



Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

Newsletter

"The mission of the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society is to foster excellence in wildlife stewardship through science and education among wildlife professionals in Canada"

April 30 2010

Vol. 3, No. 2

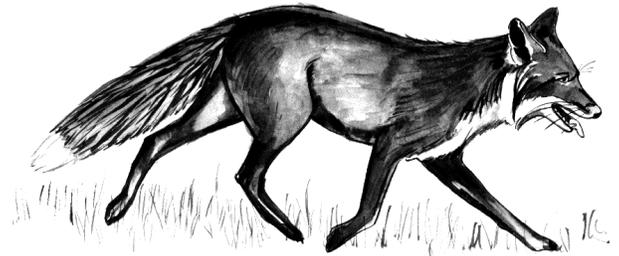
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Merlin Shoemith
Winnipeg, Manitoba*

Conservation Affairs in Canada

I am pleased to report that the Canadian Section has become very active in sorting out its role in conservation affairs in Canada. In 2009/10, we have seen our Conservation Affairs Committee (CAC) develop an outline for a white paper on critical habitat for endangered species. Most recently, CAC prepared a professional notification to public and private agencies responsible for bat research and management to be aware of the perils of White Nose Syndrome in Bats and its spread among colonies. They are also looking into background information on wolverine in Canada as part of an overall review of its status in North America. The new Assistant Director of Policy in TWS, Jenna Jadin, has become very active in advising and assisting with these issues and continues to be a strong and supportive resource for CAC. Laura Bies, TWS Policy Director, has joined several Canadian Executive conference calls and has developed a better understanding of our Section activities and programs. On another front, Canadian Section Executive members have met with policy staff of Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) to explore how we may join forces on certain conservation issues to provide a more effective voice for wildlife from professional wildlifers. During our forthcoming annual meeting in Edmonton, we will have more of those discussions with DUC and representatives from the Society of Conservation Biology, Canadian Section, to further broaden our common support and interest in these issues. Thank you to Darren Sleep (dsleep@ncasi.org) and Chris Addison (christopher.addison@gov.bc.ca) for leading this new beginning in conservation affairs. They can always use more help in moving this agenda forward so please contact them direct if you have a passion for policy, white papers and position statements about areas of conservation affairs.

Merlin Shoemith, President



"IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!"

Time to renew your Canadian Section Membership. Membership renewal can be done online via: <http://joomla.wildlife.org/> or by using the membership renewal form located at END of this newsletter!"



CANADIAN SECTION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Rick Baydack, University of Manitoba



'Baydack's Banter' (baydack@cc.umanitoba.ca)

Spring 2010 in Manitoba is definitely upon us in all of its glory. And compared to the 'peculiar' spring that we experienced in 2009, it is a welcome occurrence. As many of you know, at this time of year my focus is on what I consider to be the pre-eminent wild game species – the North American wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*). For those who have hunted this species, I am sure you know what an addiction it becomes. And for those who have not, you really need to give it a try. So as I write this column, my mind is wandering to the turkey habitat that I have grown to know and love in Manitoba, Nebraska, South Dakota, Florida, Missouri, Oklahoma, and of course, Chihuahua, Mexico. And a trip to Mexico's Yucatan in June should enable me to learn about the other turkey species in the world – the Ocellated turkey (*Meleagris ocellata*). But I digress.....

The Wildlife Society continues to 'do good things for the wildlife resource' throughout its sphere of influence. And The Canadian Section continues to be an important and increasingly relevant player in these activities. At the 75th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Milwaukee in March, TWS was a focal point in many areas.

In particular, TWS efforts on developing Climate Change Adaptation Strategies, identifying the educational needs for future wildlife professionals, and refining and revising our Position Statements were well received and represented forward-thinking viewpoints.

You might have noted that our popular publication, *The Wildlife Professional*, continues to receive rave reviews and awards from various sources. Canadian content is always required so do not hesitate to put forward a suggestion an/or a submission to the TWS Director of Communications, Lisa Moore (lmoore@wildlife.org). In the area of TWS Communications, many historical decisions were made by Council at the North American meeting in Milwaukee that will affect the Society for many years to come. Some of these include: the resurrection of the *Wildlife Society Bulletin*, the development of a new web site that will link professional mentors and student mentees, a new award for excellence in wildlife instruction, development of new guidelines for

working group publications, and approval of a planned giving program, just to name a few.

