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TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: *David Hewitt*.....1

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION: VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP
David Long.....3

TEXAS FLORA AND FUANA:
Rachel Lange.....5

CHAPTER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS.....9

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS.....17

EDITOR, RACHEL A. LANGE

Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Newsletter is electronically published in January, April, July, and October. Contributions on any topic pertaining to wildlife, announcements of interest to members, or Chapter business are welcome and should be submitted to the Editor (Rachel Lange, rlange@browngay.com) by the 15th of the preceding month. Change of e-mail address should be submitted online through the Address Change Form or directly to the Treasurer. Membership in the Chapter is \$15/yr for students and \$25/yr for regular members, payable to the Treasurer (Terry Blankenship).

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Being president of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society is rewarding in many ways. One of the greatest pleasures is working with the dedicated, passionate, and selfless people who make up the Chapter's membership, committees, and executive board. Another pleasure of the position is announcing when good things happen to the Chapter. So, it is with double pleasure to be able to announce a new addition to the TCTWS administration, a wildlife professional who is the epitome of a dedicated, passionate, selfless advocate for wildlife and natural resources in Texas.

On October 1, 2014, Dr. Don Steinbach started as the TCTWS's executive director. Don is the 4th executive director of the TCTWS following Hal Irby (1991-1994), John Jefferson (1995-2002), and Doug Slack (2011-2014). Don is no stranger to the TCTWS, having served as president-elect when the first executive director was hired, and president the next year. Don brings academic credibility to the position having recently retired from a long and productive career in Extension-Agrilife at Texas A&M University. Don's family has a multi-generational tie to rural Texas, a tie that Don continues to nurture on his family farm in Washington County. Finally, Don has connections with several important conservation groups in Texas, serving on the Executive Committee of the Texas Wildlife Association and on the Board of Directors of the Texas Agricultural Land Trust. Don's professional experience, rural upbringing, and connections in the conservation community will help him effectively represent the interests of the TCTWS.

In talking to Chapter members, I get the feeling many are uncertain of the executive director's role in the TCTWS. Why am I, as president of the TCTWS, so excited about having Don in this position? I am excited because of the myriad ways in which the executive director enables the Chapter to achieve excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education.

One of the first tasks of the executive director is to know the status of contemporary conservation issues and when there will be opportunities to provide input or make

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



*Dr. Don Steinbach, TCTWS' new
Executive Director*

a difference. Working with the Chapter's Conservation Affairs Committee and other conservation groups in the state, the executive director monitors issues important to wildlife and natural resource conservation. He/she informs the Chapter about upcoming issues, relies on Chapter members for accurate biological and management information, coordinates with like-minded conservation groups, and represents the Chapter and its interests around the state.

Because wildlife matters to society, issues important to the TCTWS may require legislation to ensure society's desires are fulfilled. Thus, the legislature is one place the executive director serves the Chapter. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and its Commission may take action that influences wildlife and other natural resources. Decisions and actions on conservation issues are also made in various meetings, working groups, and task forces. The TCTWS executive director can ensure that the wildlife biologists and their expertise are part of the discussion when these groups make decisions.

The TCTWS has over 500 members. Why can't a regular member of the Chapter participate in the meetings, hearings, and working groups? All members of the TCTWS are volunteers and most have full-time jobs or are students. Members cannot leave their jobs as often as necessary to effectively represent the Chapter. Furthermore, many Chapter members are prohibited by the nature of their employment to speak out in an official capacity on some wildlife issues. This is especially true for state agency and university personnel. The Chapter's executive director, as a paid employee of the TCTWS, has time and freedom to voice the Chapter's views.

A final way in which the executive director can serve the Chapter is by providing continuity as committee chairs and the executive board turn over. The executive director is the Chapter's institutional memory and thereby can use past experience to help inform the discussions and decisions that dictate the Chapter's future.

David Hewitt, President

Benefits, Belonging, and Beyond: Why TCTWS Membership is Invaluable

As members of society, our attention and monies are pulled in many directions. From paying utilities to the guilt-induced donation to that organization whose goal is to make TV watchers cry, it is hard to allocate money to extracurricular organizations deemed "unnecessary". Some could view the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TCTWS) as one of those superfluous expenditures, however, it is because of such organizations that society is able to take for granted the wildlife and natural resources that TCTWS works so hard to preserve.

The TCTWS is a wildlife stewardship organization whose mission is to educate others about management and conservation of wildlife and natural resources that make Texas so unique. This task rests on the shoulders of its members, the students, university professors, wildlife professionals, and other conservation-minded individuals who all harbor the same passion for Texas' wildlife. Few other conservation-based organizations can boast of such a diverse membership pool, but this is one facet that makes the TCTWS such a great organization.

By now you're probably wondering what benefits you

will receive by being a member of TCTWS. There are many benefits to membership, both to you directly and to wildlife conservation in Texas. In large part, there are as many benefits as you allow yourself to obtain. First, as a member of TCTWS you have a great opportunity to meet professionals that are passionate at working to sustain Texas' resources. Current



TCTWS members engage in a workshop, held during the 2014 Annual Meeting

membership includes many of Texas' leading research biologists, Texas Parks and Wildlife officials, Nature Conservancy managers, private lands biologists, and an astounding number of young

professionals. Membership comes from

every corner of the state, promoting dissemination of new ideas and techniques to help solve the complex problems that we face in managing resources today.

Second, information is key to maintaining and improving our natural resources in Texas. The TCTWS provides its members with credible peer reviewed research focused on cutting edge management techniques for most game and non-game species, habitat improvements, and various other tools meant to improve our state's resources. Through the state meeting of the TCTWS research and information from all regions of Texas is presented to the membership. Newsletters also give key insight into many of the day-to-day operations of our professionals.

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION

Third, being a member of TCTWS allows you to create a vast network of contacts in the wildlife industry. Whether you're interested in a wildlife career or not, having an address book full of like-minded colleagues will do wonders in furthering your purpose of conservation.

Lastly, a strong TCTWS carries weight in the public arena on critical wildlife issues. Members of the TCTWS participate in legislative hearings, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department commission meetings and working groups, and other forums around the state in which decisions are made that affect natural resource management. The TCTWS hosts an annual conservation camp for high school students so that these young people are aware of the importance of wildlife conservation and can reflect those values in whatever career path they choose. The TCTWS is effective in these activities because the Chapter draws on and represents natural resource professionals from across the state. The impact of the TCTWS in these activities that affect societal actions and values is influenced by the number of members in the society. So, your decision to become a member of the TCTWS benefits not only you directly, but many aspects of natural resource management across the state and even the nation.



TCTWS supports important outreach and education.

