

The Wildlife Society Pennsylvania Chapter



Newsletter— Fall 2020

President's Message

Dear Chapter Members,

Two days ago I was sitting on my front porch sipping coffee and reading, today there are 20mph winds and we've gotten about 4 inches of snow. Somehow that feels par for the course in 2020. It has been one heck of a year. I hope you are doing well out there and that as we move back inside after months of being outdoors you all stay safe. Outdoor pursuits became more popular this year as people found their indoor activities limited due to COVID-19 restrictions; visitation at parks and wild areas increased not only in PA but throughout North America. People who normally aren't home during the day were observing and reporting on wildlife activity in their neighborhoods, sometimes out of surprise and curiosity and other times because they were integrating community science in their kids' remote schooling. As someone who has enjoyed nature and wildlife her whole life, it has been encouraging to see so many people take an interest in the world around them. I hope we can maintain the enthusiasm going forward.

As for the Chapter, we held a virtual conference across several days in October that included a plenary session focused on conservation education and 12 contributed papers covering a range of topics from habitat needs, to population monitoring, to wildlife diseases. Regardless of whether you were able to participate, please keep an eye out for a survey that should land in your inbox in December – if you attended we'd like to know your thoughts on how it went and if you didn't we're curious as to why. Also virtual this year was The Wildlife Society's annual meeting, which included some presentations about how we can improve diversity, equity, and inclusion in our profession. The TWS Council is working on a DEI focused strategic plan that I believe will be available in 2021 and I hope will discuss strategies that we can implement as a state chapter. You may have seen that the Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference recently announced that it is going to be virtual 25-28 April, 2021 and you may recall we are skipping our Chapter's meeting to provide NEAFWA with logistical support. Please check out the NEAFWA website for information about the conference format and how to submit proposals for organized symposia and workshops. <https://www.neafwa.org/conference.html>. Speaking of virtual conferences the national TWS Council has decided to conduct the 2021 TWS Annual Conference virtually as well.

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And last but certainly not least, if you are interested in being an officer in PATWS we are accepting nominations for President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Northeast Section Representative, and 2 Board Members At-Large. You can check out our bylaws on the PATWS website for more information about these roles.

Have a nice winter, a quiet holiday season, and don't forget to wear your mask!

-Samara
PA TWS President



Treasurer's Report

PA Chapter of The Wildlife Society
1 December 2020

Treasury Report

Balances as of 1 December 2020:

Fund	Account	Annual Interest	Balance
Operating	Checking	0.0%	\$6,821.10
Paypal			\$648.13
Vanguard	STAR and Wellesley Funds	Variable	\$13,440.64
Total:			\$20,909.87

Income

Expenses

Robert Blye, Treasurer

2020 PA TWS Virtual Conference

This year was PA TWS's first ever virtual conference held over 3 days. On October 8th, 9th, & 15th we welcomed 4 plenary speakers, heard from 12 different presenters, and conquered zoom. We thank all of our members and participants for your patience and support as we navigated this unknown during this pandemic. We hope all of you are doing well and staying safe as hope to see you at future conferences.



Best Student Presentation

Amanda Van Buskirk

Amanda Van Buskirk won our best student presentation for her talk "Modeling Ability to Achieve Localized Areas of Reduced White-Tailed Deer Density". Her award is The Wildlife Techniques Manual, a PATWS t-shirt, and one year free membership to our chapter. Amanda finished up her Masters at PSU and is now in a PhD program at UGA in the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources.

Plenary Speakers



Tammy Colt has been a Regional Wildlife Diversity Biologist for the Pennsylvania Game Commission since 2005, covering the ten counties of PA's Southwest Region. As an RWDB, her primary duties involve the management of Pennsylvania's bird and mammal species of greatest conservation need—approximately 100 species. She works with public and private landowners to develop habitat management plans and provide guidance for habitat improvements that benefit declining species. Tammy has a B.S. in Animal Bioscience from Pennsylvania State University and an M.S. in Biology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She studied temporal changes in herpetofaunal populations at Powdermill Nature Reserve (Carnegie Museum of Natural History's biological field station) for her Master's thesis. Before graduate school, she worked as an environmental educator at Powdermill Nature Reserve for five years. During that time she was Project Coordinator and co-author of *Pennsylvania Amphibians and Reptiles: A Curriculum Guide* (PA Fish and Boat Commission, 2001). A Loyalhanna Watershed Association volunteer since 2003 and a current member of the board of directors, Tammy serves as project coordinator for Loyalhanna Turtle Watch and coordinates hellbender e-DNA monitoring within the Loyalhanna Watershed. Tammy has served as President of the PA Chapter of The Wildlife Society and is currently Treasurer for the Northeast Section of TWS.