The Wildlife Society has also hired an Assistant Director of Government Affairs and Partnerships, Jenna Jadin, who has taken on the role of assisting the Canadian Section with development of new and exciting Policy and Government Affairs initiatives. Jenna will be working closely with the Executive of the Canadian Section as well as with the Conservation Affairs Committee to bring forward ideas and strategies for affecting wildlife policy decision-making in our country.

I am sure by now you know that Ontario has formed a new Chapter of TWS, and that BC is moving in the same direction. Along with Manitoba and Alberta, we will soon be at 4 provincial chapters in our country as well as 5 University/College Student Chapters. And the Manitoba Chapter has already been busily preparing to put forward a convincing bid to host the Fall 2015 Annual Conference in Winnipeg. So it's all good for TWS in Canada – right?

Hopefully your answer is a resounding YES, but if not, do not hesitate to let us know! As I have said in this column before, an email to Michael Hutchins, Executive Director/CEO of TWS (Michael@wildlife.org), Merlin Shoemith, President of the Canadian Section of TWS (109mejo@mts.net), or myself (Baydack@cc.umanitoba.ca) to voice your concerns, suggestions, or even to give us a 'pat on the back' would be most welcome. We want your input..... We need your input..... So please give it to us..... The result will no doubt be a stronger, more influential, and more effective Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society.....

And hopefully you will join us at the Canadian Section of TWS Annual Meeting in Edmonton in early July 2010. It will be worth it.....

SECTION NEWS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – CANADIAN SECTION, TWS

On behalf of the Nomination Committee I would like to ask all Canadian Section members to consider putting their name forward (or nominating a colleague) for the positions of President-Elect and Vice President – see the descriptions of duties for each, from the By-laws, below.

*I have also included the entire Nominations section so that the process is clear to all. **Deadline for***

nominations is 21 May 2010 so that nomination statements and ballots may be disseminated to the membership via the Summer Newsletter at least 30 days prior to the date of the Annual Business Meeting, as called for in the By-laws.

Please forward your nomination or expression of interest to me at the address at the end of this message. Thanks and see you at the Annual General Meeting in Edmonton in early July!

CLAUSE B. PRESIDENT-ELECT. *The President-Elect shall assist the President in all phases of Section administration and shall perform any duties assigned by the President. Gaining familiarity with the officers, committees, and overall administration of the Section shall be the major function of this office. The President-Elect is elected by the Section membership, serves for approximately a one-year term, and succeeds to the office of President upon the completion of his/her term.*

CLAUSE C. VICE PRESIDENT. *The Vice President shall perform any duties assigned by the President and shall assume duties of the President in the latter's absence or inability to serve. Should the Vice President be unable to serve as the President for any reason, the Executive Board shall appoint a President pro tempore. The Vice President is elected by the Section membership and serves for approximately a one-year term. The Vice President may serve no more than two consecutive terms.*

ARTICLE V. ELECTIONS AND BALLOTING

Section 1. Nominations

CLAUSE A. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE. *A three-member Nominations and Elections Committee chaired by the Past President shall prepare a slate of two candidates for each elective position: Vice President and President Elect. At the initiation of the Section, the ad hoc Section organizing committee shall prepare a slate of two candidates for all officer positions excluding Secretary-Treasurer.*

CLAUSE B. ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES. *Only Voting Members that reside or work within the jurisdiction of the Section as defined in Article I, Section 2 may be nominated and hold office. No individual may be nominated for more than one officer position.*

CLAUSE C. GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION. *The Nominations and Elections Committee is encouraged, to the extent practical, to find candidates for officer positions so that the full breadth of the Section's geographic jurisdiction may be represented on the Executive Board.*

CLAUSE D. NOMINATION STATEMENTS AND DISSEMINATION. *Candidates shall submit nomination statements to the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. The Committee Chair will compile these statements and forward them to the Newsletter Editor in time for the Summer Newsletter. Nomination statements and ballots will be disseminated to the membership via the Summer Newsletter at least 30 days prior to the date of the Annual Business Meeting.*

CLAUSE E. ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS. *Additional nominees may be added to the election slate upon signed petition of 5 percent of the Section membership delivered to the Secretary-Treasurer within 20 days of mailing of the Summer Newsletter. Upon verification of the petition by the Secretary-Treasurer, the Nominations and Elections Committee shall place the additional candidates on the ballot.*

CLAUSE F. APPROVAL BY CANDIDATES. *Approval shall be obtained from all candidates prior to placing their name on the ballot.*

Section 2. Balloting. *Ballots, whether for election of officers or approval of bylaws amendments or other official Section business, shall be counted by the Nominations and Elections Committee. Only those ballots received by the Committee prior to the close of the Old Business session at the Annual Business Meeting shall be counted. For ballot counting purposes, the President shall appoint a*

replacement for any member of the Nominations and Elections Committee who has been nominated for office. The new Section officers shall be announced and assume office at the close of the New Business session of the Annual Business Meeting.