As you can see the benefits of TCTWS membership are limitless; you get out of it what you want. If you are looking to meet other people who share and want to pursue the same passions as you, or want to contribute to a cause you support, then the TCTWS is for you. Joining the TCTWS is easy. If you are a member of The Wildlife Society at the national level, you can choose to pay state dues when you renew your national membership. Alternatively, you can visit <http://tctws.org/membership/> and complete your registration online. Finally, and perhaps the best way to join, is to attend the next annual meeting of TCTWS. Beginning this year, your meeting registration comes with a free membership to the TCTWS. The annual meeting will be in Corpus Christi February 19-21, 2015. Go to <http://tctws.org/annual-meeting/> for more information.



Providing a voice in the state legislature for the wildlife resource, and for wildlife professionals, is a valuable and somewhat unique capability of TCTWS.

Consider the Grasshopper

By: *Rachel Lange*

I'm not sure what it was like in your part of the state, but during my work in the Post Oak Savannah this summer I noticed it was a banner year for grasshoppers! Now, most folks aren't that into "bugs"; even when you do come across an entophile, most will cite butterflies, bees, dragonflies, or beetles as their favorite taxon...nobody seems to be fascinated by the hum-drum grasshopper and their Orthopteran allies. The poor grasshopper even gets a bad rap from Aesop! I've developed a soft spot for these guys, though. If you know me, that probably doesn't mean much; I'm definitely a "biophile" who has a hard time pinning down a single favorite species (or Genus...or Family...or Order...). I like to think that my appreciation for grasshoppers, crickets, katydids, and their allies, comes from my being a wildlife biologist. Grasshoppers can be very influential within a community, and are worth considering as both an interesting and important component of the biota.



One of my favorite species, Tropicodolophus formosus, or the great crested grasshopper, is a dietary specialist. This species lives in the arid plains, specializing on plants in the Family Malvaceae. They can be observed in the Texas Panhandle region.

Grasshoppers are, of course, found within the Class Insecta, and are members of the Order Orthoptera. Like most insect groups, Orthopterans truly can be considered ubiquitous. Along with grasshoppers (or short-horned grasshoppers; Family Acrididae), Orthoptera also includes katydids (or long-horned grasshoppers; Tettigoniidae), lubbers (Romaleidae), crickets (Gryllidae), mole crickets (Gryllotalpidae), and Jerusalem crickets (Stenopelmatidae). The bulk of Orthopteran species are distributed among the grasshoppers, lubbers, katydids, and crickets.

Insects have been extant for about 400 million years; Orthoptera "branched" during the Triassic, with the advent of wing-folding. Wing morphology remains a distinguishing feature of this Order. Orthoptera is characterized by having two pairs of wings (though some species may lack one or both pairs); the forewings are long, slender, and thickened while the hind wings are membranous and usually wider than the forewings. Other characteristics of this taxon are medium to long threadlike antennae, chewing mouthparts with two short cerci, and tympana (sound detecting organs) on the front tibia or the abdomen. In females, the ovipositor is present and sometimes very long.

Orthopterans are found throughout the world and in nearly every habitat, but over time there has been some general

TEXAS FLORA AND FAUNA

partitioning among the families. Grasshoppers, lubbers, and katydids are largely diurnal while crickets, mole crickets, and Jerusalem crickets are most often nocturnal in their habits. Macrohabitat further separates these groups, with each taxonomic family occupying spatially different habitats. Grasshoppers and lubbers are most often found in sunny, open habitats dominated by herbaceous vegetation; katydids and tree crickets are more common in shrubs and trees; and crickets tend to prefer densely vegetated areas, such as forest understory. Mole crickets and Jerusalem crickets are terrestrial and partially fossorial.

With a cosmopolitan distribution and over 25,000 species worldwide (about 150 of which are found in Texas), it shouldn't be surprising that grasshoppers (and allies) serve as an important component within an ecosystem, and as a resource to other species of wildlife. Wildlife often are limited by habitat availability. Habitat is multidimensional, but food availability is an important aspect. Food availability can influence the habitat associations, population structure and dynamics, dispersal, and behavior of wildlife. For example, the abundance of many amphibians is known to be associated with insect abundance. Freshwater fish are similarly affected by the availability of aquatic insects and insect larvae.

Insects can be important prey for many taxa of wildlife; >35% of bird families eat insects, >33% of mammal families eat insects, and 35% of North American snake species eat insects (with Orthoptera seemingly a favorite). Insects can satisfy most nutritional needs of wildlife, though the ratio of carbohydrates and calcium are lower compared to some other food sources. Many species consume insect prey to obtain supplemental protein and fat, nutrients which are particularly important to growth and development. The high level of protein and fat available in insects is why Gallinaceous birds feed their chicks insects, and a reason why many species of reptiles exhibit ontogenetic shifts in diet. Insects are so nutrient-dense that they even serve as an alternative food source to large animals, such as bears, during times of scarcity when larger more desirable prey are not available. Grasshoppers are an important source of water to many species of arid-land wildlife.



Neobarrettia spinosa (predaceous katydid, red-eyed devil, or greater arid-land katydid) is a Texas native and an Orthopteran anomaly; this species can be quite aggressive and does kill and consume other animals. Above: Threat display Right: *N. spinosa* feeding on a mediterranean gecko



Along with the Isoptera (termites), Orthopterans are considered the most important group of insects in the context of wildlife diets. In a Nebraska study of three

grassland bird species, grasshoppers and beetles were the most abundant items in diet samples. As noted above, grasshoppers are frequently consumed by snakes; one species in Mexico (*Symphimus mayae*, Yucatan cricket-eating snake) is actually a dietary specialist on Orthopteran prey. In Texas, grasshoppers, crickets, and katydids contribute to the diets of many familiar species,

TEXAS FLORA AND FUANA

such as Virginia opossum, nine-banded armadillo, northern grasshopper mouse, loggerhead shrike, and American kestrel. In fact, grasshoppers have been documented as making up 40% of the total prey taken by American kestrels. Swift fox, a native but exceedingly rare species in Texas, is also known to gain important nutrition from grasshoppers. Occasionally though, an animal that depredates a grasshopper may get more than they bargained for- grasshoppers can transmit helminth parasites, which may then cause diseases such as filariasis in the (new) host.



Orthopterans provide important nutrition to many other taxa. High levels of fat, protein, and water are particularly important.

The relationship between grasshoppers and larger species of wildlife isn't just a one-way street, however; while grasshopper populations can exact influence on their predators, predators can have a marked top-down affect on grasshopper fauna. Several studies across North America found that birds can reduce grasshopper populations by 25-50%.

