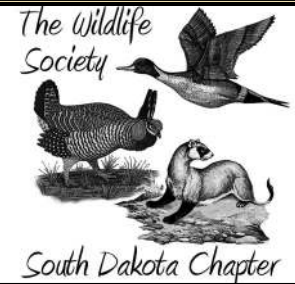


# *South Dakota Chapter* **The Wildlife Society**



## *A Prairie Voice*



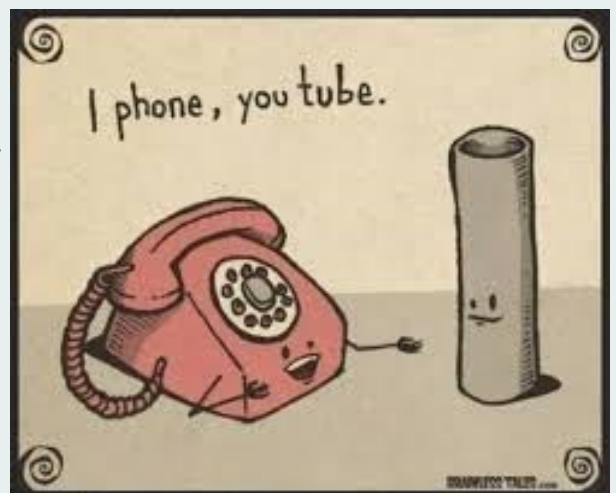
### *What's Inside...*

- **President's Message**
- **Board Meeting Minutes**
- **2018 Annual Meeting Details—Register Online—available now!!**
- **Notes by Dennie—National Elk Refuge**

# A Message From the President

I wonder, if I looked back at the last decade or so of President's Messages, would something on the order of 2/3 of them begin by talking about the weather? Whenever I sit down to write one of these that's where my mind goes first, probably because I've seen it many times before, and also because living in South Dakota it's something we are all keenly aware of given the extremes and propensity to change so quickly. However, I also feel like opening each Message with talking about how hot, cold, wet, or dry it is seems to be taking the easy way out. On the flip-side, the conditions we experience day in and out, as well as long-term changes in the climate that are becoming ever more apparent, truly does affect wildlife and their habitats, which we then try to plan for and respond to depending on what the environment gives us. Indeed, I've recently heard these especially cold spells may lead to emerald ash borer die-offs in some regions, could possibly affect tick infestations that have become obviously problematic for moose in the Northern U.S., and these are to say nothing of the immediate impacts, such as increased mortality. So there you see, I've gone and done it anyway - I've opened another message talking about the dad-gummed weather! With that, I believe I'll defer to the wisdom of Samuel Clemens (better known as Mark Twain), who supposedly said, "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." Ah, if we only could control the weather our jobs would be much simpler! And likely a lot less interesting.

I hope many of you are going to spend a couple of days out of any inclement weather and inside the Cedar Shores Resort during 26-28 February 2018 and attend the Annual Meeting of the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society. (See what I did there? I'll admit, segues aren't my forte'.) As mentioned in my last Message, our theme will be ***Natural History: Back to the Basics with Backpacks and Binoculars***, and the Agenda is starting to come together. I'm proud to announce two guest speakers that will be traveling to share their experience and ideas with the Chapter members.



## President's Message

First, Dr. Bob Zink will be providing our Keynote address during the banquet. Dr. Zink was with the Bell Museum of Natural History and the Breckenridge Chair of Ornithology at the University of Minnesota or 22 years before he joined the faculty at University of Nebraska. Dr. Zink has written countless scientific and popular articles, and most recently published a book titled *The Three-Minute Outdoorsman*.



We have left it open to decide what to speak to us about, but I feel quite sure it will be entertaining and interesting.



Second, Mr. Michael Furtman will be speaking to us about his profession - outdoor journalism and nature photography. Mr. Furtman is a well-respected and -published writer and photographer, has written over a dozen books, columns and articles for *Ducks Unlimited* magazine (among others), and has had hundreds, perhaps thousands, of his photographs published in books, magazines,

websites, and the like. Chances are quite good that when you see that gorgeous photo of your favorite duck landing in a marsh on the cover of *DU Magazine*, it was Mr. Furtman that spent many hours in the field to capture that very photo.

With respect to the remainder of the agenda we will, as usual, have many presentations by wildlife professionals in the state and region, and several talks for graduate students on their current or recent research. To this end, we can certainly accommodate more presentations and we have extended the deadline for submitting your abstract. And if you want to present, but will have trouble meeting the deadline, please email President Elect Alex Solem ([alex.solem@sd.state.us](mailto:alex.solem@sd.state.us)) and he will do his best to work with you and get you on the Agenda. If you'd like to display a poster of your work we'd be glad to provide that opportunity as well, so drop us a line!