CLAUSE A. VOTER ELIGIBILITY. *Only members in good standing, as defined in Article II, Section 2, Clause B, are eligible to vote in Section elections and on other Section ballot issues.*

CLAUSE B. ELECTION. *Candidates will be elected and other ballot issues decided on a majority basis. No member may hold more than one elective position simultaneously.*

CLAUSE C. TIES. *In the case of a tie vote for election of a Section officer, the outgoing officer shall select the winner by a coin toss.*

Section 3. Tenure of Office. *Newly elected or appointed officers shall be installed immediately prior to adjournment of the Annual Business Meeting and serve for approximately a one-year term.*

Section 4. Vacancies. *Vacancies in officer positions are filled by appointment by the Executive Board unless otherwise specified herein. [See for example, Article IV, Section 2, Clause C.] Vacancies in Chapter Representatives are filled by appointment by the Chapter Executive Board.*

Section 5. Removal of Officers. *Officers may be removed for just cause by majority vote at either a general or an executive board meeting. A notice of motion regarding the intent to remove must be included in the thirty days notice for such meetings.*

Jack Dubois, Past-President, Canadian Section
c/o Wildlife & Ecosystem Protection Branch
Manitoba Conservation
Box 24 - 200 Saulteaux Crescent,
Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3
T: (204)-945-7761 F: (204)-945-3077
E-mail: Jack.Dubois@gov.mb.ca

Nominations for Honorary Membership, TWS

Nomination of Don Eastman for Honorary Membership, TWS

Merlin Shoesmith, president of the Canadian Section of the Wildlife Society, nominated two individuals for Honorary Membership with TWS, Dr. Donald S. Eastman and Fred Bunnell. The letters follow below:

I am nominating Dr. Donald S. Eastman for honorary membership in The Wildlife Society for 2010. Dr. Eastman is semi-retired with his own consulting business at present. For much of his career, he has been employed in natural resource management in the British Columbia (BC) government and has spent significant time at the University of Victoria. Don's main focus or professional interest has been related to habitat requirements of vertebrates and the effects of forest practices on these requirements. This extends to the protection of critical habitat of endangered species and the development of strategies for conservation of biodiversity.

From a Canadian perspective, Don has been a primary force in developing strategies and promoting biodiversity both locally in BC as well as on the national and international level. He has been an advisor to the Canadian Biodiversity Office and a member of the Canadian delegation to United Nation sponsored Convention(s) on Biological Diversity. The scope of his interests and research range from critical habitat of grizzly bears to butterflies, marten, river otter, Vancouver Island Marmot, pelicans, Roosevelt elk and moose. Dr. Eastman is a leader in promoting the science of wildlife management in BC where he managed the Research and Biodiversity program of the B.C. government for 23 years prior to his retirement.

Don became a member of The Wildlife Society in 1967 and has been very active in the Northwest Section. He has devoted his entire career to understanding and protecting the biodiversity of B.C. and elsewhere. I highly recommend that he be designated as an Honorary Member of The Wildlife Society in 2010.

Merlin Shoesmith, President
Canadian Section, TWS

Nomination of Fred L. Bunnell for Honorary Membership in TWS

I am nominating Dr. Fred L. Bunnell, retired Professor from the University of British Columbia, as an Honorary Member of The Wildlife Society. Dr. Bunnell has demonstrated a total and undying commitment to advancing the science of wildlife management both locally and internationally during his entire career at the University of British Columbia. He has had a long and productive career authoring or co-authoring some 250 refereed papers plus a similar number of non-refereed

papers in conference proceedings, reports to government and industry and has edited 7 books. His broad interest in science and biodiversity from bryophytes to mammals is evident in his publications. Upon retirement, Dr. Bunnell continued to conduct innovative and challenging projects in applied biology and wildlife conservation in B.C.

