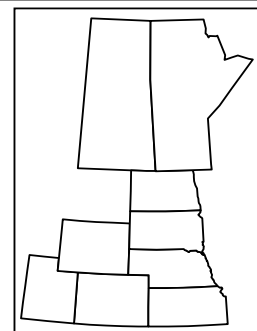




Wildlife Society

Central Mountains and Plains Section Kansas Colorado Nebraska South Dakota Wyoming
North Dakota Utah Saskatchewan Manitoba



CMPS Section Newsletter

June 2007

Volume 51, Number 2

President's Message

Gary C. White

The Central Mountains and Plains Section has received 2 requests for funds. First, the organizers of the National TWS meeting in Tucson (September 22–26) asked for funding to support the conference. Second, the International Wildlife Management Working Group asked for funds to support travel of international visitors to attend the Tucson meeting. In both cases, the Executive Board declined to fund these requests. The Board feels our contribution of \$1500 to support the travel of undergraduates to attend the national meeting each year is appropriate and ample, given the annual budget of CMPS.

Mark Sexson has done an exceptional job of organizing the CMPS annual summer meeting in Garden City, Kansas. The membership of CMPS has grown substantially with the \$1 dues structure whereby state chapter members automatically become members of CMPS. How about it, new members, come attend the Kansas meeting. Of course, that doesn't mean that the \$5 members should not attend also. Mark is trying to outdo the excellent job that Bob Lanka did last year in organizing the summer meeting in Laramie. Members like these two make life better for all of us.

We've officially lost our Canadian members in CMPS with the organization of the Canadian Section. Guess this means that we have to change our Section's logo. Maybe a few of you ex-CMPS members north of the border will still want to attend the Kansas meeting, and enjoy the good monetary exchange rate you're currently benefiting from.

Undergraduate student travel grants were mentioned above, but participation in this program by students outside of Colorado has been non-existent. So, faculty advisers, it is time to be an active instead of passive adviser. Make sure that your students hear about the travel opportunities to attend the TWS National Meeting in Tucson, Arizona. The application form has been included in this newsletter, so get it routed to your students.

A driving trip to Tucson is well within the range of a group of undergraduates – who think little of doing 24-hour trips that leave their faculty adviser drooping. We have 12 TWS student chapters in the CMPS. Are you student chapter members just taking pleasure in a social club on campus, or are you really preparing to join the wildlife profession? The Tucson meeting will provide ample opportunities to learn more about the TWS organization, become more active in TWS, meet TWS leaders, hear some

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Mission Statement of The Wildlife Society

The Wildlife Society exists to enhance the ability of wildlife professionals to conserve diversity, sustain productivity, and ensure the responsible use of wildlife resources for the benefit of society.

interesting presentations, talk to mentors, and ask questions to complete strangers about topics you are both highly interested in. The application deadline is July 15, so don't procrastinate.

Art Smith did a marvelous job of organizing a slate of candidates for the election. CMPS bylaws mandate that the slate of candidates is available to the membership 30 days before the annual meeting. Send in your ballots before the meeting, even if you are attending. If you are not attending, definitely send in your vote. Do it NOW, while you're thinking about it.

No more nagging, just one more haphazard thought. TWS is going through a period of the most change that I'm familiar with, and I've been a member for nearly 40 years. Now is the time to provide your input to our elected leaders and the executive director about what is good about the changes being made, and what you're not so happy about. John Organ and Michael Hutchins are attending the meeting in Kansas, and I'm sure Tom Ryder will also be present. Spend some time talking with each of them about your views on TWS and its future.

See you in Kansas.

The Section Rep's Report

"Ryder's Ramblings"

By now, all members of TWS should have received and had the opportunity to read the inaugural issue of our new magazine, The Wildlife Professional. I hope you enjoyed it and are using it to encourage membership in The Society. I recently had an opportunity to attend the first meeting of The Professional's Editorial Advisory Board at TWS Headquarters in Bethesda. The Board is comprised of some absolutely great minds in the conservation publishing business and a fantastic number of content ideas were generated during the gathering. Look for the magazine to evolve through time, but maintain the ultimate in content quality.

We've now fully moved the Journal of Wildlife Management into its new content format and publishing schedule. As of this writing, 3 issues of Volume 71 have been released in print and electronically. Additionally, all TWS "legacy" publications (i.e., all Journals and Wildlife Society Bulletins published prior to 2000) have been scanned into PDF files. Currently the Executive Director and TWS's Publications Sub-committee of Council are working to determine the best way to make these publications available to users. More on this exciting news as it develops.

Work continues on a massive overhaul of TWS's website. Our new webmaster, Ms. Ruxandra (Ruxi) Giura, is working full time on this project, while Earl Wyatt oversees website development and has been tasked with updating a million other IT needs at Headquarters (see below for one of them). While in Bethesda, I had the opportunity to see the prototype website and it will be a vast improvement over our current site. It should provide much improved member services, contain space for Section, Chapter, and Working Group websites, contain an online store, and be a much more attractive and interesting source of wildlife information to members and nonmembers alike. We hope to be able to unveil the new website by fall 2007.

Earl and Ruxi are also doing the technically complicated work of installing iMIS software modules in TWS's servers. This software will greatly improve our ability to process membership renewals and conference registrations online. We expect to go live by June 15 with this new system. In the meantime, the old online store on TWS's website is accepting conference registrations.

The Society's policy program continues to provide the best in scientific input on the great conservation issues of our day. A technical review on the impacts of wind energy development on wildlife is finished in draft form and waiting final Council approval before public release. Similarly, work continues on a review of the importance of public trust doctrine to North American wildlife management and a number of other important wildlife issues.

Planning for this year's Annual Conference in Tucson is accelerating as the Conference draws nearer. TWS members in Florida, California, and Utah are also busy beginning planning for the next 3 TWS Conferences. In addition, Council is soliciting applications from Northeast Section TWS Chapters to host the 2011 Conference.

