



“Be part of the solution, not part of the problem”

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From the (Past) President:

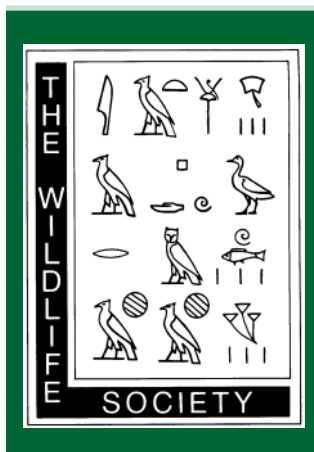
The Wildlife Society was the first professional organization that I became a member of. It served as a spring board which gave me the feeling that I had finally crossed the line from student to fellow colleague in the wildlife community. I wear my pin proudly! Now, thirty years later and gainfully employed, I reflect on what it must be like for a college graduate not to have a place or community to turn to when they might question whether they have made the right choice in a career.

When I attend the OFWMA conferences and OCTWS workshops, it is an opportunity to network with people in the industry, listen to biologists speak of their current project, and get inspired at how I can make a difference in the small world of being in this industry. Do we not owe it to the future biologists that will replace us, the opportunity to learn from these experiences?

Let us here and now make a decision as a collective that we will turn our Ohio Chapter of The Wildlife Society back to what it once was; an organization that we are proud to be a part of and whose pin we wore proudly.

I step down as your President with a heavy heart that I did not fulfill the duties as I would have liked to. But upon self-reflection, I am determined to see our Chapter succeed. Though I will not be President, I pledge to work diligently to restore our organization. I leave with a final question. Will others join me in the effort to return this, our Chapter, back to what it once was?

OCTWS Fall Wildlife Workshop September 16, 2015



The OCTWS Fall Wildlife Workshop will be at the USDA Wildlife Services state office in Groveport Ohio on September 16th. OCTWS would like to thank Andy Montoney and USDA Wildlife Services for hosting this event. The field trip and hands on display will be about feral swine management. We hope the mix of field trip, hands on displays and informative updates offer

something for all members and that you will attend and be a part of not only the business meeting, but also the cookout and student professional mixer after the workshop.

Workshop topics will include:

- Field Trip
- TWS Business Meeting
- Brown Bag Lunch
- Informative Talks & Updates
- Hands on Displays



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

BE A PART OF OHIO'S WILDLIFE PROFESSION

SAVE THE DATE
September 16, 2015

3rd Wednesday in September

Fall Wildlife Workshop
USDA-Wildlife Services Center
(Groveport, OH)

Workshop will Include:

- Field Trip
- TWS Business Meeting
- Lunch (brown bag)
- Informative Talks & Updates
- Hands on Displays
- Cookout
- Student-Professional Interaction

Planning meeting for workshop
April 30, 2015
Lake Hope State Park Campground
(Open to all membership)

Meeting will include:

- Planning the Workshop
- Field Trip
- Overnight Camping
- Student-Professional Interaction

Turkey Hunting the Next Morning (mentors available if needed)

Dates to Remember

- March 1-4, 2015 - Wildlife Damage Conference (Gatlinburg, TN)
- March 11, 2015 - Wildlife Diversity Conference (Columbus, OH)
- April 30, 2015 - Planning Meeting (Lake Hope State Park Campground)
- September 16, 2015 - Fall Wildlife Workshop (Groveport, OH)
- October 17-21, 2015 - Annual TWS Conference (Winnipeg, Manitoba)

Contact info/updates can be found at:
www.wildlife.org/ohio

Minutes of the Winter Business Meeting**Ohio Fish & Wildlife Management Conference, Columbus, Ohio-February 6th , 2015**

Call to Order, Welcome, & Introductions – Andy Montoney

Minutes from 2014 Winter Business Meeting

President ask for motion to waive reading of minutes Jeff Pelc second Alan Lea, all approve