Dr. Bunnell has the gift of listening to ideas from anyone and then turning those ideas into pragmatic and applied wildlife research that truly lead to solutions for the wildlife manager. He bridged disciplines and integrated inputs from professionals across a wide variety of affiliations. These are unique character traits of a researcher that have made Fred an outstanding wildlife professional and advocate for biology in British Columbia and elsewhere.

A member of TWS since 1968, Dr. Bunnell has quietly worked in the “shadows” of many other wildlife professionals so honored in the The Wildlife Society for pursuing excellence in wildlife research and management. Recognition of his outstanding contribution by TWS is long overdue and I am proud to nominate Dr. Fred Bunnell for Honorary Membership.

Merlin Shoesmith, President
Canadian Section, TWS



IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION

The following letter was sent out by the Canadian Section of the Wildlife Society in regards to the White-Nose Syndrome in Canadian bats:

To: Agencies, Organizations, and Enthusiasts associated with Caving, Bats, and Wildlife

Date: April 21, 2010

Preventing the Spread of White-Nose Syndrome in Canada

Recently, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministère des Ressources Naturelles et de la Faune reported White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) in multiple locations in Ontario and Quebec, respectively. The Wildlife Society believes this disease poses significant risk to all hibernating bat populations and has significant implications for ecosystems across North America. We are contacting you because we know that you, your members, or your agency care about

wildlife and outdoor activities. We herein ask that you help inform people about the prevention of WNS.

The syndrome was first detected by a caver near Albany, New York in 2006. It spread rapidly through hibernacula throughout the region and now extends as far south as Tennessee and as far north as Ontario and Quebec. Over a million bats of various species have died from WNS in the last 4 years. The mortality rate in affected hibernacula often is >90%. Some endangered bat species are now at a much greater risk of extinction. In northern New York state, the estimates of summer activity by little brown bats, the most common bat species across the continent, declined by approximately 75% in 2009. Other common bat species have become rare in some locations. ‘Down-stream’ effects of such major reductions in bat populations across all landscapes would be significant.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) maintains an ongoing platform for WNS information at http://www.fws.gov/northeast/white_nose.html#

The primary mode of transmission of WNS appears to be bat to bat; however, there is evidence that humans can transfer fungal spores on contaminated clothing and caving, hiking, or research equipment used in multiple hibernacula. For this reason, we urge you to alert your members, staff, and affiliates about WNS and how they can prevent its spread.

Recommendations include decontamination of boots and equipment, limiting access to known hibernacula, reporting dead or infected bats to local wildlife agencies, and providing extensive public education to raise the profile of the disease and its associated concerns and precautions. More complete information is available through the USFWS web site listed above.

Please use this letter, or craft your own message, to let your members/constituents/staff/associates know about WNS and about what they can do to help prevent its spread. Researchers at agencies and universities across Canada and the US are diligently working on finding solutions to the WNS crisis, but until they do, our best tool for conserving Canadian bat populations is public awareness.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any further questions, please contact Margo Pybus, Provincial Wildlife Disease Specialist, Fish and Wildlife

Division, Alberta at Margo.Pybus@gov.ab.ca. For more information or to provide feedback on WNS in bats, or on the Wildlife Society's Canadian Section and its activities, please go to:

<http://joomla.wildlife.org/Canada/>.

Policy for Development of Position Statements by TWS Sections, Chapters, and Working Groups

The Wildlife Society, as the scientific society for professional wildlife managers and conservationists, has a responsibility to address national and international issues that affect the current and future status of wildlife in North America and throughout the world. The diligent development of authoritative, science-based statements on wildlife issues is essential for interjecting wildlife concerns into decision-making processes. The Wildlife Society fills this role through development of position statements. A "position statement" is a carefully prepared and concise exposition on a wildlife issue that defines the issue, contains factual background data, describes the most probable biological, social, and economic results of alternative actions, and may also contain a recommended course(s) of action. Following a period of review and comment by the membership, The Wildlife Society Council reviews and votes on whether to approve these statements.

Sections, Chapters, and Working Groups may also desire to formulate position statements pertaining to subjects in their locale or subject area. They are authorized to do so when the statement addresses a topic upon which TWS does not have a position statement or when the statement would be consistent with existing TWS position statements. TWS Council must approve all position statements developed by Working Groups prior to their final adoption by the Working Group. Any statements by Sections and Chapters that conflict with those already adopted by TWS must be submitted to TWS Council for review and possible approval. Sections, Chapters, and Working Groups are encouraged to communicate with the Associate Director of Government Affairs when developing position statements. Copies of all statements adopted by Sections, Chapters, and Working Groups must be forwarded to TWS Headquarters upon approval.