# A Message From the President

Finally, with every Annual Meeting comes the time to elect new Board Members. If you would like to run for President-Elect or a Member-at-Large position please contact me

([joshua.stafford@sdstate.edu](mailto:joshua.stafford@sdstate.edu)) or Alex

Solem and we'd be glad to answer any questions and discuss getting you in the running.

Get involved! Board members needed!



This last topic reminds me that this is my final President's Message of my term as President of the South Dakota Chapter of TWS. It has been far more interesting and entertaining than I'd imagined, and with the help of the Board members, committees, and membership I can also say it's been a pleasure to serve the Chapter. I'm amazed at the resilience, tenacity, work ethic, innovative nature, and sheer productivity of the many biologists the Chapter represents. I thank everyone very sincerely for allowing me the honor of a term as President of our amazing group and, truthfully, I'll miss it. Fortunately for me I'll get to stick around as Past-President, in an advisory capacity, for another year, and I'll be an active member for life. I wish everyone a wonderful rest of the winter and look forward to seeing you all at the end of February.

In Conservation,

Joshua D. Stafford, Ph.D.

2017-2018 President

South Dakota Chapter of

The Wildlife Society

BACK TO THE  
BASICS





# 2018 SDTWS Annual Meeting

Cedar Shores Resort, Oacoma, SD  
February 26-28, 2018

Call (605) 734-6367 to make your reservation.

## 2018 Theme

"Natural History: Back to the basics  
with backpacks and binoculars"

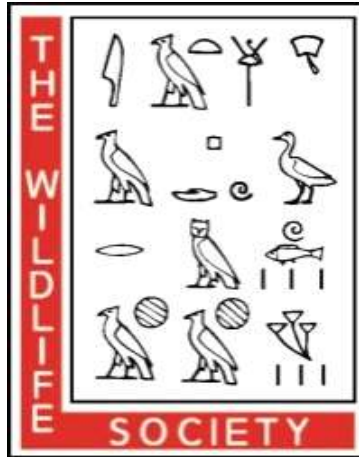
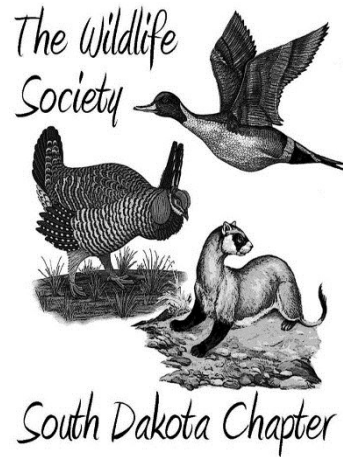
Register for the Annual Meeting  
ONLINE!!

Click [Here](#) to register  
(credit cards accepted)



**Please note:** After selecting each registration item and selecting "Add to Cart", the PayPal page shows what is in your cart. You will need to select "Continue Shopping" in the upper right hand corner to add the next registration item, i.e. Tuesday lunch, Tuesday banquet, and Membership Dues. There is a dropdown menu for registration fees - there are discounts if you are a student, retiree, or only staying one day.

If you have any questions or issues, please contact [Jacquie Ermer](#) at (605) 345-3381



Cedar Shore Resort and Convention Center  
Oacoma, South Dakota  
26 February - 28 February, 2018

### **MONDAY, 26 FEBRUARY**

11:00	1:00	<b>Registration and Lunch</b>
1:00	1:15	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>
<b>Special Session:</b> <i>Natural History: Back to the Basics with Backpacks and Binoculars</i>		
1:15	2:00	<b>What's in your backyard, 150 years of natural history observations in northeast South Dakota</b> Dennis Skadsen
2:00	2:30	<b>Understanding the distributions of South Dakota amphibians and reptiles: a synthesis of recent, historic, and citizen science records</b> Drew Davis
2:30	3:00	<b>Tracking purple martin migration with Geo-locators</b> Paul Mammenga
3:00	3:15	<b>BREAK</b>
3:15	3:45	<b>Monarch tagging</b> Thea Ryan
3:45	4:30	<b>The ridiculous chemical-heavy mentality driving modern grassland management</b> Pete Bauman
5:00	6:00	<b>Social</b>
6:00	7:00	<b>Supper</b>
6:45		<b>Start of Fundraising Event</b>
8:00	10:00	<b>Social</b>