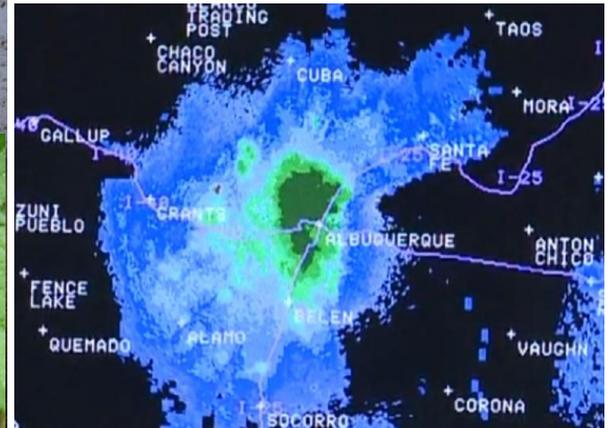
Beyond direct interactions with other wildlife species, grasshoppers and their allies remain impactful creatures. The Orthoptera is an Order of herbivores (with very few exceptions), and herbivory is a major factor in ecosystem function. It has been suggested that the impact of insect herbivores is far greater than that of vertebrate herbivores, and that grasshoppers in particular may be important contributors in stimulating plant productivity. In western North America, grasshoppers were found to account for a 21-23% loss in herbaceous vegetation cover. Such alterations to the canopy structure can affect temperature and moisture levels within the soil, by way of allowing more sunlight to reach the ground.

In general, grasshoppers are wonderful nutrient cyclers; they eat plants and deposit fecal material to the soil, increasing the rate at which nitrogen is returned to the soil and made available once more to plants. The plentiful cadavers of dead orthoptera decompose more readily than does leaf litter, and so again grasshoppers serve to speed up the replenishment of the soil. The pressure exerted on plants by insect herbivory can have more indirect effects, as well; changes to the chemistry of a depredated plant can affect the chemistry and nutrient level of throughfall, as well as affect the quantity and quality of leaf litter via changes to foliage chemistry and timing of leaf fall.

TEXAS FLORA AND FAUNA



*In North America, the species that are subject to outbreaks, and are the most significant grasshopper agricultural pests, belong to the genus **Melanoplus**. Radar detection of a 2014 swarm around Albuquerque, NM, below.*



The time during which grasshoppers' influence on the biotic community is most obvious is during an "outbreak". When population levels reach well above long-term norms, it is considered an outbreak. For grasshoppers, these outbreaks are usually precipitated by several years of hot, dry summers and warm autumns. Dry conditions aid the survival of both adult and nymph grasshoppers, while warm autumns prolong the feeding and reproductive window. During these times, the sheer number of these ravenous herbivores can result in significant changes to ecosystem structure and function, and may affect (positively or negatively) other wildlife populations. The most recent outbreak in Texas occurred in 2012. Just this past summer, an outbreak in New Mexico produced such a density of grasshoppers that the swarm was picked up on weather radar! I've heard the grasshopper populations in the Texas Panhandle seemed to reach outbreak-level during this time as well.

With 150 species of grasshoppers occurring in Texas, there's opportunity to appreciate these important but diminutive and oft-overlooked animals. While I believe the information above makes a good case for wildlife biologists and wildlife managers to value the Orthoptera, I also think they are intriguing and deserving of our admiration in their own right. I hope that some of you will begin to notice the grasshoppers, and that these humble critters add another facet of enjoyment to your time in the field.



*Left:
Romalea guttata, eastern lubber
Right:
Brachystols magna, plains lubber
Both species are found in Texas*



CHAPTER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wildlife Conservation Camp, 2014

Meg Streich, 2014 Camp Director

The 2014 Wildlife Conservation Camp was a memorable experience for all involved! Campers experienced wildlife and the outdoors in so many exciting ways while learning about wildlife conservation and stewardship from wildlife professionals. Some of these activities included, holding a Black-and-White Warbler, catching a largemouth bass, observing the solar system during an astronomy lesson, Barred Owl calling in the dark of the night, and taking an early-morning kayaking trip down Moody Creek. This year's camp was hosted by the Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation in Sinton, TX from July 20-26, 2014. Twenty-five high school students from diverse backgrounds had the opportunity to connect with one another, wildlife professionals, and the outdoors throughout the week. We had a large number of applicants this year, so we truly had the 'best of the best' with these campers.

Wildlife professionals from across Texas led campers in activities including, habitat assessment and management techniques, plant and wildlife identification, radio telemetry, songbird mist-netting, small mammal trapping, human and wildlife conflicts, shooting sports, hunter skills and safety, aquatic sampling, kayaking, and much more. Campers also discussed the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation and discovered their own personal land ethic throughout the week.

Campers explored wetland, aquatic, grassland, and thornscrub habitats on the Welder Wildlife Refuge and learned about the flora, fauna and management practices associated with each habitat type. To further investigate south Texas habitats we visited Port Aransas to explore the Gulf Coast's aquatic life with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department-Coastal Fisheries Division and the University of Texas Marine Science Institute staff. The week's activities were eye-opening for campers and allowed those interested in a future in wildlife management and law enforcement to interact with professionals in those fields. Everyone enjoyed making memories as a group in the beautiful south Texas summer.

As a non-profit organization we rely heavily upon donations and contributions for items such as scholarships, notebooks, camper awards, and meals. We are grateful for the generosity of the following individuals and organizations: Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Welder Wildlife Foundation, Texas Farm Bureau, McBride Conservation Fund, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, East Wildlife Foundation, San Patricio County Game Wardens, Joe and June Corso, TAMU-Kingsville Student Chapter of TWS, Tarleton State University Student Chapter of TWS, Sul Ross State University Range and Wildlife Club, Texas State University Chapter of TWS, Texas Tech University Range, Wildlife and Fisheries Club, Wildlife Materials, Inc., Forestry Suppliers, Dick's Sporting Goods, Eagle Optics, and HEB in Sinton, TX.

The success of this week-long Camp is dependent upon our dedicated volunteers who are passionate about educating our youth. We had over 60 volunteers that served as presenters, professional leaders, college mentors and returning campers, and behind-the-scene support. Without the donation of their time the Wildlife Conservation Camp simply would not have happened.

This year's professional staff who served as mentors and presenters included: Director, Meg Streich, Director-Elect, Stephen Ross, Mandy Krause, Angie Arredondo Kelsey Griffin, Jim Gallagher, Terry Gallagher, Richard Heilbrun, Jimmy Stout, Michelle Wood-Ramirez, Annaliese Scoggin, Megan Clayton, and Andy James. Additional outstanding presenters for the week included: Selma Glasscock, Terry Blankenship, Tina Buford, Scott Mitchell, Albert Flores, Lerrin Williams, Jamie Killian, Jessica Grumman-Frankenberger, Brent Ortego, Robert Benson, Blake Leslie, Larry Hysmith, Brock Minton, Dave Hewitt, Brandon Mitchell, Gary Harris, Jay

CHAPTER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kolbe, Shannon Hall, Whitney Gann, Kory Gann, Sarah Kahlich, Nabil Nasser, Matt Streich, Brent Clayton, Matt Reidy, April Conkey, Chad Huckabee, Lynn Drawe, Kirk Feuerbacher, and Justin Dunn.