Michelle Kittell is Executive Director of the non-profit Wildlife Leadership Academy whose mission is to educate and engage the next generation of conservation leaders. She received her M.S. in Zoology from Clemson University and her B.S. in Biology from Pennsylvania State University. Michele has a diverse research background ranging from studying the ecological effects of an invasive plant species to fish behavior and genetics. She has participated in coral reef surveying in the Bahamas, fish health and husbandry research, and dolphin cognition projects. Michele has taught in formal and informal settings including at community colleges, state parks, and at Disney's The Seas. She originally joined the Wildlife Leadership Academy as Program Coordinator in 2009 and has been the Executive Director since 2012. Michele has published several scientific manuscripts and has presented her work nationally and internationally. She is an avid conservationist and enjoys traveling, birding, painting, nature journaling, and nature photography.



Mike Messina is a native of Pottsville in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. He holds a B.S. in Forest Science from Penn State and later obtained a Ph.D. in Forestry with a minor in Soil Science from North Carolina State University. Mike pursued a three-year postdoctoral fellowship with the New Zealand Forest Service researching silviculture and nutrition of several eucalyptus species and radiata pine. Following his post doctorate study Mike became an assistant, associate, and then full professor at Texas A&M University with a teaching and research appointment for 22.5 years. In the next step of his career Mike took the position as Director of the School of Forest Resources and then as Head of the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management at Penn State University until he retired on June 30, 2019 after 10.5 years. Today Mike is happily enjoying retirement in Bellefonte woodworking, camping, hiking, kayaking, and so forth, except when he gives talks to TWS.



Matthew Dunfee is the Director of Special Programs for the Wildlife Management Institute. In his past and current positions with WMI, he has served as the Conservation Program Specialist in WMI's Washington D.C. Headquarters where he worked on numerous projects related to North American wildlife conservation, private lands programs, and hunting heritage. He also serves as the Director of the Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance, the Project Coordinator for the North American Hunting Heritage Action Plan, and the Chair of the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, and Co-Chair of the National Hunting and Shooting Sports Action Plan. In his current roles, Matt serves on numerous professional committees and boards including the AFWA Fish and Wildlife Health Committee, national and regional AFWA Hunting and Shooting Sports Participation Committees, the Hunting Heritage Steering Committee, the Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow Advisory Committee, the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Meeting Steering Committee, and the International Hunter Education Association Standards Committee. Following his leadership in developing evaluation toolkits for hunter and shooter R3 efforts, Matt has conducted numerous multi-day training and information workshops for state and federal wildlife agency staff and administrators on R3 strategies, program development, evaluation, and best practices.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR AWARDS AND GRANTS

Professional Development Grant

The Pennsylvania State Chapter of The Wildlife Society will award one, \$1000 professional development grant annually to a non-student member of PATWS to attend a conference or professional development program.

The Professional Development Grant is intended to provide an opportunity for wildlife professionals to continue their education throughout their career. Those applicants gaining credits to maintain their TWS wildlife biologist certification will be given preference. The grant can be used for registration, travel, lodging, food, supplies, or fees associated with attending a conference or training program.

Hoagy Schaadt & Tom Hardisky Graduate Student Travel Grant

The Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society (PATWS) will award one, \$1000 travel grant annually to a graduate student member of PATWS to attend a conference or professional development program.

The Hoagy Schaadt and Tom Hardisky Graduate Student Travel Grant is intended to provide financial support for graduate student travel and participation in [professional conferences, training programs, organized meetings, and other activities related to professional development](#). The grant may be used for registration, travel, lodging, food, supplies, or fees associated with attending a conference, training program or other professional development activity.