### **TUESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY**

8:00	9:00	<b>Committee meetings</b> (This is scheduled time to allow for standing and special committees to meet if desired.)
9:00	12:00	<b>Annual Chapter Business Meeting</b> ( <i>Rolls and coffee provided</i> )
12:00	1:00	<b>Luncheon</b>
<b>Special Session</b>		
1:00	2:00	<b>Wildlife photography</b> Michael Furtman



## **TUESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY (cont'd)**

### **Session One: Contributed Papers**

2:00	2:30	<b>Drought and pheasants: understanding the mechanisms of population responses to extreme climatic events</b> Joseph J. Fontaine
2:30	3:00	<b>Hunter distribution in a unique public access landscape</b> Lysie S. Wszola, Erica F. Stuber, Lutz F. Gruber, and Joseph J. Fontaine
3:00	3:20	<b>BREAK</b>
3:20	3:40	<b>Pumas affect elk dynamics in absence of other large carnivores</b> Chadwick P. Lehman, Christopher T. Rota, Jarod D. Raithel, and Joshua J. Millspaugh
3:40	4:00	<b>False map turtle (<i>Graptemys pseudogeographica</i>) abundance in a modified river habitat, Lake Oahe, South Dakota</b> Anna Kase and Jacob Kerby
4:00	4:30	<b>Prairie grouse occurrence model for South Dakota</b> Travis Runia and Alex Solem
4:30	4:50	<b>Large or small patches? How patch size and nest density influence nest survival and conservation in grasslands</b> Victoria Simonsen, Alexis Fedele, and Joseph J. Fontaine
5:00	6:00	<b>Social</b>
6:00	7:00	<b>Supper</b>
7:00	8:00	<b>Keynote Speaker – Robert Zink</b> <b>Birds, brains and hunters</b>
8:00	8:30	<b>Award Presentations</b>



## **WEDNESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY**

### **Session Two: Contributed Papers**

8:00	8:20	<b>Space, habitat and abundance: Hotspot analysis of distribution of ring-necked pheasants in eastern South Dakota</b> Sprih Harsh and Andrew J. Gregory
8:20	8:40	<b>Comparing bird communities in winter patch and patch burn grazing systems in Western South Dakota</b> Jennifer Lutze, Patricia Johnson, Kent Jensen, Jameson Brennan, and Ashleigh Rhea
8:40	9:00	<b>Acoustic and thermal characteristics of greater Sage-grouse nest sites in northwestern South Dakota</b> Lindsey A. Bischoff, Travis Runia, Andrew Gregory, and Jonathan A. Jenks
9:00	9:20	<b>Distribution of Swift Fox (<i>Vulpes velox</i>) and sympatric canid species in the Dakotas</b> Emily L. Mitchell, Tammy L. Wilson, Donelle Schwalm, and Jonathan A. Jenks
9:20	9:40	<b>BREAK</b>
9:40	10:00	<b>Selective removal may lead to recovery of ailing bighorn sheep herds</b> Tyler J. Garwood, Chadwick P. Lehman, E. Frances Cassirer, Daniel P. Walsh, Thomas E. Besser, and Jonathan A. Jenks
10:00	10:20	<b>Grassland bird use of high and low diversity native plantings</b> Jackie K. Krakow, Kristel K. Bakker, Kyle Kelsey, and Kent C. Jensen
10:20	10:40	<b>The effect of the neonicotinoid clothianidin on ring-necked pheasant mortality and reproduction</b> Michael Sundall, Jonathan A. Jenks, Brian Graeb, Jonathan Lundgren, Alex Solem, and Travis Runia
10:40	11:00	
11:00	12:00	<b>Present Student and Open Presentation Awards</b> <b>Gun Raffle Drawing</b> <b>Closing Comments and Adjourn Meeting</b>

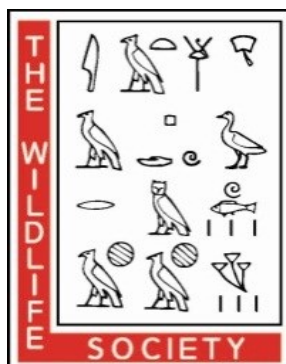


## Contributed Posters:

**Evaluating predator communities and duck nest survival in eastern South Dakota** Samantha Fino, Joshua Stafford, Aaron Pearse, and Jonathan Jenks

**The evaluation of cover crops for grassland nesting waterfowl in eastern South Dakota** Will Gallman, and Joshua Stafford