Graduate and undergraduate students that served as college mentors and presenters included: Thomas Janke (Sul Ross State University), Taylor Garrison (Sul Ross State University), Bobby Allcorn (Sul Ross State University), Laurie Groen (Texas Tech University), Leah Van Vranken (Texas State University), Aidan Flores (TAMU-Kingsville), and Darrion Crowley (TAMU-Kingsville). High school students (and previous WCC graduates) that served as returning campers and mentors included: Megan Griege, Katie Knaggs, Michael Nasso and Chase Pargmann. These volunteers made wildlife management and conservation come alive for this year's campers. Next time you see these individuals be sure to thank them for their dedication and congratulate them on the success of the Camp!

We are looking forward to having this year's Top Camper, Corban Hemphill, share his Camp experience with you at the TCTWS meeting in Corpus Christi. Corban is a freshman at Oklahoma State University studying Natural Resource Ecology and Management along with Wildlife Ecology and Rangeland Ecology, so this is an incredible opportunity for him at this stage in his undergraduate career. We encourage TCTWS members to reach out to those that might be interested in becoming involved with the 2015 Wildlife Conservation Camp. We hope you will visit us at our booth at the TCTWS meeting in February. You can contact the 2015 Camp Director, Stephen Ross, at wildlifecampdirector@yahoo.com or visit our website at www.wildlifecamp.tx.org to learn more about the 2015 Camp and how you can volunteer.

CHAPTER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



2014 Wildlife Conservation Camp Graduates:

Justin Adami (Sinton, TX)

Cody Bergman (Pheonix, AZ)

Tanner Briley (Pollock, TX)

Christopher Cogburn (Nacogdoches, TX)

Christian Cole (Dallas, TX)

Trenton Dragon (Beeville, TX)

Dylan Doreck (Karnes City, TX)

Tiffany Garcia (Gregory, TX)

Erin Hahn (Austin, TX)

Michael Hankins (Manvel, TX)

Corban Hemphill (Hondo, TX)

Vance Hutchins (McAllen, TX)

Reese Jones (Fulshear, TX)

Micayla Pearson (La Vernia, TX)

Conner Prince (Sugar Land, TX)

Seth Reich (San Antonio, TX)

Henry Reynolds (San Antonio, TX)

Stephanie Rodriguez (Houston, TX)

Karina Saucedo (Cotulla, TX)

Joshua Stone (Dublin, TX)

William Timmerman (Carrollton, TX)

Barbara Uribe (Cherokee, TX)

Austin Walker (The Woodlands, TX)

Kaitlyn Walker (The Woodlands, TX)

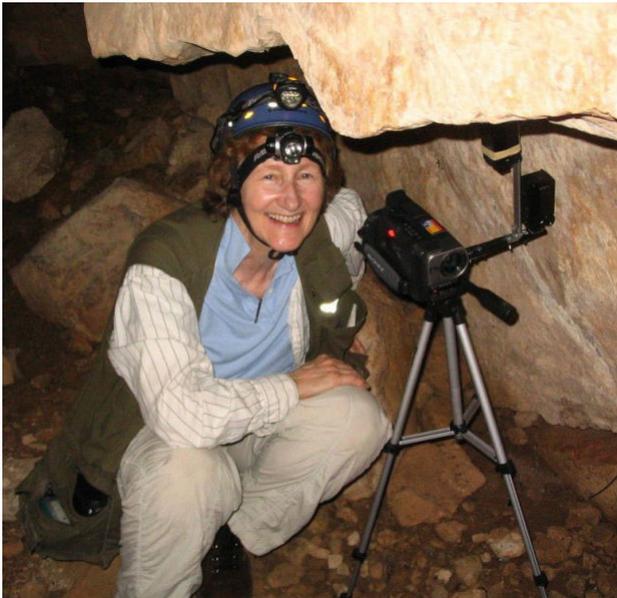
Kenneth Wiese (Cranfills Gap, TX)

CHAPTER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SOUTHWEST SECTION *Submitted by Carol Chambers, TWS Council Representative*

It has been a hard summer – we are always reminded of how ephemeral our time can be with sad news of a fellow wildlifer passing.

In memoriam. Dr. Ronnie Sidner (September 29, 1950 - August 2, 2014) passed away this summer after a serious car accident in southern Arizona. Ronnie was one of the featured presenters at the Southwest Wings Birding and Nature Festival in Sierra Vista and was teaching people about bats. During her career, she conducted inventories, research, and conservation projects on bats for over 30 years. Ronnie will be deeply missed, for her many contributions to bat ecology and mammals of Arizona, and for her laughter and friendship.



Dr. Ronnie Sidner in the field

Changes at the national office. Lisa Moore, Publications Director (many of you will know her from all her work on The Wildlife Professional) accepted a new position with National Wildlife Federation as Editor-in-Chief of National Wildlife. A search is underway for a new Publications Director. In August, Katie Edwards moved to a new position with the Fairfax County Police Department in Virginia. Mariah Simmons, hired in August, is now handling many of the duties previously covered by Katie Edwards. Zahir Shad is now full time as Digital Content Manager. He will improve the website, enhance TWS e-newsletters, and provide more support for subunits.

Conference developments. Only weeks until the 2014 21st TWS Annual Conference in Pittsburgh (October 25-30) starts. Registration is exceeding expectations and many students have already registered so we're helping the next generation of wildlife professionals connect with the current generation at our conferences. The plenary "Making Science Relevant in Today's Society" on Sunday will explore causes for the erosion of science as a basis for decision making, and present ideas on approaching difficult issues to give science the best footing for decision making. Find more information and the schedule of events at (<http://wildlifesociety.org/about-2/>).

Native American Working Group. TWS Executive Director Ken Williams and staff worked with Michel Kohl and Serra Hoagland (AZ) of the Native People's Wildlife Management Working Group and found funds for Native American student participation in the upcoming Conference. The funding provided by federal sponsors means that you will see a number of Native American students attending the conference in Pittsburgh. TWS maintains strong interest in funding for this important program.

CHAPTER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Government Affairs. TWS Government Affairs staff updated fact sheets on a variety of topics including Gray Wolf Populations in the U.S., Habitat Fragmentation, Lead and Wildlife, Feral Cats: Impacts of an Invasive Species, Feral Horse & Burros, and Rattlesnake Roundups. All updated Fact Sheets are available at <http://www.wildlife.org/policy/fact-sheets>.