Find a full list of all the scholarships and awards PA TWS offers and the complete application details at:

<http://wildlife.org/pennsylvania-chapter/awards-grants-scholarships/>



Email all materials in one PDF by March 1, 2021 to: PAChapterTWS@gmail.com

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS FOR AWARDS AND GRANTS

Annual Chapter Meeting Student Grants

Because PATWS is not hosting an annual conference in 2021 to provide assistance and support to NEAFWA, the “Annual Chapter Meeting Student Grants” will instead cover registration costs for NEAFWA. These applications are due **February 15th** so we can announce the grants before the registration deadline. Because NEAFWA registration is more expensive than our Chapter conference, we may not be able to provide 10 grants this year. The number of grants will be determined when the NEAFWA student registration fee is announced. Recipients will be asked to provide their photo and a very short write up for the Newsletter following the conference. All application materials must be sent in **by February 15, 2021**: PAChapterTWS@gmail.com

The Frank Felbaum Scholarship

The Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society established the Frank Felbaum Scholarship more than a decade ago thanks to the generosity of Frank Felbaum, longtime director of Pennsylvania’s Wild Resource Conservation Program and tireless conservationist. The scholarship is a one-time \$500.00 award intended to assist outstanding students who are pursuing a career in the wildlife field.

The scholarship is available to any undergraduate student currently enrolled in a wildlife ecology or related natural resources program at a Pennsylvania college or university, or a Pennsylvania resident currently enrolled in such a program at a college or university outside Pennsylvania. The recipient should have a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.2 and have demonstrated an interest and commitment to wildlife through volunteer and/or work experience and extracurricular activities, including membership in conservation/ecology clubs. The scholarship is awarded only once per recipient.

Applications must include the following items to be considered: Letter of Recommendation, transcript, and essay. All application materials must be sent in **by March 1, 2021**: PAChapterTWS@gmail.com

Northeast Section of TWS Field Course Scholarship

The Pennsylvania State Chapter of The Wildlife Society will award one, \$950 scholarship per calendar year to an **undergraduate** student to attend the Northeast Section of TWS Summer Field Course: Field Techniques and Current Topics in Wildlife Biology.

The course provides students with practical, hands-on training in the tools and techniques of field biology and allow them to apply those skills in a variety of exercises. Students will be instructed by practicing biologists from across the region.

All application materials must be sent in **by March 1, 2021**: PAChapterTWS@gmail.com

TWS Leadership Institute Testimonies

In 2009 I took a chance and applied for The Wildlife Society's Leadership Institute. TWS only chooses 15 applicants every year from across the United States. Even though I knew I might not get in I decided I could not pass up this potential opportunity. I was so glad I took that chance and applied because the Leadership Institute (LI) was an incredible opportunity that I could not have found anywhere else and even 10 years later I still reflect on what I learned.

The 2010 LI participants were from all across the country, ranging from Texas, Montana, Alabama, Missouri, and a variety of other states. We held a range of positions in the wildlife field, from technicians to education specialists to researchers. I was thrilled to be in a group of other young wildlife professionals. Throughout the summer the LI participants completed five assignments. One of the tasks I particularly learned a great deal from was completing a leadership workbook developed by TWS. The workbook made me think about how I react in different situations, how I can improve as an employee and a co-worker, and how I can be a better leader in the future. I still use that workbook!!

After working together all summer LI participants finally got to meet at the National Conference in Utah in October 2010. The meeting was packed with attending closed door TWS council meetings, receptions, discussion meetings, student-professional mixers, more council meetings, taking part in

student mentoring activities, and more discussions. To be able to connect with other young wildlife professionals and learn that they are mostly all feeling the same way I am (trying to do our best but feeling like there is so much to learn) made me feel more confident. The opportunity to interact with council and other great wildlife professionals and leaders was an amazing experience. All of the council members, mentors, and anyone else involved in the LI experience were extremely supportive in helping young individuals become better wildlife professionals and I felt very much a part of a great organization. The experience motivated me to become more involved with the PA TWS chapter and the NE TWS section. Since my LI experience I have been Treasurer and Secretary for the PA TWS Chapter, as well as, President elect, president and now board member at large for the NE section of TWS.