Formation of a new Canadian Section of The Society is well on its way to becoming a reality. Canadian members overwhelmingly voted to approve bylaws to establish a Canadian Section on April 30 of this year. On May 3, TWS Council approved formation of this Section and revised boundaries for CMPS and the NW and NE Sections to move all Canadian provinces and territories from these sections to the new Canadian Section. A slate of candidates has been nominated for a Canadian Section Representative on TWS Council and for all officers of the Canadian Section. Names will appear in the Spring 2007 issue of *The Wildlifer* (due to mail the week of May 28) and profiles and photographs of candidates will be posted concurrently on TWS's website. Ballots will be mailed to Canadian members about June 30 and voting will end by August 15. The new section should be ready to go by TWS's Annual Conference in September.

Believe me when I tell you that I've only scratched the surface of what The Wildlife Society has going on right now. Michael Hutchins and Council are doing everything we can think of to improve member benefits and services while keeping costs to a minimum. If you're not currently a member of national TWS, please consider joining. I truly think you will be pleasantly surprised by what's happening in your professional organization. Take care and stay safe out there!!

TR

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE CMPS PROFESSIONAL AND CITIZEN'S AWARDS

The Central Mountains and Plains Section of the Wildlife Society is seeking nominations for its annual Professional and Citizen's Awards.

The CMPS Professional Award is presented annually to an individual or group that has made an outstanding contribution towards furthering the enhancement of wildlife endeavors within the Section.

The CMPS Citizen's Conservation Achievement Award is presented to a lay individual or group that has made an outstanding contribution towards enhancement of wildlife endeavors within the Section.

Please consider submitting a nomination statement using the following format:

Nominee's name

Award (professional or citizen)

Nominee's contact information (address, phone, email)

Background biographical information

Nomination statement

Deadline for submitting nominations is July 1, 2007.

Nomination statements can be mailed or e-mailed (preferred) to the following address:

Paul Coughlin

CMPS Awards Committee Chair

200 South Tyler Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Email: paul.coughlin@state.sd.us

Plan now for the Garden City CMPS Summer Meeting

Meeting In A Nutshell:

The summer meeting is just around the corner (August 6-9) so don't delay in getting your registration sent in.

Everything you need for your trip can be found at the Kansas Chapters Web site

www.fhsu.edu/biology/kctws/kctws.htm

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE!

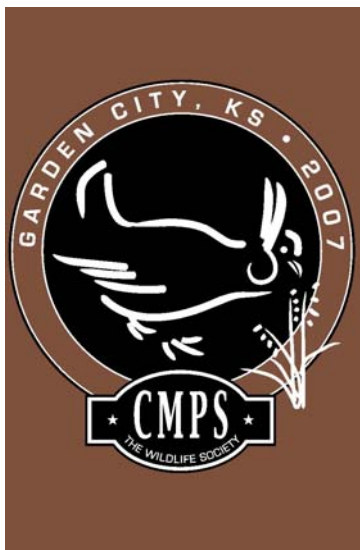
We are still working at getting online registrations, but you can still use your credit card or check to get the registration out of the way.

Call for papers:

Please visit the web site to find information concerning paper submittals. The deadline for these submittals is June 15th so don't waste any time getting these sent in to Elmer Finck efinck@fhsu.edu.

Shirts and Hats:

We have come up with a great logo for the meeting and have plans to put it on a good quality T-shirt and Camo Hat. **Be sure to order either or both of these when you are filling out your registration, as there will be very few of these for sale at the meeting and neither will be given away as part of the registration.** We have something else planned for that. **ORDER NOW!!!**



CMPS 2007 Shirt Logo

Meeting Details:

The 2007 annual meeting will be held August 6-9 in Garden City, Kansas. This meeting will be in the heart of Lesser Prairie Chicken country, and will be a great opportunity to see and learn about the unique Sand Sage Prairie, Playa Lakes, Riparian, and Short Grass ecosystems of Southwestern Kansas. The Kansas Chapter extends a heartfelt invitation to all, and promises to make it both a fun and educational experience. Be sure to bring the family, as Garden City has a lot to offer kids and significant others while you attend meetings and tours. For additional information on Garden City and Finney County visit the various web sites.

Garden City Kansas www.gardencitykansas.com

Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
www.kdwp.state.ks.us.

Lee Richardson Zoo www.garden-city.org/zoo/zoolayout.html?home.html

Fort Hays State University www.fhsu.edu/biology

Oasis Hunting (Bob and Adrian Price)
www.oasishunting.com

Garden City Convention and Tourism
www.gcnet.com/chamber/ctb

Preliminary Meeting Information:

Paper sessions and the annual meeting will be held at the Finnup Center for Conservation Education, located on the grounds of the Lee Richardson Zoo. This million dollar Conservation Education Center is a destination in itself. It is filled with engaging interactive displays, local wildlife, and conservation messages, and actually has a live Black footed ferret display. The Finnup Center is equipped with Interactive Distance Learning (IDL) technology, which the zoo's education staff uses to share their wildlife conservation messages with school students nationwide.

The Lee Richardson Zoo, accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, is the pride of Garden City. You will be impressed with the animal collection, educational graphics, spacious and natural exhibits, and beautiful landscaping. Admission to the zoo is free to all who walk in, and there is a nominal charge for vehicles to drive through. You will be amazed at the quality of this facility, which is supported by a community of fewer than 30,000 people. The zoo has been a tremendous supporter of local and statewide wildlife programs, and has always been willing to help wherever they can, including being one of the sponsors for this meeting.

The tour on Aug. 7th will be of the Sand Sage Prairie Ecosystem. It will highlight different management styles for this sandy soil habitat. The tour will include areas managed by a state wildlife agency, a large utility company, and by private ranchers. A tour of private wetlands is also planned to include a discussion on water issues and the Arkansas River the evening of Aug. 8th as part of the Lamb BBQ festivities.