**Sage-grouse initiative in South Dakota** Matt Gottlob

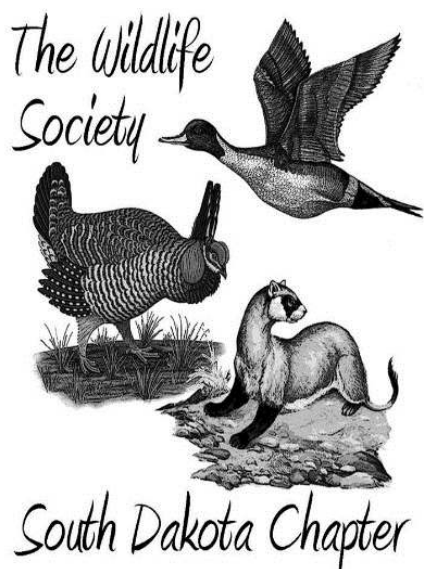


### THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Founded in 1937 as The Society of Wildlife Specialists, The Wildlife Society has evolved into an international nonprofit organization of professional wildlife ecologists and managers. Members number over 10,000 from 40 different countries, and include administrators, biologists, conservation officers, educators, managers and researchers.

The objectives of TWS are to:

1. Promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and the environments upon which wildlife and humans depend;
2. Undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation;
3. Increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values; and
4. To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.



### SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

The South Dakota Chapter of TWS (SDTWS) was initiated on February 19, 1966 with 56 charter members. SDTWS is affiliated with the Central Mountains and Plains Section, one of eight subdivisions of TWS. The full membership of SDTWS meets annually in the spring to exchange scientific information through presented papers, debate current issues in wildlife management and land use, and conduct chapter business. The chapter's Executive Board of Directors, consisting of President, Past-President, President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and two standing board members meet at least 4 times each year to discuss issues that don not require full chapter approval. The chapter also communicates with its members through a newsletter, *The Prairie Voice*, published within 30 days of Executive Board meetings.

SDTWS has a current membership of 171 people interested in the welfare of South Dakota wildlife.



## South Dakota TWS Annual Meeting

Registration and Receipt  
Cedar Shore Resort, Oacoma SD  
February 26-28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Meeting Registration

General	\$100	_____
General 1-Day	\$ 50	_____
Student/Retiree	\$ 35	_____
Student/Retiree 1-Day	\$ 25	_____
Tuesday Luncheon	\$ 11	_____
Tuesday Awards Banquet	\$ 15	_____
SD TWS T-shirt	\$ 5	_____
50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cooler	\$ 10	_____

### Annual Dues - South Dakota Chapter Membership

Regular	\$ 10	_____
Student	\$ 6	_____
Life	\$	_____

Please check one: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing Member

\*If you did not renew your dues in 2017, you will be considered a new member in 2018 as per the SDTWS Bylaws.

Central Mountains and Plains Section Membership      \$ FREE (SDTWS Pays \$1/Member)

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Total Paid      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ (check box) By becoming a member of SD TWS, I support the Chapter's bylaws and objectives:

- To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environment upon which wildlife and humans depend.
- To undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
- To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
- To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

Please make check payable to: SD TWS

Form of payment (circle one):    CHECK      CASH      CREDIT CARD

*To preregister, send form and check to: Jacquie Ermer, 42924 140<sup>th</sup> ST, Webster, SD 57274*

# **South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

## **2017 Executive Board Elections**

Information on candidates for President Elect and Executive Board Member are presented below. If you are not able to attend the 2017 SDTWS annual meeting at the Cedar Shores Resort, an absentee ballot is included in this edition of *A Prairie Voice*.

### **Candidate for President Elect—**

#### **Candidate for Executive Board —Nick Markl**

My name is Nick Markl and I grew up in Windom, MN. I enjoy hunting, fishing, camping and anything else related to the outdoors. I knew from a young age that I wanted to work in the wildlife field which led me to South Dakota State University where I obtained my BS degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. While in College I worked four internships with SD Game Fish and Parks (SDGFP), three summers in Watertown working with Wildlife Damage Specialists and Waterfowl Biologists, and one summer working on adult and calf elk survival research in Custer State Park. After graduating college and finishing up my last internship, I took a full time position with SDGFP in Webster, SD as a Wildlife Damage Specialist. This position allowed me to work with landowners and wildlife on a daily basis as well as helping out with various research projects and surveys going on in the region. In the fall of 2016 I took the position of Wildlife Resource Biologist in Webster, my main duties include conducting and coordinating wildlife surveys and research projects, collecting and analyzing data, and providing recommendations on seasons. In addition to the South Dakota chapter of The Wildlife Society, I am also a member of Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, and the local trap shooting club.

# Fundraising Event ANNOUNCEMENT



The Executive Board is making some minor changes to the fundraising portion of the meeting this year.