The Leadership Institute (LI) provided me with an opportunity to interact with other early career wildlife professionals, to develop leadership skills, to learn about self-reflection, communication during conflicts, working with difficult co-workers, and other leadership skills. I would highly recommend any young professional to apply for the Leadership Institute. Ten years later I still often reflect on and utilize what I learned during my LI experience.

- Emily Domoto



As an alum of the TWS Leadership Institute, I look back fondly on my experience and reflect how it shaped me as an active member of The Wildlife Society. I have held state and regional positions for TWS both prior and post-LI, and I'm currently serving as the Northeast Representative to Council, so I think it certainly had paid off! I feel that it made me a more effective professor and mentor for the next generation of Wildlife professionals. I have a network of colleagues and friends I may never have met, and I'm certain I would not be a TWS Fellow (yet) had it not been for the LI. The LI provides numerous tools for early career wildlife professionals, guiding them to be more effective leaders and scientists/managers. For me, the LI solidified why The Wildlife Society is a critical professional organization to the present and future of wildlife conservation and management.

- Valorie Titus

Immersive Learning Technology at Penn State

By Justin Brown, PSU

Over the last year, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed life as we know it in so many ways. The public health and economic impacts of COVID-19 are significant and appropriately receive the bulk of the attention. Beyond these, the pandemic has also forced us to adjust almost every aspect of our lives from sports to social interactions to buying groceries. As any parent, teacher, or student can attest, the education sector has been significantly affected by the pandemic and associated regulations. The transition to remote classrooms, either full- or part-time, has resulted in many hurdles to effective teaching and learning. While some of these hurdles may relate to technology, even more challenging are barriers to keeping students engaged and interactive through a computer screen interface.



Figure 1

Immersive Learning is a teaching method that places students physically or virtually in an interactive environment to gain exposure to a specific subject. Increasingly, Immersive Learning technology utilizes 360° images and virtual reality (VR) to simulate realistic scenarios and hands-on experiences. This technology has been available for many years for video gaming, but now professionals in the teaching field have started to apply this technology for experiential training. Recently, faculty in the College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State University have begun to incorporate Immersive Learning technology into courses in the Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences (VBSC) curriculum. Dr. Adrian Barragan and Mr. Jaime Garcia Prudencio developed a series of 360° videos for a ruminant physi-

ology and management course that focus on best management practices of sheep and cattle. These videos were recorded at local farms using a GoPro Fusion camera that capture images in 360° (Figure 1) and then edited to enable the videos to be watched in VR. Viewers can then control what direction they would like to look while watching the video using a keyboard, touchscreen, or mouse. For this course, the students watched the videos at the Immersive Experience Laboratory at Penn State University, interacting with the setting in which they were placed, and using concepts learned in the lecture portion of the class to evaluate positive and negative aspects of management practices such as feed availability, pen cleanliness, and overt animal health (Figure 2). Initially, the students watched a pre-recorded video on their own and recorded their farm assessments. Then, they watched another version of the same video that contained inserted graphics, text, and images boxes to highlight the relevant practices that the students should have observed. Student evaluations of this teaching method were extremely positive; 100% of students felt these videos were more interactive and engaging than conventional written assignments and that this assignment was the next best alternative to an actual farm visit. While VR markedly enhances the Immersive Learning experience, these videos were developed so that they can also be watched on a regular computer or phone screen when VR technology is not available.



Figure 2

Through a Penn State University Teaching and Learning with Technology Fellowship, Dr. Barragan and Mr. Garcia Prudencio teamed up with Dr. Justin Brown this Fall to create a series of 360° white-tailed deer dissection videos (Figure 3). The videos will cover external features of deer,

Immersive Learning Technology at Penn State

dissection techniques, and the anatomy of major organ systems, including digestive, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, reproductive, nervous, and urinary systems. These videos will primarily focus on identification of anatomic features of deer; however, other topics will be covered including how the anatomy relates to the natural history of this species and diagnostic sample collection. These videos are being created to serve as a complement to material presented in the Comparative Anatomy course at Penn State University. However, once they have been completed, the videos can be easily shared (through YouTube links) and used for various classes and student workshops, on short notice and without the challenges of biosafety or obtaining high quality carcasses for dissection.