Optional tours of local industries having environmental impacts are also under consideration, and may be offered if interest dictates. A new state of the art ethanol plant is currently under construction in Garden City, and Sunflower Electric Cooperative is gearing up to add three new plants that will be rated at 700 megawatts each.

Sunflowers' current plant generates electricity from coal, and is rated at 360 MW. Over \$5 billion dollars will be spent on this project in the next 7 years. A local box plant makes custom boxes for the meat packing industry, and if you have never been to a large cattle feeding operation, now would be your opportunity. We even have several tortilla factories in the area. Regardless of your opinions about these industries, the fact is, they are reality, and they make up the bulk of the economics of this part of the world. The more we know, the better decisions we can make regarding wildlife-related issues. If nothing else, you will be amazed at the complexity of these highly technical industries. Get your registration in early, as the number of participants will be limited due to security reasons.

Garden City is a growing community and has been identified as a melting pot of cultures comparable to New York City and Chicago. You will have the unique opportunity to experience a town that prides itself on incorporating many cultures into its very fiber. Enjoy a tremendous variety of ethnic eating establishments, ranging from the normal chains to the mom-and-pop restaurants. As for the banquet, you can't come to the heart of the beef industry without having an aged KC Strip grilled to perfection. The banquet will be held at the Zoo and we will have the place to ourselves.

Another reason to get your registration in early is that we would like to supply entertainment at all the evening events. We can't do it if we can't afford it. If you are coming, send your money in. Although we already have some great things planned we can and will make it worth your while to sign up early.

Here are some particulars to get you excited:

We are excited that both John Organ and Michael Hutchins have indicated their intentions to attend the CMPS annual meeting. We will be setting aside a time for both the President and the Executive Director of TWS to address the membership. If you have not had a chance to meet and visit with these fine individuals, this is your chance.

The first night mixer will be in Kathy and Mark Sexson's backyard. Directions will be available only to those attending the business meetings. We will be burning a few burgers and cooling off with cold drinks. This will be an informal time to visit with old friends and make new ones. The Sexson home, nestled in the sand hills, is a great place to watch the sun go down after a hot August day. Evening temperatures fall quickly on the Kansas

High Plains. A local folk singer is lined up, if enough registrations are received in time.

As part of this meeting we will be organizing free student professional development training and a mentoring program. Two hours are set aside the first day to give students training on how to successfully get a career in wildlife management and on preparing resumes and other professional correspondence. Students will then be paired with a professional with similar interests for mentoring throughout the remainder of the meeting. Professionals will be asked to volunteer to take one of these students under their wing just before the business meeting and facilitate their networking during the meeting. As a further help to students, they will only be charged one-half the registration fee. If you know of students not members of TWS, please let them know of this opportunity.

The Tuesday tour will be part of the meeting (not an optional activity). We just have too much to share not to give the tour the importance it deserves. At our Spring KCTWS meeting a professor who prides himself in training future biology teachers said it best when he made the point that only hands-on experience can result in real understanding. We want you to all experience the Sand Sage prairie first hand.

A fun banquet and auction will be held Tuesday evening after the zoo has closed to the public. Members will be able to enjoy the Zoo's gardens and exhibits in a very special way. We will be working to supply entertainment to reflect the culturally diverse population found in SW Kansas. Of course you won't want to miss the KC Strips locally grown, processed, and aged to perfection. Our cooks will be two local guys who specialize in these type feeds and are wildlife "nuts". I can guarantee that you will not leave hungry, especially after you have had a few pieces of their beer bread to soak up some of the juices, followed by dessert from a Dutch oven.

We have also been working on a slate of papers concerning cultural diversity and its place in wildlife management. These will include presentations on how to get other ethnic groups into higher education, presented by Martha Perkins, Director of Higher Education Opportunity Center for Fort Hays State University. Martha was born in Mexico City. A presentation by Doctoral Candidate Debra Bolton on Social Systems of Rural Hispanic Poor and its Tie to Wildlife Issues will also be presented. Debra is a Navajo/San Juan Pueblo (Oke OWinge) and is very interested in Wildlife and its management. Manuel Torres a Public Lands manager has been instrumental in bridging the communication gap between the KDWP Wildlife and Fish efforts and the growing Hispanic community of SW Kansas. He has done much of the work in developing a Spanish hunter safety course, the development of hunting and fishing regulations in Spanish, and he tends to be the "go to" guy for our Law Enforcement CO's when they need an

interpreter. The fourth speaker refers to himself as an Anglo Mutt. He came to Garden City in 1979 as a District Wildlife Biologist and has experienced the large cultural changes which have occurred over the last 27 years. He has witnessed several generations of new citizens lost to wildlife programs due to lack of communication between wildlife professionals and the non-English speaking parents of these Americans. If you know of additional speakers, let them know of this meeting and invite them to present.

The last evening may be the most enjoyable of all. Bob and Adrian Price have invited us to their sheep ranch for the evening. Their land lies between Lake McKinney and the Arkansas River and is a prime example of what can be done to bridge the gap between Agriculture and Wildlife. You will have a great time kicking dirt and leaning on pickups throughout the evening. The fatted lamb (or maybe two) will be grilled to perfection by some of our local KDWP staff. We have arranged an entire evening of entertainment for those who drive themselves west toward the setting sun, including wetland, riparian, and terrestrial tours to those interested. The KDWP furbearer project leader has agreed to set up a trapping demo. There will be an authentic 1868 Infantry Camp re-enactment set up, and if you have never experienced how a flint knife is made, this will be your opportunity, as we have someone lined up to demonstrate the art. We have more in the wings if registrations are plentiful.

Bring a Chair!!!

Plan to bring your favorite camp chair, as all the evening events will be outdoors and a personal sitting device will come in handy.

Fun Auction:

Larger items are needed for the live auction and we will have the traditional silent auction so bring your regular small unique items. Please contact Mike McFadden if you have big items so he can plan for them.

miketm@wp.state.ks.us

See You in Kansas in August!