We will only have a few items that will be auctioned live, but will have many silent auction items, will have more games this year, and a couple of surprises that should be exciting.

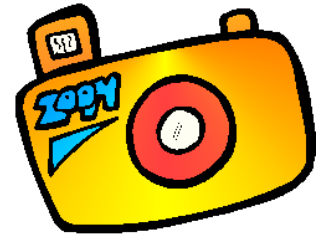


As always, feel free to bring items to donate, but please know that unless you desire otherwise they will be placed in the silent auction.

Thank you in advance for supporting our fundraising efforts!



## PHOTO CONTEST



We know our members have great pictures from their outside adventures including landscapes, hunting, outdoor recreation, and flora/fauna. We would like to showcase your pictures during a photo contest at this year's annual meeting.

**Entry fee:** \$5 per photo—no limit on number of entries

**Size:** 8x10 attached to 10x12 black cardboard / foam board mat

- Photos can be submitted prior to the meeting to any board member or can be brought to the annual meeting
- Winner will be chosen by popular vote at 2018 Annual Meeting & receive 50% of the entry fees.
- The winning photo will be displayed on the SDTWS website and will be made into a canvas to be auctioned off at 2019 annual meeting.





## Notes From Dennie Mann

December in Jackson Hole Wyoming has many opportunities for wildlife photographers. Hunting with a camera in this region of the country is very popular and the late season hunting on the National Elk Refuge to



reduce the bison and elk herds is a great management tool. This year snow was at a minimum just a few inches on the ground, the sleigh rides on the refuge changed their skies for tires. We only found a few elk and bison but photographed about 40 bighorns, and driving through the refuge your vehicle becomes a salt lick for the sheep. Last

year the peak population of elk on the refuge was just over 9,000 the first week of March. If you





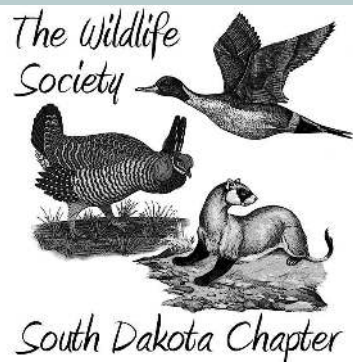
have the time and need a travel destination in March take the family to Jackson for an elk viewing experience. Temperatures were very mild down to about 0 at night and 20s during the day. Only had about 10 hours of sunshine out of the week but the moose were in the sagebrush flats off the Gros Ventre River near Kelly Wyoming. We photographed 35 different moose in the Kelly area which surprised us because of minimal snow depth in the mountains.



Keep up the great work that you do and take time to enjoy the opportunities that you provide through wildlife and habitat management.

*Dennis M. ...*





## THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

*South Dakota Chapter*

523 E Capitol Ave.

Pierre, SD 57501

(605) 773-3096

**Executive Board Meeting, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**11:30 AM – 12:30 PM (CST)**

**Conference Call**

### On the call

President Joshua Stafford, Past President Nathan Baker, President Elect Alex Solem, Secretary/Treasurer Jacquie Ermer, Board Member Ben Lardy, Board Member Brian Pauly

Meeting called to order at 11:34am

- Secretary/Treasurer's Report
  - Approval of minutes from last executive board meeting (8/16/17), *Motion to approve by Solem; Second by Lardy; All in favor*
  - Approval of treasurer's report, *Motion to approve by Solem; Second by Baker; All in favor*
- Old Business
  - SD Student Travel Grants
    - Offered \$200/student; essay required, Need to follow up.  
*Stafford will send email to applicants (3) and ask for the essay. Put names and essay in next Newsletter*
  - 2018 Annual Meeting
    - Theme: *"Natural History: Back to basics with backpacks and binoculars"*,
    - Preparation and Details- *group discussed*
    - Gun Raffle-  
*check out new sporting goods store in Chamberlain (Quirks) or Cabelas?; Lardy will look into gun options; transfer gun to winner's name*
    - "Game Night"-  
*new fundraiser idea instead of live auction; additional items to raffle (5) on Tues night as part of "game night" before banquet- Yeti or Arctic cooler? Additional gun? Other items? Group discussed*