Outstanding Achievement Award (Wild Sheep Foundation)

The Wild Sheep Foundation's (formerly FNAWS) Board of Directors has selected Beth MacCallum to receive the prestigious "Outstanding Achievement Award" at the Wild Sheep Foundation Convention held in Reno, Nevada, February, 3 – 6, 2010. The award was presented on Saturday, February 6th, 2010 during the evening

Banquet & Awards Program. Beth MacCallum is a well-deserving, long-standing member of the Alberta Chapter of The Wildlife Society, its past-president, and a productive, long-standing professional and contributor to TWS. Beth was nominated by Dr. Wayne Heimer from Alaska primarily for her contribution to the study of bighorn sheep and the design of mined landscapes to benefit bighorn sheep. Beth says: "By examining the biological needs of the bighorn sheep against the backdrop of an operating coal mine I was able to apply McHarg's "design with nature" concept. This approach incorporates environmental and societal values into every aspect of development, and promotes the evaluation of constraints and opportunities arising."

You can find out more about the convention and award at: <http://www.wildsheepfoundation.org/>

CHAPTER NEWS

Alberta Chapter

by Dave Scobie, ACTWS President

Hopefully this finds everyone excited about the upcoming field season. Our 20th Annual Conference was held at the Red Deer Lodge and Convention Centre in Red Deer, Alberta on March 12-13, 2010. Our theme for the Conference was '20 years and going strong...' which we are certainly achieving. We received strong support from our membership to establish an Executive Director position. The membership agreed to a part-time position, subject to funding availability, for a 2 year term that will be evaluated after 18 months. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the successful candidate's time will be allocated to advocating for wildlife issues by providing science based advice. The other 25% will be spent assisting the Executive with organizing our Annual Conference and Annual Business meeting.

We invited, as our guests, Past Presidents and Rowan Award recipients (the highest honor the Chapter awards) to the Conference. At the Awards Banquet we had approximately 600 years of professional wildlife experience sitting at 3 VIP tables. It was great to see these sages of the wildlife profession interacting with the students.

We have added 3 new Chairs to our Executive, Information and Education, History and Membership for a total of 17 positions.

We are hoping everyone will make it to Edmonton for the Canadian Section meeting and International Congress for Conservation Biology in July. Our Committee has been working hard at organizing venues and a barbecue picnic; it should be a really good time!

Manitoba Chapter

By Jonathan Wiens, Manitoba Water Stewardship,

MBCTWS President

As the new President of the Manitoba Chapter of the Wildlife Society, I'm pleased to be able to provide my first submission to our newsletter. Many thanks to David Walker, for his hard work over the past year in serving our chapter. Most of our members are likely getting geared up for the upcoming field season, and it's my hope that everyone has a safe and productive time in the outdoors. Many of you may be wondering why an employee of Manitoba Water Stewardship is the President of this Society. Although I'm trained in wildlife management, I'm proud to be working with the Conservation District Program of Manitoba. It's well known that one of the greatest threats to wildlife populations in North America is the loss of habitat. This program works all over municipal Manitoba to improve land and water management for the benefit our water, soils, and wildlife and opportunity to contribute to a major initiative to map the breeding range of all birds in Manitoba. The Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas Project is being coordinated by our very own Christian Artuso. This project aims to conduct an intensive five year study on the exact breeding range of all birds in this province. Anyone interested in volunteering is invited to check out their website <http://www.birdatlas.mb.ca/>. During this next year I would like to ensure that all of us are aware of opportunities to volunteer in Manitoba wildlife projects and help contribute to wildlife policy development. This program works all over municipal Manitoba to

Check out the Chapter Website:
<http://joomla.wildlife.org/manitoba/>

5th Annual "Wildlife Management in Manitoba" Speaker Session

The 5th annual "Wildlife Management in Manitoba" speaker session, held on March 19th, was a great success. 14 speakers presented the results of their wildlife management efforts and research to an audience of over 40 participants. The topics ranged from songbirds to cougars and provided a great overview of some of major wildlife management efforts in this province. Dr. John Toepfer delivered an excellent keynote address on the status of the endangered Greater Prairie Chicken in North America. The AGM (held during lunch) allowed MB Chapter membership to catch-up on current activities within TWS – Canadian Chapter and TWS – International. Three new by-laws were also passed. Sponsorship for this event was provided by Manitoba

Conservation, Ducks Unlimited Canada, and Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources. Oak Hammock Marsh also sponsored the event by providing an excellent venue and lunch at a reduced cost. Thank you to everyone who presented, volunteered and participated in this worthwhile event!