Transportation:

Garden City Regional Airport (GCK) does have connections from both east and west by way of USAIR Express and Great Lakes Airlines, LTD. In addition, Amtrak makes a stop at the Garden City Depot. Several car rental services are also available at the Airport. Visit the Garden City and Convention and Tourism web sites for contact information.

Motels:

Garden City has many new and very fine older motels to choose from. A full listing of these facilities can be found on the Garden City web site. However, the committee did some of the work for you and lined up the following motels who gave the conference a great deal on prices. Please consider the following motels when making your reservations. All hotels listed have blocked out rooms for the 2007 CMPS meeting.

AmericInn Lodge and Suites - \$60 plus tax, Discount at Applebee's (adjacent) and Lonestar 800-634-3444 - New in 2003. Indoor Pool.

Sunnyland B & B - \$60, 5 rooms full breakfast, in room private bathrooms 620-276-0500

Plaza Hotel - \$57.50 plus tax, Bar and restaurant, Indoor pool. 620-275-7471 or 800-875-5201

Best Western Wheat Lands Hotel - \$55 plus tax, (remodeled in fall 06' with all new furniture). Free hot breakfast. 620-276-2387



CMPS – KCTWS ANNUAL MEETING
GARDEN CITY, KS
AUGUST 6-9, 2007

Monday, August 6

9:30 – 5:00	Registration – Finnup Center
10:00 – 12:00	KCTWS Fall Business meeting
12:00-1:00	Lunch on your own-Recommendations provided
1:00 – 3:00	Student Professional Development Workshop
3:15	Student-Mentor Pairing and Orientation
3:30 – 5:30	CMPS Annual Business meeting – Finnup Center
7:00 - ?	Back Yard Burger BBQ

(Directions will only be available to those who attend one or both of the business meetings.)

Tuesday, August 7

7:30 – 8:00	Registration and Organize at Finnup Center for the Habitat Tour
8:00 – 8:15	Travel to Sand Sage Wildlife Area
8:15 – 10:00	Tour of Sand Sage Wildlife Area
10:30 – 11:30	Tour of Sunflower Electric lands
11:30 – 1:30	Lunch at Holcomb and Garden City Restaurants
1:30	Meet at Finnup Center
2:00 – 4:00	Tour Wheatland Electric Cooperative lands being planted back to permanent grass cover
4:00 – 5:30	Tour wildlife practices on private property, Oasis Ranch
5:30 – 6:00	Return to Garden City
7:00 - ?	Banquet and auction – Lee Richardson Zoo

Wednesday, August 8

7:30 – 10:00	Registration
8:30 – 9:00	Key note speaker
9:00 – 11:30	Paper sessions
11:30 – 1:00	Lunch on your own
1:00 – 5:00	Paper sessions
7:00 - ?	Lamb BBQ on the Ark River

Thursday, August 9

8:00 – 12:00	Paper sessions (if needed)
8:00 – 12:00	Optional Ag Industry Tour

REGISTRATION FORM – CMPS MEETING – AUG. 6-9, 2007

Please make a copy of registration form, make check or money order payable to “CMPS 2007” and mail to: CMPS 2007, Kansas Dept. of Wildlife & Parks, 1001 W. McArtor, Dodge City, KS 67801. For Credit Card payments, please provide the information in the area supplied below. We are able to accept MasterCard and Visa. We are working to get registration on line using pay pal or most major credit cards. Follow the link indicated on the meetings web page for this convenience.

First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name
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Name for Badge (if different from above)

Organization/University/Company

Mailing Address

City	State/Province
------	----------------

Zip/Postal Code	Country
-----------------	---------

Spouse/Guest Name (only if registering)

Telephone (Day)	Fax
-----------------	-----

Cell Phone	E-mail
------------	--------

REGISTRATION FEES (All Fees are in U.S. Dollars):

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Full Professional Registration	\$80	x _____	= _____
Full Wildlife Student Registration	\$40	x _____	= _____
Full Spouse (attending tour & day sessions)	\$60	x _____	= _____
Adult (21 years+) – evening meals only	\$45	x _____	= _____
Young adults (13 to 21 years) – evening meals only	\$30	x _____	= _____
Kids (12 years & younger) – evening meals only	\$15	x _____	= _____
T-Shirt M	\$15	x _____	= _____

T-Shirt L	\$15	x _____	= _____
T-Shirt XL	\$15	x _____	= _____
T-Shirt XXL	\$17	x _____	= _____
Hats	\$10	x _____	= _____

Late Registration Fees After July 20, 2007

Full Professional Registration	\$120	x _____	= _____
Full Wildlife Student Registration	\$60	x _____	= _____
Full Spouse (attending tour & day sessions)	\$90	x _____	= _____
Adult (21 years+) – evening meals only	\$67.50	x _____	= _____
Young adults (13 to 21 years) – evening meals only	\$45	x _____	= _____
Kids (12 years & younger) – evening meals only	\$15	x _____	= _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES = \$ _____

Credit Card Information:

(Circle one) **MasterCard** **Visa**

Name on card (print) _____

Credit Card Number _____ **Date** _____

Exp. Date (MM/YY)

Signature _____

In order to make local arrangements, please indicate below which of the following events you actually plan to attend:

Total number of people, including
Yourself and family members

Burger BBQ	_____
Sand hills Tour	_____
Banquet	_____
Student Mentoring Program	_____
Lamb BBQ on the River	_____
Ag Industry Tour	_____

Please Note: Due to security reasons, the number of slots for the age industrial tours may be limited. If we have enough interest, we may be able to increase the number of tours, but several businesses have restricted the number in each group. Participants will be chosen on a first come, first served basis. Check your receipt when you register to see if you have been successful.