Leadership Institute. Ten of the 40 applicants for LI this year were accepted and although none are currently from the Southwest Section, they represent a great group of motivated wildlifers. At least one is connected with the southwest – Sonja Smith got her degree at the University of Arizona. This year's LI participants are from British Columbia, Manitoba, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin and represent universities, state wildlife management agencies, consulting firms, and tribes. See those selected at <http://www.wildlife.org/2014-TWS-Leadership-Institute>.

Social Media. A recent article on the US Fish and Wildlife Service's new policy that rewards landowners for protecting troubled species reached more than 5000 people on Facebook. The TWS Facebook page currently has almost 19,000 likes and is a great way to get news. You can also join 232 others by liking us at The Wildlife Society Southwest Section Chapters Hub (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Wildlife-Society-Southwest-Section-Chapters-Hub/205755042835210>). The TWS Women of Wildlife (WOW) Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/TWS-Women-of-Wildlife/234411723382592>) is now at 863 likes, up from 804 in December.



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CHAPTER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wildlife Certification Scholarship Program

The Southwest Society's Certification Program Section of The Wildlife Society (SWTWS) is now offering financial assistance to help offset the cost of applying for Associate Wildlife Biologist or Certified Wildlife Biologist certification through the Wildlife Certification Scholarship Program (WCSP). Eligible candidates must meet the following guidelines set forth by the SWTWS:

- Applicant must be a current member of SWS (retroactive membership allowed).
- Applicant must be a current member of their state chapter of TWS (e.g., Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Costa Rica, Mexico; retroactive membership allowed).
- Applications must adhere strictly to the guidelines set by TWS. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.
- Certification applications will be prescreened by the SWS Certification Screening Committee (mail to address at link below).
- Once applications have cleared the SWS Certification Screening Committee, they will be forwarded to TWS for review by the Certification Review Board (CRB). SWS will pay for application fees. Note: Forwarding applications to the CRB does not imply certification, only that they have met the minimum standards as set by SWTWS.
- Preference will be given to student applicants.
- Preference will also be given to first-time applicants.
- Applications and subsequent funding will be reviewed on a first-come, first serve basis starting 1 January and ending 31 December.

Standards set forth for obtaining certification through the Wildlife Society distinguishes members, achievements, and abilities as natural resource professionals. The Wildlife Society highly encourages its members to apply for certification to help strengthen and enhance their careers.

Visit http://wildlife.org/sw/scholarships_grants for more information about the Southwest Section of The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Certification Scholarship Program. To apply for certification, please visit <http://www.wildlife.org/certification/program>. Contact **Mandy Krause, Certification Chair**, mandy@parkercreekranch.com for additional questions or information.

CHAPTER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Three Leading Texas Institutes to Host Water, Wildlife and Wide Open Spaces: A Texas Summit on Climate and the Environment

SAN MARCOS (September 3, 2014) - Three leading research institutes in Texas, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, and The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment will host Water, Wildlife and Wide Open Spaces: A Texas Summit on Climate and the Environment in San Marcos, Texas on November 20 and 21, 2014.

The conference will focus on three specific areas dealing with the state of the environment in Texas: Headwaters and Rivers, Terrestrial and the Texas Gulf Coast. Presenters will include leading scientists and researchers from each Institute, as well as two keynote speakers: Laura Huffman and Evelyn Browning-Garriss.

Laura Huffman is the state director of The Nature Conservancy in Texas. She heads a statewide team of scientists, conservation experts and support staff whose work supports the Conservancy's 37 statewide preserves and touches every corner of Texas. She has authored a number of articles and op-ed pieces on a variety of conservation topics, including drought, water scarcity and Gulf of Mexico protection, and emerged as a national thought leader in the wake of the disastrous Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010. She advocated tirelessly for passage of the RESTORE Act and succeeded in connecting a diverse coalition of stakeholders around a central idea: that a healthy Gulf of Mexico is vital to America's success and Texas can be an incubator for best practices in marine science.

Evelyn Browning-Garriss is a historical climatologist who advises everyone from Texas cattle raisers to Midwestern utilities and Canadian banks about what the coming season will bring. She has spent over 30 years as a business consultant, editor and author explaining the impact of changing climate on economic and social trends. Editor of the Browning Newsletter, Evelyn has authored or co-authored five books on the changing climate's impact on water supplies, agriculture, business and terrorism.

For more information concerning this conference, please visit www.waterwildlifeconference.org or contact **Anne Brady Thurwalker at (361) 593-4120 or by email at anne.thurwalker@tamuk.edu**.



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TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY



CHAPTER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION MEMBERS, STUDENTS AND NON-MEMBERS!

Introducing the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Member/Non-member Survey and Raffle!

Often after being involved with in organization for any length of time our own experiences and prejudices shape how the organization is viewed. In an attempt to increase membership and progression of the TCTWS, it is important to evaluate the current, past, and present membership pools to gain invaluable data. The survey questions developed are centered on main topics such as information distribution, social interaction, membership assessment of the TCTWS, and professional designations.

Chapter members and non-members can access the survey, **before January 31, 2015** and quickly complete it with little effort at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TCTWS_Membership_Survey

Also, there will be a raffle (YETI ice chest) for those who take time to fill out this survey, so please include your name on the questionnaire so that you will be able to participate in this drawing. The drawing will take place at the TCTWS annual meeting in February. Thank you in advance!



ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Make plans to attend our Annual Meeting, in Corpus Christi! The host venues are the Omni Hotel and the American Bank Center. See you in February!



ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

TCTWS Meeting 2015? We've got an App for that!



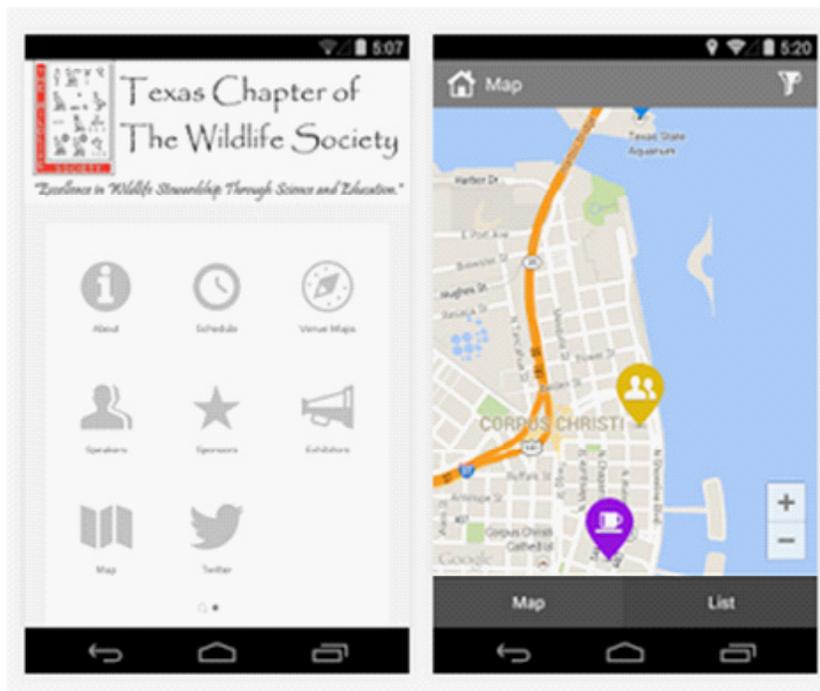
We will have a mobile app as an alternative to our traditional printed long program this year. Prefer no paper? Indicate your preference on this year's annual meeting registration form.