President's Report & online voting– Andy Montoney

Motion to approve, Laura Graber, Second Scott Peters all approve

Treasurer's Report & Obtaining debit card– Geoff Westerfield

Motion to approve, Alan Lea, second Scott Butterworth, all approve

Other Committee Reports

Nominating – Andy Montoney

- Need President Elect & Treasurer
- Accepting nominations, need to continue requests, vote by email

Membership – Geoff Westerfield

- Obtained January 2015 roster from TWS, will compare with local sign-ups and update

Program – Mike Enright

- Upcoming Fall Workshop September 16
- Planning meeting April 30 (all committees and student chapter rep. required)

Education/Information – Jeremy Bruskotter

- President would like to start including Science Day and Student Chapters to this committee
- Secretary mentioned upcoming newsletter and asked for updates and input from student chapters

By-Laws – Andy Montoney

- Discuss upcoming suggested changes that were discussed at January 2015 executive meeting
- By laws are over 15 years old, last update was 2010 that only updated membership status
- We would like to spell out committee assignments: add website updater/webmaster job; chapter liaison with student chapters/others; update Education/Information to include recruitment and Science Fair; Audit Chair; basic clean-up of sections;
- Electronic voting: Sent out notice 21 days ago, motion, discussion, vote;

Resolutions/Public Statements – Bob Ford

- Nothing submitted

Legislation/Government Affairs – Kendra Wecker

- Farm Bill update will be posted

Website Update – Amanda Duren

- Treasurer will work with Amanda Duren about expanding website

Student Chapter Updates

- President asked chapters to fill out officer form and submit to President annually
- Chapter would like to create liaison for student chapters

OSU Update, Rio Grand Update, Hocking College Update

New business: Not enough time to discuss survey results or what to do with Avian Ecology conference funds, need to future business meeting to discuss.

Adjourn

2014 Farm Bill

The [Agricultural Act of 2014](#), was signed on February 7, 2014

Estimated funding at \$489 billion.

Conservation Programs = 6% of all funding

Continues emphasis on conservation on working lands.

Gradually reduces Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) cap from 32 million acres to 24 million acres by 2017.

Consolidates many conservation programs into new programs or merges them into existing programs, reducing the number of USDA conservation programs from 23 to 13.

Re-links crop insurance premium subsidies to Conservation Compliance (conservation of highly erodible land and wetlands) for the first time since 1996.

Builds upon previous successful partnerships and encourages agricultural producers and partners to design conservation projects that focus on and address regional priorities.

OHIO CRP info:

As of 3/31/2010, Ohio had 340,769 acres enrolled in CRP. Current enrollment is at 271,521. A loss of 69,248 acres.

University of Rio Grande Student Chapter Winter 2015 Update

Within the past year our student chapter has participated in a variety of activities. Late spring activities included conducting a electroshocking survey of a small stream on the Ohio Valley Conservation Coalition Keystone Furnace Wetlands (OVCC-KFW) property in Jackson County in April and observing the banding of peregrine falcon chicks in downtown Cleveland lead by the Ohio Division of Wildlife. In the fall we conducted a creel survey on the OVCC-KFW pond. We have constructed and put up bat boxes on Rio Grande's campus. We continue to actively be involved with ongoing southern flying squirrel and American kestrel projects at multiple sites in southeastern Ohio—the latter in cooperation with the Hocking College TWS Chapter.

Our big fund-raising project for this past fall was collecting pictures taken by chapter members then constructing original, hand-made frames from old barn siding. These pictures were raffled off at the school in order to raise money to cover registration fees and some travel costs for eleven of our student chapter members to attend the Ohio Fish and Wildlife Conference in Columbus on 6 February.

Projected activities this spring include conducting a second creel survey at the OVCC-KFW pond as a follow-up to the original stream survey done in the fall. Also, there are currently trails on Rio Grande's campus that are in somewhat poor shape which we plan to clear, clean up, and construct trail markers and a trail map for interested hikers.

Lastly, we would be highly interested in some form of an educational and hands- on workshop in either April or May, preferably on a weekend, which would cover a subject such as field demonstration of wetland delineation techniques and mist netting bats.