Student Professional Development:

If you are interested in attending the Student Professional Development Training, check the box below. Space is limited to 40 participants and is free of charge. The workshop is directed at students, and they will receive priority for participation in this training, but it is not limited to students. If you are a professional and are interested in attending, feel free to check the box below. We will take all student registrations as priority from the early registrants on a first come-first served basis. If spots remain open after early registration closes, professionals from early registration will fill remaining seats. If we still have openings, late registrants will be allowed to attend on a first come-first served basis. Please register early.

I want to participate in the Professional Development Workshop: Yes_____ No_____

As part of this meeting, we will be having a mentoring program for wildlife students. We are in need of wildlife professionals to step up and agree to help students meet other professionals at the meeting and to visit with these students about a career in the profession. Help a student out by volunteering. If you wish to help, fill out the following:

Name _____

Professional/wildlife interests_____

Where you work_____

Educational background _____

What is your job_____

Do you consider yourself an educator, researcher, manager or administration

If you are a student and would like to be mentored, please fill out the following:

Name_____

Professional aspirations/wildlife
interests_____

Educational level_____

Vans Needed:

We may need additional transportation for the Sand Sage Prairie tour. Will you be bringing a van and are you willing to carry other participants with you on the tour? All travel will be on well maintained roads and will be within 20 miles of Garden City.

Yes, I will be bringing a van, and would be interested in helping _____

I can carry myself and _____ additional people

Telephone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Hats and Shirts:

We have developed a unique logo for the Garden City meeting. If you like Prairie Grouse you will have to have both the hat and shirt. Please go to the meeting web site to see this logo and the color combinations selected. The shirt is of top quality and is in a Chestnut color, the hat is camouflage, in a combination of Grey, Khaki, and Dark Green. The hat is cotton twill, low crown, golf style cap, 5 panels. There will be very few if any shirts or hats available at the meeting, so you need to order now while registering. No shirts or hats are included with the registration. Sorry, there are no XXXL or larger shirts available in the color we have chosen. Shirt will have a chest print (small @ Upper Left) and full back print of the two color meeting logo. Hat will have the black only logo. Don't delay - order today! All profits go to CMPS and KCTWS. The more you order, the more \$s The Wildlife Society will have to carry on their important business.

Thanks and see you in Garden City!

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call or e-mail us. Ask for Mark Sexson.

620-227-8609

marks@wp.state.ks.us



**The Wildlife Society 14th Annual Conference
Tucson, Arizona
September 22-26, 2007**

This will be a great opportunity to enjoy this unique southwestern desert city surrounded by mountains. Located in the midst of a 10,000-year-old Native American settlement, the city once served as a Spanish outpost, and later was a dusty frontier town, bustling territorial-days railroad hub, and finally today is a fast-growing modern urban center. You'll want to take time to see the surrounding Sonoran Desert and its impressive saguaro cactus, visit nearby historic Spanish missions and colonial forts, cross over the border into Mexico to shop, or explore the wilderness serenity, cottonwood-lined streams, and unique birding opportunities of Sabino Canyon Recreational Area, Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge, and Coronado National Forest, among many outstanding natural areas.

2007 STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATION CENTRAL MOUNTAINS AND PLAINS SECTION THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

The Central Mountains and Plains Section (CMPS) of The Wildlife Society (TWS) announces the availability of travel grants for TWS undergraduate student members attending the Society's Annual Conference. Travel grants of up to \$500 each will be awarded to a limited number of students to assist them with expenses incurred attending the TWS Annual Conference. Students may apply as individuals or as a student chapter of TWS. Preference will be given to students involved in TWS activities such as holding student chapter offices, chairing committees, or active participation in other student, chapter, section, or parent organization activities.

To be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. A member of the Central Mountains and Plains Section;
2. A member of The Wildlife Society;
3. Enrolled at least half time in a program leading to a degree in wildlife biology or closely related field at a college or university within the CMPS, however, recent Baccalaureate graduates will be considered.

Applicants must submit the following:

1. Completed application form (signed by student, or student chapter officer, and faculty advisor);
2. A one-paragraph narrative describing your involvement in Society activities (student chapter, state chapter, section or parent);
3. A one-paragraph narrative of information explaining why you should receive a CMPS Travel Grant.

Failure to provide all requested material would disqualify the application.

Successful recipients will be notified prior to the annual meeting and payment will be made once a copy of the meeting registration paid receipt is mailed to the Section Treasurer.

Application and all requested material must be submitted to:

Francie Pusatari
Colorado Division of Wildlife
317 West Prospect
Fort Collins, CO 80526

The deadline for receipt of applications is July 15, 2007. Fax or email submissions are not acceptable.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Len Carpenter Receives Wallmo Award

Dr. Len H. Carpenter is a past-president of TWS, CMPS, and the Colorado Chapter of TWS. He also served 6 years as CMPS Section Representative and was elected a TWS fellow in 2005. Len was awarded the O. C. Wallmo Award at the 7th Western States and Provinces Deer and Elk Workshop in Estes Park May 15, 2007. The Family of the late Dr. O. C. "Charlie" Wallmo have provided for the biennial award. The Wallmo Award is presented to individuals in recognition of outstanding contributions to knowledge and improved management of mule and black-tailed deer. The award consists of a bronze mule deer sculptured by Charlie Wallmo's son, Joe. B. Wallmo of Colorado. The award is presented in conjunction with the biennial Western States and Provinces Deer and Elk Workshop sponsored by the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Len has contributed to the management of mule deer through his research on habitat improvement, as Leader of the Colorado Division of Wildlife Mammals Research Section, and later as Terrestrial Section Leader. After leaving the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Len has worked for the Wildlife Management Institute, and been a key participant in the Mule Deer Working Group.

Len was nominated for the Wallmo Award by numerous individuals, ranging from agency practitioners to academic leaders, reflecting the long-term and robust impact of his contributions. Len's greatest legacy may be of moving wildlife management from a blend of art & science more toward a true science.

Other recent recipients of the Wallmo Award include Richard M. Bartmann (2005), William M. Longhurst (2003), John G. Kie (2001), Paul K. Krausman (1999), and Fred L. Bunnell (1997). The first award was presented in 1987 to Richard D. Taber.