The mobile app (TCTWS Annual Meeting) is available for free on Android and Apple devices. You

can install the app at any time (though full functionality won't be available until the meeting details are confirmed). Once installed, meeting details will be updated real time to your device when you have an internet connection and once downloaded, content is available offline.

Five reasons to choose the mobile app over the traditional paper long program:

1. Digital – Natural resource friendly choice, no wasted paper
2. Real time updates of schedule changes – updates when connected to internet, updates available offline
3. Customizable schedule with optional alarms – choose the presentations you want to hear & don't miss them
4. Integrated maps showing restaurants and attractions near our venue
5. It's on your phone – nothing extra to keep up with, schedule at your fingertips



ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Abstracts for the 51st Annual Meeting of Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Presented Paper and Poster Presentations

Abstracts are now being accepted for the technical paper and poster presentation sessions at the 2015 Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society's annual meeting to be held 19–21 February 2015 at the Omni Corpus Christi Hotel. Papers/posters presenting the results of wildlife investigations and analyses as well as topic reviews of interest to wildlife students and professionals in Texas are encouraged. The theme for this year's meeting is "The Next 50 Years of Wildlife Management—Challenges and Opportunities". The plenary session will feature keynote speakers addressing this theme of predicting the future of our wildlife resource and the increasing demands being place upon it. In addition to the Plenary Session, the meeting will offer numerous technical paper sessions and a poster presentation session for students (undergraduate or graduate) and wildlife professionals, and the Clarence Cottam Award presentations and competition for graduate students. Best poster presentation awards will be presented for undergraduate and graduate students as in previous years.

Abstracts should be submitted to both the Program Chair, Michael Tewes (Michael.Tewes@tamuk.edu) and Program Co-Chair, Nova Silvy (n-silvy@tamu.edu) and should follow Journal of Wildlife Management Style (see sample abstract below). Deadline for receipt of abstracts is 30 November 2014. Please indicate your preference for presentation format (i.e., paper, poster, or no preference) and session (i.e., General Sessions, Clarence Cottam Award, or whether you would like to be included in the judging for the best poster presentation awards). For those entering no preference, a decision will be made by the Program Committee and presenter notified via email. Any questions pertaining to abstract submission should be directed to the Program Co-Chair: Nova Silvy (n-silvy@tamu.edu).

Contributed papers will be scheduled at 15-minute intervals to include time (2–3 minutes) for questions and comments. All presenters will be notified of the day, time, and location of their presentations, and provided with instructions on how to prepare for the sessions. Clarence Cottam Award presentations will be judged on topic originality, scientific procedures, quality of display, accuracy of conclusions, and response to question from judges.

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sample Abstract (please note not to use scientific names in title; use only in body of abstract)

LANDSCAPE EFFECTS ON GENE FLOW AND GENETIC STRUCTURE OF NORTHERN BOBWHITE IN TEXAS AND THE GREAT PLAINS

Katherine S. Miller, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University–Kingsville, Kingsville, TX, 78363, USA

Leonard A. Brennan, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University–Kingsville, Kingsville, TX, 78363, USA

Randy DeYoung, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University–Kingsville, Kingsville, TX, 78363, USA

Fidel Hernández, Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute, Texas A&M University–Kingsville, Kingsville, TX, 78363, USA

X. Ben Wu, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, 77843-2138, USA

Abstract: Northern bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) populations have declined due to habitat loss and fragmentation. Northern bobwhite have been considered poor dispersers, so biologists expect a moderate population structure and low genetic diversity in fragmented areas. Our goal was to determine how landscape affects the genetic structure of northern bobwhite in Texas and the Great Plains. We collected tissues from 641 northern bobwhites in 23 populations, and amplified 13 microsatellite loci. We determined population structure (F_{ST}) and genetic distance between populations ($Dest$). We used a land cover map (National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative) to develop a landscape resistance matrix. We compared $Dest$ to geographic distance and resistance with Mantel and partial Mantel tests. Populations showed low levels of structure ($F_{ST} = 0.025$). We found moderate correlations to geographic distance ($r = 0.542$, $P < 0.001$) and landscape resistance ($r = 0.416$, $P = 0.001$). There was a significant correlation between $Dest$ and geographic distance when we accounted for resistance ($r = 0.388$, $P < 0.001$), but no significant correlation between $Dest$ and resistance when we accounted for geographic distance. A spatial principal component analysis for South Texas samples revealed a global structure. Low genetic structure and moderate genetic diversity may suggest that more northern bobwhite individuals are dispersing further than previously thought. Other possible explanations lie in the northern bobwhite's fall covey shuffle, their boom-and-bust population cycle, and stochastic events. Habitat is an important factor for northern bobwhite; determining how habitat affects gene flow will help biologists to manage northern bobwhite.

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Workshop Opportunity

In association with the 2015 Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society Meeting in Corpus Christi, we are pleased to announce a Techniques and Technologies Workshop will be offered for all wildlife professionals, students and faculty. The workshop will allow attendees the opportunity to view presentations and interact with vendors demonstrating the latest technological advances in wildlife research and management. Our goal is to foster creative ideas and developments we utilize in natural resource management and research and provide the platform for producers and users alike to discuss. The workshop will be held **February 18-19 immediately preceding the Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society Meeting** <http://tctws.org/annual-meeting/>. The Omni will serve as the host hotel for both the meeting and workshop and a block of rooms has been reserved. If you have questions or would like to attend, present information or purchase vendor space, please call 830-238-4483.

Special invitation to wildlife students and professionals in Mexico and Latin America

Call for Abstracts for the 2015 Annual Meeting of TCTWS

November 30, 2014 – Deadline to submit abstracts.

February 20-21, 2015, in Corpus Christi – Annual meeting

Simultaneous interpretation (English<>Spanish) during the plenary session and one of the concurrent sessions. Information in Spanish at: <http://tctws.org/annual-meeting/>

For more information:

English – michael.tewes@tamuk.edu

Spanish – maria.araujo@tpwd.texas.gov

Invitación especial para estudiantes y profesionales en materia de Vida Silvestre en México y Latinoamérica.