NEW: British Columbia Chapter

The CSTWS is happy to announce the formation of the British Columbia Chapter. Welcome BC chapter!

The current person in charge of the chapter is:
George Carlson (gcarlson@eba.ca)



PARENT SOCIETY NEWS

Dear Members of Council and TWS Staff,

The Communications Department is delighted to announce that *The Wildlife Professional* has just won two new EXCEL awards from Association Media & Publishing.

"Getting Out the Oil" (Summer 2009) by David Jessup and Michael Ziccardi has won a Silver Award in the Magazines Feature Article category. This article presented new science-based techniques for effectively cleaning oil out of sea-otter fur.

The Education Issue (Winter 2009) has won a Bronze Award in the Single-Topic Issue category. This was a broad collaboration highlighting the challenges facing wildlife education today and exploring possible solutions.

We're thrilled that the magazine, and by extension the Society, has been honored with these awards, which help bring public recognition for the work of TWS and the wildlife profession.

We'd like to offer special thanks to Lynn Riley for producing creative layouts and design that greatly enhance the magazine, and to Ruxi Giura and Michael

Levin for masterminding the online and technical aspects of TWP.

Thank you all for your continued support and your many contributions to TWP!

Lisa Moore, Divya Abhat, & Katie Unger



MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

LATE CAREER REFLECTIONS ON THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY FROM ONE CANADIAN'S PERSPECTIVE

By Arlen Todd

My earliest recollection of The Wildlife Society (TWS) is that of a very young man working as a wildlife technician for the Canada Land Inventory Project (Wildlife Sector) in Manitoba. I was working in western Manitoba with another young man (Robert [Bob] Hudson—one of last year's William Rowan Award recipients—the highest award given by the Alberta Chapter of TWS) and realized that he was reading the *Journal of Wildlife Management* in the evenings in the motel room that we were sharing. Bob encouraged me to take a look at the journal issue he was reading and even encouraged me to become a member of TWS (Bob was always 'keen' and always an advocate for professionalism; however, 'the Journal' looked rather like Greek to me, at that time!). A few years later (1971), having gone to university (U of A) in the meantime and having decided on a fully professional career, I decided to become a member. I can still recall how I avidly read every word of every article in every issue, in those early years. I also recall the "Wildlife Society Bulletin" emerging as a new upstart publication (first published in 1972, but became defunct after thirty-six years)—I liked 'the Bulletin' at least as much as 'the Journal'. I vividly recall the dreams that I had of publishing articles in those most prestigious-seeming publications!

A few years after that I found myself in residence at the University of Wisconsin (UW)—Madison, doing postgraduate studies with a prominent Albertan, Lloyd Keith. While I won't elaborate much on that wonderful time at this time, I do have vivid memories of writing a Master's thesis in the (Aldo) Leopold Memorial Library on the UW campus there, during one highly productive week in the summer of 1974. While writing, I faced a prominent glass display case, which featured Leopold memorabilia. I hope that each and every one of you recognizes the name of Aldo Leopold as the founder of the discipline of wildlife management, as well as a prominent early leader of TWS, but perhaps not. Anyhow, to me, Leopold provided inspiration that week (quite some years after his death!), as did necessity—I had a job to go to, in Alberta.

The Wildlife Society continued to be important to me in the early years of my professional career in Alberta. It provided a forum for continuing professional development and also for accreditation—I chose to apply for status as a Certified Wildlife Biologist (and achieved it), as soon as I had the requisite five years of professional experience, in 1979. TWS also provided an outlet for those publications that I had started dreaming about achieving, some years earlier. Accordingly, I felt quite honoured and ready to give something back in the mid-1980s, when I had an opportunity to serve on a TWS Technical Advisory Committee on "Traps, trapping, and furbearer management". About that same time, I began daring

to dream of filling senior leadership roles in TWS.