Submitted by Andrew Merkle, President

Rio TWS Student Chapter

The Ohio State University Student Chapter

Winter 2015 Update

The Fish and Wildlife Society has been involved with many different types of activities this year. We have started the year with falconry experience with a falconer from the Ohio Falconry Association. We have toured the fisheries collection at the Biodiversity Museum on campus. Numerous speakers have been brought in such as OEPA, ODNR, and USDA APHIS workers. We will continue to bring in fish and wildlife professionals to speak at our meetings. We have recently gone on a birding trip to The Wilds to observe raptors. We are also in the planning process of a trip to go on a Falconry hunt, a herpetology field/ camping trip in southern Illinois, a behind the scenes Wilds tours, and fish shocking. Finally, our last activity of the year will be the Wildlife Professional cookout on April 24th at 6:00 on the West side of Kottman Hall. We will invite wildlife professionals from different organizations.

Anne Mauro

Ohio Chapter of the Fish and Wildlife Society, President
Forestry and Wildlife Management
The Ohio State University
School of Environment and Natural Resources

Hocking College Student Chapter

Winter 2015 Update

Fall Semester 2014

- Fishing derby at Hocktoberfest
- American Chestnut tree planting with Wayne National Forest
- WVDNR Deer check station (biological data collections): Aging, DNA samplings, Ecto sampling, Weighing
- Red Wolf Animal Sanctuary and Raptor Rehabilitation Center: Feedings of animals, building fox enclosure
- Buckeye Big Buck Club Banquet
- Deer & Turkey Expo
- National Wild Turkey Federation Banquet
- Winter Bird Counting
- Bird Banding

Spring Semester 2015

- Pheasants Forever: Helping children fish, build bluebird boxes
- Red Wolf Animal Sanctuary and Raptor Rehabilitation Center: Habitat Management, tree plantings, animal feedings, maintenance
- Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Service: Lake clean up, habitat management, Transplanting blueberry plants
- Wood Duck Boxes Restoration
- Blue Bird Boxes Construction
- Deer Drive at Blennerhassett Island, WV
- American Kestrel Banding

Learn, Network and Engage

The Wildlife Society 22nd Annual Conference

October 17-21, 2015

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

The Wildlife Society's Annual Conference is one of the largest gatherings of wildlife professionals, students and supporters in North America. More than 1,500 attendees gathered to learn, network and engage at our 2014 Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, PA.

In 2015, you'll be able to experience TWS live in Canada! It's a rare opportunity since it's the first time the event has been held in Canada in a decade.



You'll be able to choose from more than 400 learning opportunities on wildlife management, research and techniques through a wide variety of symposia, contributed papers, panel discussions, workshops, contributed posters and field trips. And since there are more opportunities than you can possibly attend in person, your conference registration also includes post-conference access to the presentations so that you can continue to learn all year round from the convenience of your home or office.

At our conference, wildlife professionals make new connections with colleagues in wildlife science, research, management, business and education. Students meet professionals who can provide insights on careers, job opportunities, current research and best practices, and who might even become mentors. Through more than 40 meetings, receptions and special events, you'll have plenty of opportunities to meet professionals with similar interests who can be valuable assets to your career growth and wildlife knowledge.

TWS recently launched a new membership benefit, which will provide members who weren't able to attend TWS Annual Conference with access to 8 conference presentations per month. More info is available in this article: <http://wildlife.org/new-tws-membership-benefit-launching-february-24/>.

If you are only a member of the Ohio Chapter of TWS please consider joining our Parent Society (<http://wildlife.org/join/>).

If you aren't ready to become a full member, TWS has launched a new program called the Wildlife Partners program. Wildlife Partners is a free, introductory membership to TWS. You can sign up to be a Wildlife Partner and experience some of the membership benefits. Elected officers must be paid members of TWS, not Wildlife Partners. More info can be found here: <http://wildlife.org/professionals-students-and-supporters-become-a-wildlife-partner-today/>.

Ohio Chapter of TWS

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Vacant - President Elect	
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