- Auction-  
*no live auction format; will do a silent auction Mon thru Tue (buy-out price?); will try a "game night" instead of live auction*
- Gay Simpson print-  
*We will still live auction this print the night of banquet (Stafford)*
- TWS Annual Conference
  - SDTWS Chapter Representation  
*Stafford attended; didn't see many others from SD; a few students from SD*
- New Business
  - 2018 Annual Meeting
    - Potential conflicts with CMPS/DAFS meetings, etc., *Board discussed and decided to leave SDTWS 2018 annual meeting dates as is*
    - Call for Abstracts  
*Solem prepared and will send out soon to Stafford and Jennifer Briggs; deadline for submissions will be Dec 29, 2017*
    - Check with invited speakers-  
*Stafford and Solem will touch base again with Dr. Zink and Mr. Furtman*
    - Board- When to meet at Cedar Shores – Menu, etc.  
*Tentatively next Board meeting sometime week Jan 15, 2018; Stafford will send out meeting poll*
    - Soliciting donations for annual meeting  
*Start soliciting in January 2018; discuss at next meeting*
    - Awards  
*Baker is chair; new Life Member Awards; WL Professional, Citizen, Student Awards, Best Oral Presentation, Baker will send out call for award nominations early Dec; email blast and newsletter*
    - Board positions open  
*1-board member (Lardy's term is up) and president-elect openings; start looking for candidates*
    - Registration forms- update and print  
*Look into Print Com in Pierre; early Feb*
  - Next SDTWS Newsletter
    - *Solicit Silent Auction items; no live auction reminder*
    - *Abstracts due*
    - *Student Travel Grant Essays*
    - *Photo contest reminder*
    - *Solicit nominations for president elect and board member*

Motion to adjourn: Pauly; Second Lardy; All in favor

Meeting adjourned at 12:28pm



**A note from Spencer Carstens...**  
**student travel grant award recipient**  
**National TWS meeting in Albuquerque, NM.**

My name is Spencer Carstens and I am an undergraduate at South Dakota State University and this past September I had the opportunity to attend my first National TWS meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This meeting was an excellent opportunity to learn about current research being done as well as network with wildlife professionals from around the country and world. I am graduating from SDSU in December 2017 and this meeting presented me with opportunities to introduce myself and talk with wildlife professionals about possible future careers. I attended many different talks at the meeting covering many different topics including reintroductions of large mammals, disease, occupancy modeling, endangered species, technological advancements, and management strategies for many different species from waterfowl to large carnivores. This large array of topics was beneficial because it introduced me to different research methodologies and ecosystems that I had not yet been exposed to.

Over the past few years, I have been involved as a technician for a couple bighorn sheep graduate projects. I did not see what happened to the data or what results came out of the research project outside of the field work. It was rewarding to see how field work and data collection is interpreted and presented at a professional meeting. Furthermore, it was extremely enlightening to see how field work was translated into comprehensible results and the impact research has on conservation and management. I hope to be involved in and contribute to research projects in the future as I have gained a new appreciation for scientific studies and their importance to the wildlife field.



# The Wildlife Society News

## Popular Articles on the TWS website

- [As birds breed earlier, nests end up in the path of farm equipment](#)
- [TWS signs letter supporting native grassland conservation](#)
- [Constantly on the hunt, midsize carnivores face unique risks](#)

For the latest TWS News

<http://wildlife.org/learn/news-center/>



**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**  
*Leaders in Wildlife Science, Management and Conservation*



## Check it out...

- Renew your membership [online](#) at SDTWS website
- SDTWS is on Facebook!



Click [here](#) to join the group! Facebook is a great way to share information, post events, to stimulate discussions on environmental issues or other topics of interest.

Contact Chuck Pyle at [goosemansd@hotmail.com](mailto:goosemansd@hotmail.com) if you have events, pictures, or topics you would like posted to the site.



## TWS Heritage Committee News

First, thanks to all of the Heritage Committee members who attended the gathering with TWS Retired Wildlife Professionals during the 24th TWS Annual Conference in September 2017. That was a very useful acquaintance-building session and venue for identifying additional possible ways that both groups can further help TWS.

We are still developing and exploring some of the prospective options that will be available for the Committee and Retirees to help within TWS. But, it will be important to get a start on some options while others develop. Thus, the opportunities listed below are available now to identify ways to start early in 2018. Please send an email to Chairman Bruce Thompson (bcthompson248@gmail.com) to express your interest. If you want to learn more about these options before making a commitment, don't hesitate to message Bruce with your questions or call him (505-660-0533 mobile).

### **Opportunities to explore soon:**

**Mentor a Student Chapter** – TWS has 138 Student Chapters distributed broadly in North America (see list included with this request). Each Chapter typically has 1 Faculty Advisor and there is substantial variability in the background and time that each advisor can devote to the Chapter. Further, advisors sometimes may be unavailable for extended periods (e.g., sabbatical leave) during which Student Chapter members can benefit from another knowledgeable wildlife professional as a sounding board and advisor. Heritage Committee members can provide this important supplemental service to such Chapters. Delta State University (Cleveland, MS), Missouri State University (Springfield, MO), and Montana State University (Bozeman, MT) Student Chapters are especially in need of mentor assistance now. Consider being a multi-year mentor to a Student Chapter located near you (see list and just indicate your Chapter(s) of interest in your response).