I have always had quite a lot of energy. So, as a younger man, I sometimes found myself filling a variety of volunteer roles with service clubs and community organizations. Yet, I literally **ached**, at times, to use my leadership skills more fully in my chosen profession. I can recall being an ardent but largely uninvolved supporter of the initiative to form an Alberta Chapter of TWS (ACTWS), later in the 1980s. I even had the temerity to run for office against the person who became the founding president (my good friend, Bill Glasgow) in the initial election for Chapter officers! In any event, the ACTWS provided other enjoyable and fulfilling opportunities to serve in subsequent years, eventually culminating in progressive leadership opportunities (director, 1997, 1998; President-elect and succeeding positions beginning in 2000). While in leadership to the Alberta Chapter, I also had the opportunity to step forward and help attract the International Conference of TWS to Canada, and went on to serve as Co-chair for the Local Arrangements Committee (with Terry Kowalchuk as the other Co-chair) for the 11th Annual Conference of TWS, held in Calgary in 2004. After three years of planning and organizing with TWS it was great to see a successful conference unfold; it was also great to concentrate on simply doing a day job (Species at Risk Biologist in Calgary) for some time after that!

In hindsight, it is now very obvious that our hosting of the 11th Annual Conference of TWS in Canada (Alberta and Manitoba Chapters in key roles) caused TWS to realize the vast, untapped potential for growth in Canada. Accordingly, it was no accident that TWS began working with selected individuals in Canada to develop an authentically Canadian, self-contained section of TWS. That impetus led to the development of a draft set of bylaws, which were circulated for approval to all members of TWS in Canada in 2007--approved by a huge majority. Subsequent to that, it was a great honour for me to appear on the ballot of officers for the newly approved Canadian Section of TWS, and to serve as the founding president and past-president, in succession, during the first two years of the Section's existence.

To make a very simple but telling statement, the two most fulfilling things that I have done **so far** in my lifetime have involved parenting on one hand and TWS on the other! It has been very fulfilling to oversee and watch the Canadian Section become an early success, with the addition of a new provincial chapter (Ontario) and lots of additional student chapters emerging (Ontario, Quebec, Alberta, etc.). It is my hope that each substantive piece of land and water in Canada will some day be covered by a sub-unit of TWS. I believe that wildlife professionals, our constituents (Canadians), and wildlife populations and habitats will all be better served, if that proves to be the case. I know how important the Alberta Chapter has been to me and many Albertans for professional development and support, for mentoring, for fulfillment, and sometimes just for fun! In a few words, it is very rewarding to me personally to watch the growth of sub-units, which will foster that kind of growth in wildlife professionals for decades to come.

Thanks, and good luck with maintaining the momentum!

Arlen Todd, Calgary (403-297-7349; arlen.todd@gov.ab.ca)

JOBS IN WILDLIFE AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

We are advertising wildlife biology positions on our Canadian section website and the newsletter. If anyone has an add they'd like to put up please end it to me kruckstu@ucalgary.ca

Please do also send me other contributions such as conference announcements, your thoughts on a particular topic that could be relevant to the society, your drawings or any pictures you'd like to see included in the newsletter

Kathreen Ruckstuhl
Newsletter editor, webmaster and Vice-president

CONFERENCE NEWS

Come One - Come All To Edmonton This Summer!

Society for Conservation Biology & CSTWS AGM

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, 2-7 July 2010

Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting supported by The Alberta Chapter of TWS and the Student Chapter of TWS at the University of Alberta will be held in conjunction with the International Congress on Conservation Biology (ICCB) on 3 July 2010 in Edmonton, Alberta.

There will be an open barbeque 11:30-1:30 on 3 July 2010 on the University of Alberta campus followed by the Canadian Section business meeting and discussions on making linkages among conservation groups in Canada. Instead of an open paper session at this year's meeting the Canadian Section is sponsoring two special symposia at the ICCB:

Sustainable Use in Wildlife Conservation: Sustainable use is a valuable tool for promoting the conservation of biological diversity, in many instances providing incentives for conservation and restoration because of

the social, cultural and economic benefits that people derive from that use. In turn, sustainable use cannot be achieved without effective politics and conservation measures. Hunting, trapping and angling are forms of sustainable use of wildlife when properly managed. In this symposium, speakers will address biological, economic, socio-cultural and political aspects of sustainable use across the globe for what the future holds.