Len and Jan Carpenter Receiving the O. C. Wallmo Award (2007)

RANDY ROGERS RECEIVES THE KANSAS CHAPTER'S PROFESSIONAL AWARD
(AKA THE SNIPE AWARD)

Randy Rodgers has been a research biologist with Kansas Wildlife and Parks for 28 years. He has made outstanding contributions to the knowledge that the State of Kansas has about upland game bird populations, most notably ring-necked pheasants and lesser prairie chickens.

Randy has also been one of the most active Kansas Chapter, The Wildlife Society members since chapter inception. He has been a member of TWS and the Kansas Chapter continuously since the late 70's and has served on the Executive Board in every position including President. He also served on many committees, highlighted by his leadership in the "Save-the-Cheyenne Bottoms" effort during the water rights crisis of the 1980's, culminating with a relay race from the "Bottoms" to the state capitol in Topeka with a baton full of Cheyenne Bottoms marsh water.

His research has been particularly significant because of the practical, common sense approach he has taken to studying populations of upland game birds. He has always understood the symbiotic relationship that pheasants and many other wildlife species have with agricultural systems and operations in a predominately private land state. His early research focused on studies that determined the significance of wheat stubble height and the effects of various tillage methods on pheasant populations. These studies were conducted in conjunction with the KSU Experiment Station and produced a wealth of information that could be used by landowners to modify their operations to encourage pheasant production and survival.

Later, Randy's studies focused on the effects of various Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) practices on game birds, particularly pheasants and lesser chickens. He studied the effects of grassed terraces and when the results proved positive, promoted these practices to the agricultural community. This included lobbying hard for inclusion of these practices as part of Continuous CRP (CCRP). More recently, he studied the effects of dormant season grazing on CCRP buffers with the intent of changing USDA policy to make the practices more acceptable to farmers. He expanded lesser prairie chicken surveys by the Department to document the extension of the range of lesser chickens presumably due to the increase in CRP.

In all of his research endeavors, Randy always led the way in educating the agricultural, wildlife and hunting public about the results. Recognizing the importance of peer review, Randy has published many of his findings in professional wildlife journals to add to the body of literature on game birds. He has created several videos about improving upland game bird habitat and has written numerous articles for the Kansas Wildlife & Parks magazine on these subjects. More importantly he has written extensively for farm magazines and periodicals with a target audience of the people actually controlling what happens on the landscape. He has been tireless in his efforts to influence the agricultural community, including state USDA officials and the policy makers in Washington and Topeka, espousing the importance of conservation programs, particularly those in the farm bills, and how they can improve the lot for wildlife in Kansas.

Randy has also made time to teach the wildlife portion of Hunter Education several times a year for the past 20-plus years. Other youth education efforts include two Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites (OWLS) in Hays with ponds and native grasses, allowing teachers to better incorporate ecology into their curriculum.

Randy has often been in the forefront of other issues that affect wildlife and humans. He has devoted countless hours, both professional and personal, to issues such as water conservation in Hays, wind energy development (and siting effects on wildlife) in Kansas, development of alternative vegetative sources for ethanol production and in the use of native grasses for carbon reserves.

A quote from a long time cohort sums up Randy's distinguished career:

"He has an incredible work ethic and is very dedicated to the wildlife resource and has been focused and (has) concentrated his research on practical application practices that directly impact the target species in ways that will be accepted by the ag community. He is most deserving of all recognition."

Dr. Gary White retires from Colorado State University:

Congratulations to our CMPS President, Gary White, on his retirement! Gary retired from CSU after many years of challenging faculty, students, and peers throughout Colorado and the nation to be the best they can be! As those of you who know Gary know he will continue to be involved in many aspects of the profession. He also plans on enjoying time hunting here, there and everywhere accompanied by his wife, Liz, and his trusty black lab, Buck! Happy hunting Gary!

KUDOS TO STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT THE 67TH MIDWEST CONFERENCE

Paper and Poster Sessions were held in conjunction with the 67th Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Omaha, Nebraska in early December. Student participants in those sessions were all scored by at least 3 different professional peers. As a result of that scoring process, four awards were selected as best in their category. The categories were best student wildlife paper, best student fisheries paper, best student wildlife poster and best student fisheries paper.

Please join the Student Events Committee in recognizing the excellence of the following four students. Each was awarded \$100 for their great work.

Best Student Fisheries Paper—Andrew Jansen, South Dakota State University

Best Student Wildlife Poster—Bret Graves, Ohio State University

Best Student Fisheries Paper—Katie Bertrand, Kansas State University

Best Student Wildlife Paper—Chadwick Rittenhouse, University of Missouri

STATE CHAPTER REPORTS

Colorado: This time of year with seasonal field work, new fiscal year budgets and family summer vacation the Colorado Chapter is focusing its valuable time in planning for both the summer and winter meetings. The summer meeting will be held in Gunnison, Colorado on July 26 and 27. The summer meeting is a time to sit back, enjoy the natural grandeur of Colorado and meet with other professionals in the field in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Some possible topics for this summer include, the Uncompahgre Fritillary Butterfly, Gunnison sage grouse, boreal toads, conservation easements, and lynx/snowshoe hare interactions. The Board will meet at 7pm Wednesday evening and, as always, the membership is invited and encouraged to attend the board meetings.

This year, for the first time in recent memory, the annual meeting will be held in Denver from January 23rd – 25th 2008, at the Doubletree Hotel at 3203 Quebec Street near the old Stapleton Airport. Our working theme for the 2008 meeting is Agricultural and Land Use Impacts on Wildlife and the Future of Colorado. Subtopics include: water, farm bill, land conversion, fragmentation, energy development (ethanol), ESA, and military expansion of the Pinion Canyon maneuver site.