**Mentor a TWS Leadership Institute (LI) participant** – Each year, TWS selects 10 early career professionals to participate in the Leadership Institute. Participants engage in a variety of assignments during summer and early fall, culminating with attendance at the Annual Conference

where they network and learn. Part of their experience is to have a mentor among TWS Council members and others who provide professional insight and advice. Each LI participant can benefit from further contact with others who are deeply aware of TWS and the wildlife profession. Indicate your interest and your contact info will be communicated to involved TWS staff who will provide more details.

**Assist Chapters/Sections with Conservation Affairs Network (CAN) actions** – Many State Chapters and Sections are involved in TWS Conservation Affairs Network (<http://wildlife.org/policy-2/conservation-affairs-network/>) and others are in the process of fully engaging. All can use assistance from seasoned professionals to further develop their specific networks and procedures within the TWS overview. Indicate your interest in a specific State Chapter and/or Section and your contact info will be communicated to involved TWS staff for coordination.

**Mentor an Early Career Professional TWS wildlifer** – The TWS electronic directory offers an opportunity to connect TWS members who want to explore mentoring interactions, whether as a mentor or mentee. Heritage Committee members comprise a wealth of experience, insight, knowledge, expertise, and awareness that can be a monumental value to early career professionals and others in our membership. If interested, simply login to the Member Portal (<https://wildlife.secure.force.com/customlogin>) and ensure your Profile indicates you are willing to be a Mentor.

**Compose material for The Wildlife Professional** – With 6 issues per year going to all TWS members, The Wildlife Professional represents a regular, broad-based forum for communicating insight about professional wildlife management and conservation topics. Consider being a contributor, especially on topics that are scheduled well in advance. If interested, contact Nancy Sasavage with TWS ([Nancy.Sasavage@wildlife.org](mailto:Nancy.Sasavage@wildlife.org)) to explore your ideas and to determine if your expertise fits with topics scheduled for near future issues, issues still in development, or topics being strategized by the Editor and Editorial Advisory Board.

Thanks for considering this request and working toward a TWS Heritage Committee that is routinely strengthening our organization and our colleagues.

Bruce Thompson, TWS Immediate Past-President, Chair, TWS Heritage Committee, 2017-2018



# SDTWS Life Members

Doug Alvine	Jonathan Jenks	Erling Podoll
Galen Burgett	John Kelley	Chuck Pyle
Eddie Childers	Colleen Kolbeck	Greg Schenbeck
Mary Clawson	Rolf Kraft	Boyd Schulz
Charles Dieter	Thomas Kuck	Steve Spawn
Lester Flake	Scott Larson	Cara Staab
Kurt Forman	Thomas LeFaive	Dave Steffen
Andy Gabbert	Tony Leif	Eileen Stukel
Dave Gilbert	John Leisner	Joel Tigner
Steve Griffin	Jesse Lisburg	Tom Tornow
Troy Grovenburg	Kevin Luebke	Ralph Town
Bob Hodorff	Carl Madsen	Spencer Vaa
Harris Hoistad	William Morlock	William Walker
Earl Hyink	Glenn Moravek	Dave Azure
Warren Jackson	Jay Peterson	James Headley

Life Membership dues are prorated by age as follows:

Age 20 to 35:  $25 \times \text{annual dues}$  ( $\$10 \times 25 = \$250$ )

Age 36 to 45:  $20 \times \text{annual dues}$  ( $\$10 \times 20 = \$200$ )

Age 46 to 65:  $17.5 \times \text{annual dues}$  ( $\$10 \times 17.5 = \$175$ )

Age 66 to 75:  $12.5 \times \text{annual dues}$  ( $\$10 \times 12.5 = \$125$ )

Age 76 and over: Free

For More Information, Contact Chuck Pyle (605) 353-5753.