Immersive Learning technology is an effective teaching method that enhances the interaction and engagement with students. There is enormous potential to utilize this technology in the wildlife sector, including education in academic settings or regular training for established professionals. Most of us would agree that our favorite wildlife classes were those that were hands-on and engaging. While Immersive Learning will not completely replace those invaluable experiences, the simulated scenarios and environments can enhance them and/or provide a useful alternative when those experiences are not an option.

With all the challenges and tragedies associated with COVID-19, it is difficult to imagine anything positive coming from the pandemic experiences of 2020. Perhaps I am overly optimistic, or maybe I am just tired, but I think many of the modifications we have been forced to make in our lives as a result of the pandemic will be beneficial to life after COVID-19. Within the field of education, many of the new methods and tools being developed are not only improving the way we teach remotely, in the present, but will greatly enhance our ability to engage and educate students in the future, when we finally return to in-person classrooms, workshops, and meetings.



Like us on Facebook & Follow us on Twitter!

The Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society now has a Facebook page. Connect with us. Share with us. To find us on Facebook search: "PA Chapter -The Wildlife Society"



Follow us: @PA_TWS

PA TWS Board Members

Vice President

Craig Hicks



Craig Hicks holds an associate's degree in Wildlife Management and a bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from The Pennsylvania State University. He is a Certified Wildlife Biologist with The Wildlife Society and has worked in several states with threatened and endangered species, and environmental issues prior to his employment with USDA, Wildlife Services. Craig began his career with Wildlife Services in 2001 in South Carolina as a technician mitigating beaver damage. In 2004, he transferred to the Ohio Program to serve as an Airport Wildlife Biologist at both of Cleveland's airports. From 2007 to 2017, he served as the Ohio Wildlife Disease Biologist conducting disease surveillance and management activities in a number of wildlife species in Ohio, as well as responding to emergency outbreaks in many other states. Also during that time, he served as the Ohio Feral Swine Coordinator, working towards eliminating this highly destructive, invasive species from the state. In February of 2017, Craig accepted the role of District Supervisor for the Western District of the Pennsylvania Wildlife Services Program and now leads a team of highly trained staff, covering a wide range of projects including; Rabies, Airports, Deer, Goose, and Starling Damage Management. Craig lives in Cambria County with his wife and two young boys.

Membership Coordinator

Keely Roen



Keely Tolley Roen is an Assistant Teaching Professor at Penn State DuBois. She is the Program Coordinator for the Wildlife Technology Program, in which she has taught for 19 years. Keely earned her BA in Biology from the University of Pennsylvania and MS in Ecology from Penn State. Keely has served as the Membership Coordinator for PA-TWS since 2018. She also served on the Pennsylvania Mammal Technical Committee since 2012, which she co-chaired 2015-2017, and the Keystone Elk Country Alliance Conservation Education Sub-Committee since 2014. She previously served on the PATWS Board as a member at large from 2004 to 2006. Before joining Penn State, she worked on the field, laboratory, and administrative side of natural resource management as an environmental consultant, a laboratory technician, and as a data specialist for the National Park Service. Her primary research interests revolve around feeding behavior, but her job allows for smaller research projects primarily suited for undergraduate involvement. She spends almost every moment not working playing with her three sons, kayaking, hiking, messing around with excel spreadsheets, and watching scary movies.

PA TWS Board Members

Website and Social Media Manager

Courtney Colley



Courtney currently works for the Pennsylvania Game Commission as the social media and communications coordinator. In this role, Courtney manages the Game Commission's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts to inform and educate the public on what the agency does, how the agency does it, and why the agency does it. Courtney has dedicated most of her professional life educating people about nature in hopes of building a better understanding of and garnering support for wildlife conservation efforts in the state. Prior to her current position, Courtney worked two years as the Game Commission's Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Communication Specialist educating and informing the public on CWD and CWD management. After graduating from Shippensburg University with a master's degree in biology, Courtney spent her days educating Pennsylvania's youth working as the Conservation Education Coordinator for the Keystone Elk Country Alliance in Benezette, Pennsylvania. Courtney is excited to join the Pennsylvania Wildlife Society as the new website manager.