Kansas: New Board Takes Over Kansas Chapter

The Kansas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Held its spring meeting February 23 and 24, 2007 at Pittsburgh, Kansas. Highlights were a change in board members, and a paper session at Pittsburgh State University. The meeting was well attended.

At the business meeting new officers took over the reins. President-elect Dan Haines took over as President. Don Kaufman will remain on the board as Past-president. Election results for the President-elect, and two new board members were announced. Matt Peek was elected as President-elect, and Cherrie Nolden and Karl Grover were elected as board members. Brad Simpson accepted another term as Secretary/Treasurer. All candidates were extremely qualified, which made it difficult to decide who to vote for. All are to be congratulated for their willingness to participate.

The terms for the two existing board members were complete. Karl Karrow and Matt Peek served as excellent board members. The Chapter is grateful for their accomplishments. No doubt their help will be called upon from time to time.

The paper session featured an invited speaker. Dr. Richard Schrock from Emporia State University, presented "Last Child on the Prairie? How New Media, Wildlife Laws, and Social Changes Affect the Next Generation". As evidenced on his web site (<http://www.emporia.edu/biosci/schrbiol.htm>), Dr. Schrock has spoken on many such thought provoking subjects, and his presentation expanded our thinking just a little bit more. Perspectives, from an educators view, of where competent field biologists will come from, and how well they will be prepared were very interesting. Dr. Dr. Schrock currently serves as Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at Emporia State University, where he had served the two previous decades as a Biology Professor and Director of Biology Education. He's a prominent authority on numerous aspects of biology education, and is well known for his commentaries on Kansas Public Radio and columns in the Wichita Eagle. In his columns and lectures, he has addressed a wide range of subjects from use of animals in the classroom to the role of biology in sex-ed. Most notably, he has been closely involved in the debate over evolution and creationism in the state standards, and in the defense of organismic biology in the classroom.

The paper session featured student research, as well as professional presentations. Subjects included habitat fragmentation impacts on prairie chicken genetics, waste corn sampling techniques, impacts on grassland birds, conservation orientation of ag producers, and prairie pothole communities. Work on species inventory in Kansas, as well as research with skunks and otters were presented. A presentation on fundamental conflicts between economic growth and wildlife conservation generated good conversation and thought.

The next Kansas Chapter meeting will be held concurrent with the Central Mountains and Plains Section meeting in Garden City, August 6-8, 2007.

Nebraska: Our chapter president Renae Held recently took a position as Assistant Chief of the Non-game and Endangered Species Program with the New Mexico Game and Fish Department. We thank her for the great job she's done as president and wish her the best in her new endeavor. Vice president Jarren Kuipers of Northern Prairies Land Trust / Nebraska Game and Parks Commission has been promoted to president.

The Nebraska TWS annual meeting will be held Oct. 11th - 12th at the Howard Johnson hotel and conference center in Grand Island. The meeting will be held in coordination with the Nebraska Chapter of the Society for Range Management. Thursday the 11th will be the meeting and speaker portion, with the banquet/auction to follow that evening. Friday the 12th will be the Student/Professional Workshop.

A new memorial award has been established between the Nebraska TWS and the Central Flyway Council. The award is in memory of Joe Gabig, a prominent waterfowl biologist in the region and active member of Nebraska TWS. All students enrolled in collegiate wildlife programs in Nebraska are eligible for the award. The award consists of commemorative plaque and \$100. Nominations are currently being accepted by the Nebraska TWS (laurel.badura@ngpc.ne.gov), and awarded later this summer.

Nebraska TWS member, Lucas Negus, was recently accepted as a participant in the National TWS Leadership Institute. Lucas is employed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission as the public lands wildlife biologist for Grove Lake WMA.

North Dakota: LEGACY TRUST INITIATIVE OFF to a GREAT START

Since the formation of the Chapter's Legacy Trust Initiative in September 2006, several steps have been taken to strengthen the connection between natural resource students and the wildlife profession. The 1st Annual Student - Professional Lunch and the Best Student Paper Award were great additions to the Chapter's Annual Meeting. The Legacy Trust Committee has also had the privilege of meeting with students and advisors at North Dakota State University, Sitting Bull College, and the University of North Dakota to gather needed information for structuring a sustainable program that benefits both students and

professionals. The Committee is looking forward to the opportunity to meet with natural resource students and faculty at Valley City State University and Minot State University – Bottineau during the 2007 Fall Semester. The 12 items listed below highlight the principle ideas students and their advisors have recommended.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STRENGTHENING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN NATURAL RESOURCE STUDENTS AND THE WILDLIFE PROFESSION

1. Pair students with a professional for a portion of the Chapter's Annual Meeting. Meeting Mentors provide a unique opportunity to welcome student participation in the Annual Meeting. Meeting Mentors can also make introductions, discuss various aspect technical papers, and help students gain greater insights into the workings of the Chapter/profession.
2. Organize a "Career Lessons" panel discussion immediately prior to the start of the Chapter's 2008 Annual Meeting. Invite five to seven experienced biologists from a wide spectrum of agencies and organizations to succinctly summarize the most important things they've learned over the course of their career. Each biologist on the panel will be given five minutes to discuss their "Career Lessons". The remainder of the seminar will be devoted to questions from students and young professionals.
3. Continue the Student/Professional Lunch and the Best Paper Award for Students at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Grand Forks.
4. Encourage student participation at Executive Board Meetings and with the Chapter Newsletter. Provide time at the Annual Business Meeting for Student Chapter reports.
5. Coordinate with the student wildlife groups about organizing a Career Fair and/or a one-day Job Shadowing Program in Bismarck during the next year. The Job Shadowing Program would pair interested students with professionals for a "walk a mile in my boots" individual experience.
6. Work with TWS to gather information about the activities of student chapters throughout the country. Use this information to structure programs that will work in North Dakota.
7. Evaluate opportunities for students to adopt a Waterfowl Production Area or State Wildlife Management Area, prepare management plans, and work with wildlife managers. The opportunity to work together in the field, ask questions, and make contacts was widely supported by both students and faculty alike.
8. Evaluate opportunities to develop a volunteer program to assist with land management activities and other work initiatives on wildlife areas near campus.
9. Devote a page in the Chapter's January Newsletter to highlight summer job opportunities with the Fish and Wildlife Service, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, North Dakota Game and Fish, Ducks Unlimited, Delta Waterfowl, and other agencies and organization. Information concerning deadlines, forms, web sites and contacts will be provided.
10. Work with students to develop a seminar/lecture series. A theme for the seminar series and specific topics will need to be developed.
11. Consider the possibility of developing a biological techniques field day.
12. Focus attention on developing year round coordination activities with students and professors. Students seemed particularly interested in one-on-one contact when possible.

