Glenn**

**1724 Thompson**

**Emporia, KS 66801**

**KCTWS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President**

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