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Newsletter Editor

Samantha DiLorenzo



Samantha DiLorenzo graduated from Juniata College in 2014 with a degree in Wildlife Conservation. She has been a member of The Wildlife Society for 6 years and is a Certified Associate Wildlife Biologist. Samantha worked for USDA Wildlife Services for 6 years as a wildlife specialist with experience carrying out projects on feral swine management, European starling management, Canada goose management, white-tailed deer management, rabies and other disease work, working with other nuisance wildlife, and primarily working with wildlife hazards on airports. Samantha is currently a Soil Conservationist with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services. There she helps producers utilized the best management practices for their agricultural uses to help preserve the natural resources on the land and reduce soil erosion. Samantha has been the Newsletter Editor for the PA TWS chapter since 2018.

Northeast Section Representative

Jeremy Banfield



Jeremy Banfield is the elk biologist for the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Deer and Elk Section. Hired in May 2013, his primary responsibilities include population analyses, research, and management of elk in Pennsylvania.

Jeremy holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fisheries and Wildlife from Michigan State University as well as Master of Science Degree in Ecology from the University of Alberta. His master's research focused on mountain lion predation behaviors and response to roads in south-western Alberta.

Before joining the Game Commission, Jeremy worked as a wildlife biologist for Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. While there, he compiled annual furbearer harvest data, operated hunter check stations, and conducted aerial surveys for elk, pronghorn, and mule deer. Jeremy is also veteran of the US Coast Guard, serving 4 years as a machinery technician.

PA TWS Board Members

Board Member At-Large



Dr. Aaron Haines

Dr. Aaron Haines is an Associate Professor of Biology at Millersville University and a Certified Wildlife Biologist. He teaches courses in Zoology, Mammalogy, Ornithology, Conservation Biology and Wildlife Ecology and Management. He is the Director of the Millersville Applied Conservation Lab where he involves undergraduate students in a number of different research and service learning projects. Aaron's professional research interests involve identifying effective approaches to implement conservation strategies to benefit species of concern. He has been involved in a wide variety of research projects including satellite tracking of migratory raptors and gamebirds, population and habitat modeling for ocelots, developing strategies to mitigate poaching, using remote camera and remote acoustic recording devices to survey for rare and imperiled wildlife and conducting policy analysis of the Endangered Species Act. Aaron has been a member of the National Chapter of the Wildlife Society for 20 years. He became a member of PATWS in 2012. He is also a member of the Society of Conservation Biologists, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania University Biologists and is Co-Chair of the Pennsylvania Mammal Technical Committee. Recently, Aaron has been working with college students to get them involved in outdoor sports and other outdoors activities. He is the faculty mentor of the Millersville Outdoor Conestoga Club and the Millersville University Outdoor Sporting Club. He has also been involved an instructor with the Pennsylvania's Master Naturalist Program. In his free time, Aaron likes to go hiking, camping and tasting craft beers; all at the same time if possible. When not tasting craft beers, he especially likes going out in the field with his family to go birdwatching, herping and hunting.

Board Member At-Large



Dr. Justin Brown

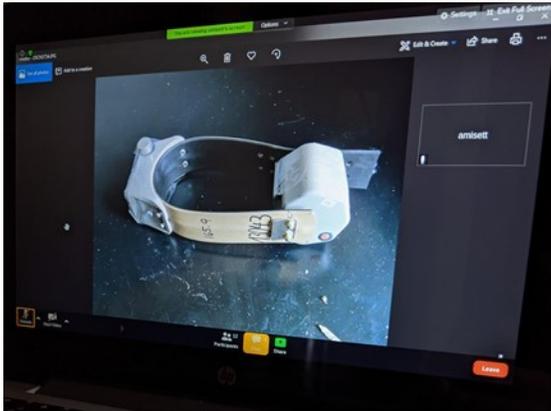
Justin Brown is a wildlife veterinarian and a faculty member in the Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences at Penn State University. After completing a B.S. in Biology at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 2000, Justin received his D.V.M. from Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine in 2004. Justin then completed a Ph.D. in Pathology from the University of Georgia in 2008. His research focused on understanding the susceptibility of North American wild birds to Eurasian strains of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Virus. From 2008-2013, Justin worked as a wildlife disease diagnostician and a research scientist at the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, which is a regional wildlife disease research and diagnostic center based out of the University of Georgia. During this time, he conducted morbidity and mortality investigations in a wide diversity of wildlife species. From 2014-2019, Justin served as the wildlife veterinarian for the Pennsylvania Game Commission. In 2019, Justin accepted a position as an Assistant Teaching Professor in the Department of Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences at Penn State University. Justin's career interests include understanding the impacts of diseases on wildlife populations and the potential for wildlife species involvement in diseases of agricultural or public health importance. He has worked with a wide diversity of birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.