# SDTWS Executive Board 2015

## President

[Josh Stafford](#)

207 Park Ave  
PO Box 10  
Sinai, SD 57061

## President-Elect

[Alex Solem](#)

SD Game, Fish & Parks  
895 3rd Street SW  
Huron, SD 57350  
(605) 353-7319

## Board Member

[Brian Pauly](#)

895 3rd ST. SW  
Huron, SD 57350  
(605) 353-7185

## Past-President

[Nathan Baker](#)

SD Game, Fish & Parks  
20641 SD Hwy 1806  
Fort Pierre, SD 57532  
(605) 223-7709

## Secretary-Treasurer

[Jacquie Ermer](#)

42924 140th St  
Webster, SD 57274  
(605) 345-3381

## Board Member

[Ben Lardy](#)

Pheasants Forever  
43899 133rd St  
Webster, SD 57274  
(605) 461-8249

Northern Great Plains Working Group Representative: Rocco Murano, 353-7185

## SDTWS Board Officer Ballot—2018

President—Vote for one:

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\_\_\_\_\_

☐

\_\_\_\_\_

Executive Board Member—Vote for one:

☐

Nick Markl

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If you are unable to attend the SDTWS Meeting, please complete this absentee ballot and return it by February 19th, 2018 to: Josh Stafford, SDSU, NPB138 Box 2140B, Brookings, SD 57007

## **SDTWS—Standing Committee Chairs \***

Audit - Mark Norton, 773-3096  
Awards - Nathan Baker 223-7709  
Conservation Review - Paul Coughlin, 773-4194  
Education & Information - Laura Hubers, 947-4521  
Membership - Chuck Pyle, 353-5753  
Program - Nathan Baker 223-7709  
Nominations and Elections - Nathan Baker 223-7709  
Resolutions & Public Statements - Vacant

## **SDTWS - Special Committee Chairs \***

Arrangements - Mark Norton, 773-3096 & Tom Kirschenmann, 352-1874  
Certification - Vacant  
Chapter History - Corey Huxoll, 773-4195  
Energy - K C Jensen, 688-4781 & Silka Kempema, 773-2742  
Fee Hunting & Ownership of Wildlife - Andy Lindbloom, 223-7709  
Fund Raising - Ben Lardy  
Grassland Issues - Vacant  
Missouri River Issues - Nathan Baker, 223-7709  
Newsletter - Jennifer Briggs, 256-2974  
Website - Charlene "Charlie" Bessken, 222-9445  
Public Lands - Mark Norton, Eddie Childers, 433-5263  
Tribal Fish & Wildlife - Mike Gutzmer, 402-910-3533  
Wetlands - Randy Meidinger, 380-0380  
Wildlife Diseases - Steve Griffin, 394-6786  
Wildlife Diversity - Eileen Stukel, 773-4229, Silka Kempema, 773-2742

\*Please see the Committees webpage at [SDTWS](#) to find the list of Committee members and email contact information.

## **The South Dakota Chapter TWS Objectives are:**

- To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environment upon which wildlife and humans depend.
- To undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
- To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
- To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

## **To aid in the achievement of these objectives, the South Dakota Chapter proposes to:**

- Provide opportunities for better liaison among individual members, their Section, and The Society.
- Evaluate and respond to the principles involved in proposed or enacted societal actions that could affect wildlife or its habitats.
- Recognize and commend outstanding professional achievements in maintenance, restoration and enhancement of habitats for wildlife.
- Focus the aims and objectives of The Society and the Central Mountains and Plains Section upon professional wildlife needs, problems, and events in local situations.
- Encourage communication between members and nonmembers to facilitate understanding and effectiveness of research and management of wildlife resources.
- Evaluate the principles involved in proposed or enacted public or private actions that could affect wildlife and to make these evaluations known to the public and public officials.



## SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

### Application for Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (indicate home or work) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (for newsletter delivery) \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please note:

SDTWS's newsletter, A Prairie Voice, is all electronic. Therefore, an email address must be provided above in order to receive it (paper copies will be provided only to individuals who do not have a computer, internet access, or an email address). Email is also the typical mode of communication concerning other SDTWS news.

**Please check one:** \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing Member

\*If you did not renew your dues in 2017, you will be considered a new member in 2018 as per the SDTWS Bylaws.

#### Please check box:

☐

**By becoming a member of SD TWS, I support the Chapter's bylaws and objectives:**

- To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environment upon which wildlife and humans depend.
- To undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
- To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
- To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

Send the completed application/renewal form and a check for \$10.00 (regular), \$6.00 (student) to:

Jacquie Ermer

42924 140<sup>th</sup> ST

Webster, SD 57274

605-345-3381

Regular Dues: \$10.00

Student Dues: \$6.00

Life Membership dues are prorated by age as follows:

Age 20 to 35: 25 x annual dues = \$250

Age 36 to 45: 20 x annual dues = \$200

Age 46 to 65: 17.5 x annual dues = \$175

Age 66 to 75: 12.5 x annual dues = \$125

Age 76 and over: Free

For more information on becoming a life member, contact Chuck Pyle (605) 353-5753.