Caribou Conservation: International Perspectives on Management and Policy:

As one of the last example of remaining large ungulate migrations in the northern hemisphere, caribou and reindeer populations face a myriad of limiting factors. Given that the global population decline encompasses all subspecies of caribou and reindeer, and the immeasurable value of the species to northern cultures through subsistence hunting and herding, international dialogue on caribou and reindeer management strategies is needed. The purpose of this symposium is to provide an overview of region-specific caribou and reindeer limiting factors and policy in order to educate both professionals and students on the conservation and management of a “threatened” species with circumpolar distribution. See details on **Canadian Section:** <http://joomla.wildlife.org/Canada/>

For info on accommodation while attending the AGM or the SCB meeting visit:

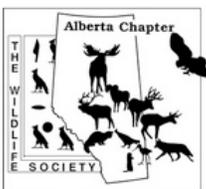
<http://www.conbio.org/activities/meetings/2010/visitor/accommodation.cfm>

More details on the AGM, location etc will follow shortly.



EXISTING CANADIAN CHAPTERS

Alberta Chapter



President: David Scobie

E-mail: dscobie@avocet.ca
<http://joomla.wildlife.org/Alberta>

Ontario Chapter

President: Brent Patterson
 E-mail: brent.patterson@ontario.ca

Manitoba Chapter



President: Jonathan Wiens
 E-mail: jonathan.wiens@gov.mb.ca



STUDENT CHAPTERS

Student Chapter Representative:
 Robin Steenweg (outgoing); Kayla Balderson (incoming)

University of Alberta

Contact: Kayla Balderson
 E-mail: kbalders@ualberta.ca

Lethbridge Community College

Contact: Kalista Pruden (Pres.)
 E-mail: kalista.pruden@lethbridgecollege.ab.ca

Lakehead University

Contact: Joey Welch (Pres.)
 E-mail: jwelch@lakeheadu.ca

University of Northern British Columbia

Contact: Rachel Cairn (Pres.)
 E-mail: r.cairn@hotmail.com

Université Laval

Contact: Nicolas Courbin (Pres.)
 E-mail: nicolas.courbin.1@ulaval.ca



WHO'S WHO IN THE SECTION

President: Merlin Shoosmith
109 McMeans Ave. W.
Winnipeg, MB R2C 2J4
Tel: (204) 222-4651
FAX:
E-mail: 109mejo@mts.net

Past-President: Jack Dubois
Manitoba Conservation Dept.
Box 24-200 Salteaux Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3
Tel: (204) 945-7761
FAX: (204) 945-3077
E-mail: jack.dubois@gov.mb.ca

President-Elect: Arthur Rodgers
955 Oliver Rd., Lakehead Univ., Thunder
Bay, ON P7B 5E1
Tel: (807) 343-4011
FAX:
E-mail: art.rodgers@ontario.ca

Vice-President: Kathreen Ruckstuhl
University of Calgary
Department of Biological Sciences
2500 University Drive NW
Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4
Tel: (403) 220-8776
FAX: (403) 289-9311

E-mail: kruckstu@ucalgary.ca

Secretary-Treasurer: Erin McCance
104 Cloverwood Road
Winnipeg, MB
R3Y 1R6
University of Manitoba
Tel: (204) 475-2354
FAX:
E-mail: emccance@shaw.ca

Section Rep: Rick Baydack
Dept. Environment & Geography
255 Wallace Building
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2
Tel: (204) 474-6776
FAX: (204) 474-7699
E-mail: baydack@cc.umanitoba.ca

Newsletter Editor: Kathreen Ruckstuhl
University of Calgary



Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society

2010 Membership Renewal/Application

The Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society invites you to renew your membership for the new year. We would also like to encourage wildlife professionals and students alike who are not current members to join now. To join or remain a member for 2009, please fill out this application form and mail along with your dues to the address below. You also have the option to join the Canadian Section when you renew your membership through the Parent Society.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Affiliation: _____

Annual Membership Dues: **\$10.00 (Cdn/US)**

Please make payment out to: Canadian Section of TWS

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Executive Board or involved in one of our upcoming Committees please indicate:

Executive Board
Conservation Affairs Committee
Membership Committee

Please mail membership form and dues to:

Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society
C/o Erin McCance
104 Cloverwood Road
Winnipeg, MB
R3Y 1R6

Alternatively, to renew or join online visit TWS's secure website at: <http://store.wildlife.org/scriptcontent/index.cfm>