Student Chapter News

Penn State DuBois (PSUD) Recent Events

Samantha Miron - Student Chapter President

The Penn State DuBois chapter of the Wildlife Society has not let the pandemic stop the club from achieving its goals. The club has recruited more members, and quickly responded to the new safety procedures and policies. During two of the weekly Zoom meetings, a Herpetologist and a Game Warden came to speak to club members and answer questions. Many students have shown interest in these careers, and it was an easy way to stay social distanced while interacting with professionals.



(Pictured is the Game Warden explaining the use of collars on black bears for on-going research efforts.)

On October 7th, 22 members showed up prepared to work at the Penn State DuBois wetlands, a location where students band songbirds and participate in outdoor lab exercises. These students made a massive impact on the invasive and nuisance species that are overtaking the wetland. Truckloads of cattails and purple loosestrife, and garbage bags full of seed heads were taken out of the wetlands and properly disposed of. This habitat improvement project is on-going, and the club plans to make more progress in the spring.

(A member offered the use of their truck to transport the debris.)



Save The Date

April 25th—28th

NEAFWA Conference:
The 2021 Conference is going Virtual!
<https://www.neafwa.org/conference.html>

Annual TWS National Conference:
The 2021 Conference will be virtual



Want to Join the PA TWS Board?

-Vice President (3-year term): Serves one year as VP, the second year as President, and the following year at Past President.

-Secretary (2-year term): Responsible for maintaining Chapter files/records, Chapter correspondence, and recording minutes of all meetings.

-Treasurer (2-year term): Responsible for all Chapter financial records, leading fundraising efforts at the annual meeting, and receiving/managing registrations and payments of the annual meeting.

--Northeast Section Representative (2-year term): Serves as the liaison to the Northeast Section TWS for the Chapter.

--At-Large Board Members (2-year term): Provides leadership to the chapter and serve the chapter as directed by the President.

Email Avery Corondi with inquires.
amc8157@psu.edu

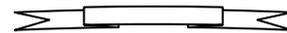


Pennsylvania TWS Objectives

1. To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environments upon which wildlife and humans depend.
2. To undertake an active role in preventing human-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.
5. To serve the specialized needs of Pennsylvania in wildlife resource management.

—Who's Who on the Board—

2020 Executive Board Members



President.....Samara Trusso
Vice-President.....Craig Hicks
Past President..... Sara Mueller
Secretary.....Emily Domoto
Treasurer.....Robert W. Blye
Northeast Section Representative.....Jeremy Banfield
Website Manager.....Courtney Colley
Newsletter Editor.....Samantha DiLorenzo
Membership Coordinator.....Keely Tolley Roen
At-Large Members.... Emily Thomas
 Justin Brown
 Aaron Haines
 Avery Corondi



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

2020 Membership Application

Pennsylvania Chapter

- Check One: Renewal
 New Member
 Student Member
 Lifetime Member
 Dues Paid through National Headquarters

Annual Dues: \$10.00
 Student Dues: \$6.00
 Life Membership: \$200.00

The following information is new, updated, or corrected
 unchanged

Name: Dr. Mrs. Miss
 Mr. Ms. _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Home: (____) ____ - _____
 Office: (____) ____ - _____ Ext. _____
 Fax: (____) ____ - _____
 E-mail: _____

Please make checks payable to: **PA-TWS**
 (Pennsylvania Chapter of The Wildlife Society)

Mail to: Robert W. Blye
 34603 Doe Run
 Lewes DE 19958-3332