Convocatoria de Resúmenes para la Reunión Anual 2015 del Capítulo de Texas del The Wildlife Society.

30 Noviembre 2014 – Fecha límite para enviar resúmenes.

20-21 Febrero 2015 en Corpus Christi, Texas – Reunión anual.

Interpretación simultánea (inglés<>español) durante la sesión plenaria y una de las sesiones simultáneas. Información en español en: <http://tctws.org/annual-meeting/>

Para más información:

En inglés – michael.tewes@tamuk.edu

En español – maria.araujo@tpwd.texas.gov

Please forward the newsletter to contacts in Mexico with a note to see the page that contains the invite in Spanish!

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Photo, Art, and Video Contest Call for Submissions

The Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society invites its members to submit entries for the Photo, Art, and Video Contest to take place in its 51st Annual Conference in Corpus Christi, TX on February 19-21, 2015.

Photo Contest:

- All contestants must be members of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society.
- Photography categories will be 1) wildlife – not including captive animals, 2) plants and scenery, 3) humor, 4) work related, 5) wildlife conservation – captive animal photography of species of conservation concern, and 6) remote camera - not including captive animals.
- Photographs should be a **standard size (3” x 5” up to 11” x 14”)**, **unmatted, and unframed**; cardboard backing is permitted. Please note: Slides will not be accepted.
- Contestants are requested to **submit an electronic copy of photographs**, if possible, to be used at the Awards Banquet. Electronic copies may be submitted to Paula Pohler at [paula.pohler@dahughes.net](mailto:Paula.pohler@dahughes.net).
- Art may include original drawings, paintings, carvings, sculpture, poetry, etc. All entries compete in one category.
- Contestants will be limited to **1 entry in each category**. To help defray the cost of awards, there will be an entry fee of \$1.00 per item.
- Winners will be announced during the Friday Evening Awards Banquet. Provided there are at least 5 entries: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will be awarded in each category. There will also be Best of Show and Judges Choice awards. If there are < 5 entries in a category, only 1st place will be awarded.

Video Contest:

Video submissions must be submitted to the committee by December 1, 2014 to be judged by the Photo, Art, and Video Contest Committee. Winning submissions will be announced at the Awards Banquet. Provided there are at least 5 entries, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will be awarded. If there are < 5 entries, only 1st place will be awarded.

Videos entries may be mailed to:

Paula Pohler
P. O. Box 331
D’Hanis, TX 78850

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clarence Cottam Submissions Call for Abstracts & Requirements

The Clarence Cottam award is given to recognize outstanding student research. Papers and Presentations at the Annual Meeting will be judged for significance and originality, creativity of research design and implementation, quality of methodology, validity of conclusions, and neatness and conformity to JWM style and format.

A \$500 scholarship is given to the winner by the Welder Wildlife Foundation. Second and third prizes will be awarded if more than 6 papers are accepted, and are sponsored by the Texas Chapter. A maximum of 8 papers will be included in the competition, excess submissions will be included in the regular sessions.

Deadline for receipt of abstracts is **midnight, 30 November 2014**. The abbreviated abstract should follow instructions outlined in the general call for abstract submission from the program committee. Cottam entries must also submit an extended abstract or any questions regarding submission to **Poncho Ortega Jr. at aortega@eastfoundation.net**. Extended abstract should follow the guidelines provided in the **Cottam Award Guidelines website: http://www.dynabytes.com/xs.php?page=cottam_guidelines&siteid=268** .

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Scholarship Opportunities- Call for Applications

Applications are now being accepted for the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society scholarship program. Three undergraduate and at least 2 graduate-level scholarships worth \$500-\$2,000 each will be awarded at the 2015 annual meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas!

Scholarship guidelines and applications can be found at www.tctws.org under the “Students” tab. Scholarship applications may be signed by your TWS student chapter advisor, faculty advisor, or graduate advisor. Chapter advisors are listed in the student section of the TCTWS website. Applications must be completed fully; incomplete applications (including those without email addresses) will NOT be considered. Letters of recommendation are required for graduate applications and strongly encouraged for undergraduate applications. Applications may be submitted directly by students (in the past, guidelines called for applications to be submitted by the chapter advisor).

Applications must be received by the scholarship committee chair no later than **1 December 2014** to be considered; postmarks are not accepted. E-mail is the preferred method of receiving applications and pdf is preferred format for applications, and ideally in one document; **pdfs can be e-mailed to kim.echols@tamuk.edu, or paper copies mailed to 1668 Timber Valley Drive, Eagle Pass, TX 78852.** Please make sure that your Social Security Number and/or birth date are not included in the application; if this information is on your transcript please use a marker to blot them out prior to scanning or mailing. Applications received with social security numbers and/or birth dates will be immediately shredded and not sent out for review. All undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to take advantage of these scholarship opportunities and submit applications well in advance of the 1 December deadline. The scholarship essay questions were updated as of this newsletter. Good luck!

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Chapter of the Year

It is time for student chapters to prepare their applications for the student chapter of the year award. The student chapter of the year award application has been revised earlier this year in hopes to better reflect each chapter's activities and involvement in the natural resources field over the course of the year. A copy of the revised student chapter of the year award application was sent to all student chapter advisors in March. If you would like to receive a copy, please feel free to contact Whitney Gann (whitney142@hotmail.com), Student Activities Chair or Tara Raabe (Tara.Raabe@hotmail.com). Another announcement will be sent out in mid-October to all student chapters, which will include the new application and any other pertinent information regarding the revisions. As a reminder, all student chapter activities that were conducted during the calendar year (January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014) can be included in the application, and applications can be submitted to **Tara Raabe (Tara.Raabe@hotmail.com)**. We look forward to seeing all of the applications!

Seeking Outstanding Student Nominations

The purpose of the Outstanding Wildlife Student Recognition is for each university with a wildlife program to select its most outstanding student for the past year. The student could be an undergraduate or a graduate student who has shown himself/herself to be a leader. Individual schools are free to select the criteria they deem important in the selection of their outstanding student; however, the selected student **MUST** be a member of their collegiate student chapter **AND** the Texas Chapter TWS. The intent of this recognition is not necessarily recognize the student with the highest GPA, but to recognize the student who exhibits the highest level of professionalism and involvement within their respective collegiate student wildlife chapter.

Each university is allowed one submission per year. Student chapters should submit the name of their outstanding student and a brief history of his/her accomplishments. One by one, the Outstanding Student from each university will be introduced during the Awards Banquet, then will stand to be recognized.