TWO NEW WILDLIFE PROGRAMS IN THE STATE

Valley City State University (VCSU) is now offering a B.A. or B. S. in Fisheries and Wildlife. Dr. Bob Anderson has been hired to develop the program. This newest education opportunity in the State is accredited through the State Board of Higher Education and the curriculum was developed to allow students to meet certification requirements of The Wildlife Society and the American Fisheries Society. The Department also has a student organization, the Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation Club. Although the program is fairly new, over 20 students are registered in the program including transfers from other State institutions. More information is available on the University website (www.vcsu.edu).

Sitting Bull College has offered an A.S. in Environmental Science for more than a decade and will begin offering a B.S. degree in Fall 2007. The wildlife option focuses students on the issues, techniques, and career skills of Wildlife Management and Conservation Biology. The program requires students to conduct and defend separate field research projects in both their sophomore and senior years. Summer research programs for 2007 include insect and amphibian studies in Costa Rica, Loggerhead Shrike telemetry projects in Solon, ND, and turtle population studies on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. The primary goal of this program is to supply local agencies with highly trained and motivated employees. Recent graduates have taken positions with the US Fish & Wildlife Service in North Dakota, Tribal Game & Fish Departments in ND and SD, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Program students are in the process of forming a student Chapter of The Wildlife

Society and attended the state Chapter and the national meeting during this school year. Information about our programs is available at www.sittingbull.edu or by contacting Dr. Jeremy Guinn or Dr. Dan Buresh at 701-854-8000.

South Dakota: No Update Available

Utah: The Utah Chapter has been busy! Last March, we held a successful chapter meeting at the Red Cliffs Lodge in Moab, Utah. Excellent papers were presented by chapter members and a panel discussion on current issues in black-footed ferret conservation was educational and enlightening. The meeting raised nearly \$6,000, a portion of which was used to fund scholarship awards for four graduate students at universities in the state. The Chapter also contributed to the Jessica Clark Memorial Scholarship fund, in honor of the memory of an outstanding wildlife student at Utah State University who passed away this year.

The Utah Chapter would also like to announce their new officers, elected at the March meeting and recognize officers whose terms expired. Many thanks to Jimmy Parish, who served three years in the presidency (President-Elect, President, and Past-President); Brian Maxfield, our Treasurer since 2005; and Diane Probasco, who served as Odd-Year Board Member and helped tremendously with fundraising and keeping us organized! In March we welcomed Bill Bates (President-Elect), Gary Ogborn (Treasurer), and Kim Asmus (Odd-Year Board Member) to the board. They joined existing board members Kevin Bunnell (President), Tammy Wallace (Past-President), Janet Sutter (Even-Year Board Member), and Sarah Lupis (Secretary). The Board is actively working to plan for the 2008 Annual Meeting, which will be held in Springdale, Utah, in January, to update the Chapter's web site in conjunction with the TWS National, and to finalize the Organizing Committee for the 2010 National Conference which is being held in Utah.

Wyoming: No Update Available

Student Chapter Reports

Colorado State: This spring break eight undergraduates traveled to College Station, Texas to participate in the 42nd Annual Western Students Conclave. Students participated in the many field trips that were offered. Some enjoyed a day of burning 12 acres of tall grass prairie, while others enjoyed bird watching at the Atwater Prairie Chicken refuge. We also enjoyed our own self guided trips. From hog-hunting in Sherman, Texas to a self guided trip through the Konza Tall Grass Prairie Reserve. The highlight of conclave is always the quiz bowl competition and once again CSU did a fine job of representing Colorado. CSU defended their quiz bowl championship with a repeat performance taking the quiz bowl event for a second year in a row. This is most likely why we were chosen to host the 43rd conclave event at CSU next year. Hosting conclave will eliminate us from the potential of a hat trick. Field trips and socials are being planned now as we gear up for one of the best conclaves in TWS history. The students of the CSU TWS chapter also hosted a special event of their own on Friday the 13th. **As many of you maybe aware our faculty advisor Dr. Gary White retired at the end of the spring 2007 semester. The CSU chapter hosted a BBQ in Gary's honor, much to his surprise. The BBQ included good food, good drink, and even better friends. Many of Gary's colleagues came out and we all enjoyed telling stories of his accomplishments the good, the bad, and the embarrassing. We would like to express to all of you that we feel honored to have had such an influential advisor for the past seven years. Gary White has impacted all of the students that were lucky enough to have known him during their college careers. However, we have vowed not let him completely escape and will be roping him in on next years conclave and our upcoming events.** Dr. Ken Wilson our interim department head will be taking on the role of faculty advisor for the CSU chapter. Ken has a great rapport with the students here at CSU and we are sure he will be an excellent faculty advisor. With finals around the corner and summer almost here our chapter members are anxiously awaiting the start of the summer field season.

BYU, Chadron State, Kansas State, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, University of Nebraska-Kearney, University of North Dakota, North Dakota State, South Dakota State, Utah State University, Wayne State (Nebraska), University of Wyoming: School's Out!

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If this information is not current and updates/corrections are needed, please email Lyn Stevens at stevenslyn@msn.com I would appreciate it if the State Chapter Presidents can get me any Student Chapter info that needs to be updated (Advisors and Presidents).

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