Please remember, submissions are due to **Whitney Gann (whitney142@hotmail.com)** by **January 1, 2015**. Any submissions following this date will not be accepted.



2014 Outstanding Student recipients

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Quiz Bowl Updates

Howdy TCTWS Student Chapters,

The student activities committee is pleased to announce several updates the quiz-bowl competition that will provide a more enjoyable competition and enhance the participant's experience.

The contest has been slightly restructured into three distinct rounds with progressive levels of difficulty. The first set of matches will serve as qualifying rounds focusing on basic wildlife knowledge and field skills. Semi-final matches will consist of moderately difficult questions intended to test the team's ability to think critically and synthesize wildlife related knowledge and skills. The final round will be a stiff competition testing the breadth and depth of the final two teams' knowledge and skills.

In order to accommodate these changes we are requiring teams to register at least two weeks prior to the competition. Teams, please notify the quiz bowl subcommittee that you will be participating at TCTWS.QuizBowl@gmail.com **no later than February 5, 2015.**

Other than these changes, rules and regulations will follow those of last year's competition. We hope to have a team from each chapter and strongly encourage students to participate. We look forward to seeing you at this year's quiz bowl!

Good luck!



2014 Quiz Bowl champions, with 2013-2014 TCTWS President Matt Wagner

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Nominations - Excellence in Wildlife Conservation Awards

The Excellence in Wildlife Conservation Committee still needs nominations for outstanding achievements in and/or contributions to wildlife conservation. Awards will be presented at the 2015 TCTWS Annual meeting in Corpus Christi. Nominations will be accepted until **November 1, 2014** in the following categories.

Educator of the Year Award

The Educator of the Year Award recognizes individual wildlife professionals for excellence in developing and disseminating natural resource information to students, landowners and others. Examples include, but are not limited to: university professors, extension personnel and agency personnel. Recipients of this award should be current or past member of the Texas Chapter.

Please submit a 5-point bullet statement explaining why the nominee is deserving, along with a curriculum vitae of the nominee (if possible).

Land Stewardship Award

The Land Stewardship Award recognizes landowners who have been instrumental in the development, application, and promotion of sound wildlife management principles on their land. Membership in the Texas Chapter is NOT mandatory to receive this award, but is encouraged.

Please submit a ½ to 1 page letter of nomination statement of why the nominee is deserving.

Outstanding Achievement Awards

The Outstanding Achievement Award recognizes individuals or teams who have made outstanding contributions to the interest of the Texas Chapter – TWS. These contributions may include noteworthy research, development of outstanding outreach programs, or application of conservation principals. Recipients of this award should be current or past members of the Texas Chapter. If the award is given to a team, the key individuals(s) should be members of the Texas Chapter.

Nomination for the award should include submission of a 5-point bullet statement explaining why the nominee is deserving of the award, along with a curriculum vitae of the nominee (if possible.)

Questions and nominations for any of the categories should be sent to: **David R. Synatzske (Committee Chair), 1017 CR 3651, Sandia, Texas 78383, drsynatzske@gmail.com, cell: 830-879-5571.**

Deadline for nominations is November 1.

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Publication Awards - Call for Nominations

This is the **final** call for nominations of publications that include a Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society member as one of the first three authors, and that were published, or will be published, within the last 3 years (2012-2014). At least 3 publications within a category are required in order to offer the award. The deadline for submission is **15 November 2014**.

Categories include:

Books

Electronic Media (i.e. websites, CDs, DVDs, listservs, or similar)

Peer-reviewed Scientific Articles (journal or peer-reviewed proceedings)

Popular Articles (published in magazines, newspapers, newsletters, or similar)

Technical Publications (reports, books, factsheets, or similar)

To nominate a publication, please submit: 1) a cover letter stating why the publication is being nominated, and 2) six (6) hard copies or a digital pdf to the Publication Awards Committee Chair: **Stephen Webb, The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, 2510 Sam Noble Pkwy., Ardmore, OK 73401; e-mail: slwebb@noble.org; office: 580-224-6390.**



ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Honorary Life Membership Committee Seeking Nominations

The Texas Chapter is blessed with numerous members who have made outstanding contributions to wildlife conservation on a state, national and/or international scale. These individuals deserve the recognition of their peers for their outstanding long-term service to the wildlife resource. The Honorary Life Membership Committee is seeking nominees for this honor.

To be eligible a nominee should have been (1) active for 20 or more years in the wildlife profession as an employee of a natural resource agency, academia, or a private organization as a wildlife biologist or consultant; or an effective non-professional activist. (2) He/she should have made significant contributions to the Chapter and/or the Profession and/or wildlife conservation of Texas.

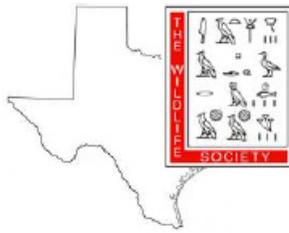
To act on a nomination the Committee needs:

1. A reasonable complete vitae for the nominee which should contain his/her full name (present position, organizational affiliation, address, phone number), and a reasonably complete history of professional accomplishments.
2. One or more letters of nomination from close friends or associates.

Nominations will be kept confidential, especially from the nominee, but you can enlist the assistance of your co-workers. Many people have a vitae that they use for various purposes. Surreptitiously obtain

one. If there isn't one available, patch something together, with the help of friends, associates and spouses. Please send pdfs of material to: **Butch Weckerly, fw11@txstate.edu**

Deadline: 7 December, but act now!!!



Auction Gift Donation Form Texas Chapter, The Wildlife Society

Thank you for your support of the TCTWS annual auction to raise funds and support the Chapter's professional activities for wildlife conservation in Texas. For more information on the Texas Chapter's activities, please go to <http://www.tctws.org>. Please return this form by January 15, 2015 to have your company name included in the listing of donors printed in the conference program. Donated items may be shipped to Daniel Price, Committee Chair – TCTWS Finance Committee, 228 Fairview St, Rusk, Texas 75785, no later than January 15, 2015. Feel free to call Daniel Price at (903) 683-2473 if you have any questions.

Name:
Address:
City:

State:
Zip Code:
Phone:

Individual or Company to be listed as the donor in program:
Auction Item:
Description of Item:
Restrictions:
Expires:
Contact Number and Name:
Retail Value \$

Please check one of the following:

- Auction item is with this form.
- Auction item will be shipped to Texas Chapter on _____
- Auction item is gift certificate and Texas Chapter should create the gift certificate

CASH DONATION: (To support or underwrite an auction item in your name or company's name.)

Check Enclosed in the amount of: (Make check payable to Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society)

- \$100
- \$500
- \$1000
- \$2500
- Other _____

If there is someone you know who would like to hear about or donate to our program, please pass this letter and auction sheet along, or include their information below.

Name:
Address:
Phone: