



NC Wildlifer: The Feral Report

JANUARY 2008 ♦ NC CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY ♦ VOL. 23 NO. 4

DON'S DISCOURSE



As I write this column, our 24th year as a Chapter is rapidly drawing to a close and the start of our 25th "silver anniversary" year is dawning on the horizon. NCTWS is certainly beginning this anniversary year on a high note. Our membership recruitment efforts during the past year have recently resulted in our breaking the 200 mark for current paid state memberships. That means more than 200 wildlife professionals in North Carolina are now active in NCTWS and are ready to join together to celebrate our 25th anniversary and to work towards a brighter future for wildlife and wildlife management within our state. Membership in TWS at the national level is also on the rise with an increase of over 3% being reported by the national office. Thank you especially to Chris Deperno, Mark Johns, and Jon Heisterberg for getting our membership drive letter out and for helping our enrollment to break the 200 mark for the first time in our Chapter's history! Thank you also to Mark Sandfoss and Liz Jones for assuming the role of co-chairs for the membership committee and for leading our membership efforts forward. The Executive Board and membership committee hope to continue this membership drive throughout 2008 and to recruit additional members from all of the diverse aspects of the wildlife field and to identify and bring back members whose memberships have lapsed over the past five years. Can we top 250 or 300 by the end of next year? Yes, we should not be focused solely on increased numbers, but more

members equates to more energy, more ideas, more involvement, and more success as a professional society. Let's give it a shot!

This month, in addition to your regular newsletter, you are once again receiving an additional document from the Chapter archives. This document is a compilation of past annual meeting agendas. It provides an interesting look at the various topics we've addressed during our annual meeting presentations over the years. This is the final installment of our look at the Chapter's past. Thank you to Mary Wyant for all of her work ferreting out this information and pulling these documents together.

I also want to say "Thank You!" again to Lisa Beckstrom for her hard work and dedication as newsletter editor for the past 3 ½ years. She is stepping down with this issue. We all have benefited from her willingness to serve the Chapter. Thank you also to John Stanton for stepping up and agreeing to become our new newsletter editor for 2008 and beyond.

By now, each of you should have received a mailing with the annual meeting registration form, a formal invitation and other items regarding this year's annual meeting. I hope each of you will be able to join us at The Summit, at Haw River State Park, for this event. I look forward to summarizing for you the accomplishments of the Chapter's successes during the past year and to looking forward to our future endeavors. I hope you had a wonderful holiday season.

– Don

CHAPTER VISION STATEMENT

*To guide and promote the conservation and management
of wildlife resources throughout North Carolina.*

The CHAPTER MISSION STATEMENT and CHAPTER OBJECTIVES
can be viewed on the Chapter's website at:

<http://www.nctws.org>

2007-2008 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Position	Officer	Phone	Email address
President	Don Seriff	704-432-1391	Donald.Seriff@MecklenburgCountyNC.gov
President-elect	Mark Johns	919-852-5124	johnsme@mindspring.com
Past President	John Ann Shearer	919-856-4520, ext. 17	JohnAnn_Shearer@fws.gov
Secretary	Danny Ray	336-562-5066	danielray@embarqmail.com
Treasurer	Joe Folta	919-269-2767	foltaje@bellsouth.net
At-large Board	Salinda Bachele	919-604-5183	salinda.daley@earthlink.net
At-large Board	Chris Deperno	919-513-7559	chris_deperno@ncsu.edu
SE Section Rep	Chris Moorman	919-515-5578	chris_moorman@ncsu.edu
Ad Hoc Representatives			
Leopold Wildlife Club (NCSU)	Adam Byrd		atbyrd@ncsu.edu
Haywood Community College	Erin Bellavia	828-768-7726	Lady_lope_alot@hotmail.com

2007-2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Committee	Chair	Phone	Email address
Audit	Jon Heisterberg	919-786-4480, ext. 228	Jon.F.Heisterberg@aphis.usda.gov
Awards	Mike Baranski	704-637-4442	mbaransk@catawba.edu
Conservation Review	Mike Begier	252-466-9320	Mike.Begier@aphis.usda.gov
	Salinda Bachele	919-604-5183	salinda.daley@earthlink.net
COWCH	Bob Hazel	919-772-1393	Hazel386@juno.com
Education and Information	Marek Smith	704-432-1389	Marek.Smith@MecklenburgCounty.NC.gov
Fundraising	Pete Campbell	910-695-3323	Pete_Campbell@fws.gov
	Terry Sharpe	910-281-5903	sharpetl@etinternet.net
Mentoring Program	Brady Beck	910-281-3917	brady_beck@alltel.net
Membership	Liz Jones		erjones@ncsu.edu
	Mark Sandfoss		mrsandfo@ncsu.edu
Newsletter	Lisa Beckstrom	704-523-4726	lbeckst@carolina.rr.com
Nominations and Elections	Mark Johns	919-852-5124	johnsme@mindspring.com
Professional Development	Lori Williams	828-684-0358	lori_williams@earthlink.net
Program (annual meeting)	Ken Knight	704-982-1600	kbknight@vnet.net
Webmaster	Susan Miller	910-695-3323	susan_miller@fws.gov

CHAPTER OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Please review the following officer candidate biographies and then **complete and return the enclosed ballot for the 2008 term**. Thank you for participating in this important process. The election of officers is an important step to ensure the future success of the Chapter and its initiatives.



Please note: Ballots can be submitted in person at the Annual Meeting on February 21, 2008 or via mail – postmarked by February 1, 2008. You may also elect to vote for a write-in candidate.

Michael Begier and Jamie Sasser are candidates for President-Elect

NAME: Michael J. Begier (Mike)

OFFICE: President-elect

PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Supervisory Wildlife Biologist with USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Wildlife Biologist, Biological Sciences Technician/Aide and volunteer (I have worked with the National Park Service [NPS], NPS & USGS Cooperative Park Studies Unit, and the U.S. Forest Service. These positions were in the northeastern U.S. and in the Mississippi Delta region of Arkansas and Louisiana).

EDUCATION: A.A.S., Biological Technology, State University of New York (SUNY) at Cobleskill Agriculture and Technology; B.S., Biology and Ecology, SUNY at Plattsburgh State University; and M.S., Environmental and Forest Biology, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) at Syracuse

TWS ACTIVITIES: Currently co-chair of the Conservation Review Committee of the North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society (NCTWS) and a member of the Wildlife Damage Management Working Group. I was formerly a member of the NYTWS where I served as a student chapter representative to the Executive Board and was the President of the student chapter at SUNY ESF.

AFFILIATIONS: The Wildlife Society (TWS), National Chapter and NCTWS; Bird Strike Committee USA (Steering Committee); Arbor Day Foundation

VIEWS: I recently passed the 10 year mark in my federal career and was reflecting a little bit about where I have been and am going in our profession.

One of my first memories of TWS was during my first professional presentation at the Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference. I think part of the reason this memory came to me was I recalled how much fun the meeting was for me as a student and how anxious I felt when I began to present. As time has passed it also reminds me of how important communication is to our profession. I feel very strongly that our ability to communicate what our profession does day to day and how we can help the community make decisions that affect natural resources is becoming more important. Our state has been and will continue to grow at a rapid pace; the community at large often needs guidance about wildlife and the habitat that supports it. As a member of the executive board I would seek to increase and expand the Chapter's role in discussing the management of natural resources in our state. It's my view that TWS is one of the most well placed organizations to help the community by providing sound advice and guidance. One of the main reasons for this is our membership's strength which is drawn from many different private, public and academic organizations. The great opportunities we have for professional development, exposure to other groups, and keeping our student chapters engaged contribute to this strength. Maintenance of the chapter's membership and a commitment to communicate about wildlife management to the public are central to my views of NCTWS. I welcome the opportunity to serve you and the chapter.

NAME: James Sasser
OFFICE: President-elect
PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Director/Wildlife Biologist Johnston Community College's Howell Woods Environmental Learning Center
FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Wildlife Specialist, USDA Wildlife Services
EDUCATION: B.S., Fish & Wildlife Sciences, Minor Environmental Sciences, North Carolina State University (NCSU)
TWS ACTIVITIES: At Large Executive Board Member (two previous terms), past chair and co-chair of Education and Outreach Committee, co-chair of Program Committee for Annual Meeting (2005)
AFFILIATIONS: Wilson Ornithological Society, Association of Field Ornithologists, Natural Areas Association
VIEWS: As wildlife professionals we see and attempt to mitigate the many threats to our wildlife heritage on a daily basis. Currently I see the

largest threats to our wildlife resources as being from habitat loss (no great surprise), exotic/feral species and a disconnect of the general public to wildlife and natural habitats. I also include in the last category outdoor recreational users who have not made the connection with habitat conservation with the outdoor activities they enjoy. I believe that education is one of if not the primary roles of a wildlife professional. Education for the general public and outdoor recreational users could be in the form of workshops, programs or one on one interaction and fellow wildlife professionals through professional development activities. I am fortunate to work for an educational institution and manage a large parcel of land for that institution to "practice what I preach" and educate the variety of visitors to Howell Woods on professional wildlife and forestry management and natural history. Education will lead to meaningful action which will lead to long-term conservation of our wildlife heritage.

Danny Ray is the only candidate for Secretary

NAME: Daniel Ray
OFFICE: Secretary
PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Piedmont Forest Stewardship Biologist, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC)
FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Mountain Small Mammal Survey Biologist, NCWRC; Caswell Gameland Crewleader, NCWRC; Wildlife Technician II, NCWRC; Agricultural Research Assistant, NCSU
EDUCATION: A.S., Fish and Wildlife Management, Haywood Community College (HCC); B.S., Natural Resources Management, Western Carolina University; M.S., Wildlife Biology, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
TWS ACTIVITIES: At-large Board member, 2004; Secretary, 2006-07
AFFILIATIONS: TWS, 1992 – present; Southeastern Section TWS, 1992 – present; NCTWS, 1992 – present
VIEWS: There are lots of issues facing the wildlife manager today. A few examples are the spread of exotic species, preservation of critical habitats, water quality, forest fragmentation, hardwood conversion to pine monocultures, and urban sprawl. However, I believe these are just symptoms of a much deeper and serious problem...the absence of a land ethic within our society. I'm a big fan of Aldo Leopold not because he is considered the

father of the career I chose but because he understood early on that people are not separate from the land. Our actions, whether good or bad, have a profound affect on the world around us. We all learned in our Wildlife Ecology classes that always taking without giving back eventually takes its toll on the land. Leopold gives the classic example when he describes the relationship between the deer and the mountain in *The Sand County Almanac*. As a native North Carolinian, I am proud to say "I like calling North Carolina home" but I wonder sometimes just how much more abuse this Old North State can take. Growth is ever increasing and the push to draw more people in is increasing as well. By the year 2030, it is predicted that the state's population will approach 12 million people. Where will all those people live, work, and recreate? Consider all the roads, automobiles, shopping malls, and housing. More importantly, I think of the pollution and where will the wild things go? Ironically, in 2008, NCTWS will be celebrating our 25th anniversary. At our annual meeting, we will be reminiscing on the past 25 years and taking a look at new challenges for the next 25. I believe our greatest challenge is the issue of urban sprawl and we must face the issue head on. The good news is that efforts are already underway to plan smart growth in many counties of

our state. State and county governments are forming partnerships with private organizations to help mold the future of growth, and a few people are rekindling the notion of a land ethic. In the spirit of Leopold, we all need to jump on the bandwagon and help educate North Carolinians on the true values of their property and the wild things that live there. People need to understand that their property holds far more value than just its monetary worth. Approximately 84% of NC forests are owned by private landowners. All the biologists and technicians in the world cannot protect those

lands if the landowners don't see the need for our help. Therefore, education is the key. We need to educate, educate, educate on the land ethic principle. Leopold said it best with "An ethical obligation on the part of the private owner is the only visible remedy for these situations." Remember, we are the wildlife management professionals in the state and our 50th anniversary is around 2030 (actually 2033). Will we truly have something to celebrate that year or will we just be a few insignificant biologists and technicians in a state of 12 million people?

Beth Evans, Susan Miller, John Stanton, Chris DePerno (At-Large)

NAME: Elizabeth Evans (also known as Beth)
OFFICE: At-large Executive Board
PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Wildlife Biologist-Fort Bragg Military Installation
FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Research Assistant-Eglin AFB, Biological Science Technician-Fort Bragg Military Installation
EDUCATION: B.S. in Wildlife & Fisheries Biology: Concentration Wildlife Management, University of Vermont
TWS ACTIVITIES: Information & Education Committee 1996-present, 2006 & 2007 annual meeting write-ups for newsletter
AFFILIATIONS: National Military Fish & Wildlife Association, TWS, NC Sandhills Conservation Partnership
VIEWS: I have been a member of the parent organization for almost 20 years. I joined the student chapter at the University of Vermont in 1988. This is the time I became hooked as a member-field trips and like-minded students. We should encourage the students at the university level to join (best exposure to the society) and to encourage other universities within the state with wildlife/conservation biology curriculum to start student chapters. For many years, I just paid my dues to the national and attended two of the

national meetings but never looked into the section or state chapter until the meeting came to the Sandhills region. I joined the NC chapter in 2002 as a result. Moving the meeting each year to each part of the state provides a venue to connect us and update policy changes, and research and management techniques. The meeting also provides us opportunities for sharing of experiences, forming new partnerships and opportunities for sharing resources.

As I become more established in my career, I find education whether on the wildlife we manage or promoting the society we belong to, needs to be first but forever is placed last. An informed audience provides ground work for a smoother path. In 2006, I join the NCTWS Information & Education Committee, (mainly because I knew the chairperson). But once the committee met and created a working plan, everyone pulled together and we produced some great products. The energy created from the committee helped rejuvenate my enthusiasm for my job. Everyone should join one committee they have an interest in; it provides another opportunity on a smaller scale take a field trip to mix with other professionals with similar interests (sound familiar?).

NAME: Susan Ladd Miller
OFFICE: At-large Executive Board
PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) since 1999 in the Sandhills Sub-office. My primary duties include working with red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) recovery through implementation of the Safe Harbor Program, educational outreach programs,

and activities of the North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership. I have also been directly involved in RCW banding for 15 years to monitor the population trends of this species in the NC Sandhills.

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Biological Technician with Fort Bragg's Endangered Species Branch (Apr. 1993 – Nov. 1999); Veterinary

Technician at Manchester Animal Hospital (Oct. 1991 – Apr. 1993); Data Collector with Averitt Enterprises (May 1991 – Nov. 1991); Volunteer Park Ranger at Clark Park Nature Center (Sep. 1990 – Apr. 1991)

EDUCATION: Zoology degree from University of Washington

TWS ACTIVITIES: I am a member of TWS and have served as webmaster to the North Carolina chapter for the last year

AFFILIATIONS: TWS, NCTWS, Sandhills Natural History Society, Therapy Dogs International, Inc., Moore County Schools Volunteer with the Canine Assisted Reading Education (CARE) Program

VIEWS: I think one of the most important issues that NC faces today is the protection of the natural resources of our state while being inundated with tremendous population growth and development. I'm optimistic that we can work through the organizations that are already available to guide

development in a manner that is compatible with the protection of our natural resources. My concern is that so much of the growth in our state is from people relocating from other areas so we need to find ways to educate those individuals about the unique natural treasures found in NC so that they will see the value in protecting them before it's too late. As an example, using prescribed fire as a management tool has become increasingly more difficult as development encroaches upon existing natural areas. Add to that the lack of understanding about the role of fire for managing the southern pine forests and eventually we may end up not being able to burn. By implementing environmental education programs we can help teach the public about the diversity of native wildlife, plants, and ecosystems found throughout our state and encourage conservation and protection of our natural resources.

NAME: John D. Stanton

OFFICE: At-large Executive Board

PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Supervisory Wildlife Biologist, USFWS, Columbia Migratory Bird Field Office

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Fish and Wildlife Biologist, USFWS, Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, Manteo, NC (2003-2005); Wildlife Biologist, Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Complex, Swan Quarter, NC (1994-2002); Wildlife Biologist, Lake Ophelia NWR and Grand Cote NWR, Marksville, LA (1992-1994); Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Land Management, Roseburg, OR (1991-1992); Biological Technician, Medicine Lake NWR, Medicine Lake, MT (1991)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Wildlife Management (1986) from the University of Maine; M.S. in Wildlife Biology (1991) from NCSU

TWS ACTIVITIES: National member since 1982; President, Student Chapter, University of Maine (1985); NCTWS, Co-Chair of Annual Meeting (2003).

AFFILIATIONS: American Ornithological Union; Certified Wildlife Biologist (1996); Team Leader

(current), USFWS Roanoke-Tar-Neuse-Cape Fear Ecosystem Team

VIEWS: NCTWS is the primary professional society for wildlife professionals in NC. As such, the actions of its members can be viewed as an opportunity to guide and promote conservation and management of wildlife resources throughout the state and live up to the chapter's vision statement. I would like to do my part as an executive board member to promote conservation and management of wildlife resources throughout NC through my actions and the coordinated actions of others. As a board member, I will strive to provide a forum for wildlife professionals and others to interact to improve wildlife conservation and management while fostering high professional standards and ethics for our members. I will also work to make NCTWS an acknowledged source of current scientific information and expertise, and act as a collective voice on matters relating to wildlife biology, management, education, and policy. I would take this responsibility seriously and would welcome the opportunity to serve NCTWS.

NAME: Christopher S. DePerno
OFFICE: At-large Executive Board
PRESENT CAREER POSITION: Assistant Professor, NCSU

FORMER CAREER POSITIONS: Research Scientist/Farmland Deer Project Leader, MN DNR

EDUCATION: B.S. in Pre-graduate Biology from Central Michigan University in 1990, an M.S. in Biology from Purdue University in 1994, and a Ph.D. in Wildlife and Fisheries Management from South Dakota State University in 1998.

TWS ACTIVITIES: I have been a member of TWS since 1994. Since 2004, I have been a member of the Honorary Membership and Recognition Committee. I have been active with the Public Conservation Education and Extension Working Group and Wildlife Damage Management Working Group.

I have been a member of the Central Mountains and Plains Section of TWS and was actively involved with the program committee for the CMPS 2003 annual meeting. Also, I was a member of the North Central Section of TWS. Currently, I am a member of the Southeastern Section of TWS.

I have been a member of the Minnesota Chapter of TWS and active with the Farmland Committee. Since 1994, I have been active with the South Dakota Chapter of TWS. I was chairperson of the Membership Committee for three years and chairperson of the Best Paper Awards Ad-hoc Committee. Currently, I am a member of the NCTWS and I am assisting with the 2007 annual meeting program.

I have been active with the South Dakota State University Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Currently, I am the advisor for the Leopold Wildlife Club, the North Carolina State University student chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Since 1994, I have been a reviewer for The Journal of Wildlife Management.

I have been a Certified Wildlife Biologist since 2002.

AFFILIATIONS: I have been a member of the American Society of Mammalogists since 1994. Since 1997, I have been a member of the Great Plains Natural Science Society (GPNSS, publishes the Prairie Naturalist). I served as President-elect from 2003-2004, President from 2004-2006, and am currently serving as past-president. With the GPNSS, I have served as chairperson of the arrangement, audit, and program committees.

I am involved with the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Program and I am a member of the Science and Technical Advisory Committee. Additionally, I am a member of the Jack H. Berryman Institute Scientific Advisory Panel.

VIEWS: As professionals, I believe it imperative that we be active at all levels of TWS including the national, regional, and state levels. I am running for Executive Board Member of the NC Chapter to become involved and lend support for increasing awareness and appreciation of wildlife and wildlife values in NC. My goal is to promote proper use of wildlife and natural resources through science and education. Throughout my career, my experience has taught me the value of laboratory research, the publication process, and the value of research and publishing to the scientific community and the public. I have observed the use of credible science to implementing sound environmental positions. The development, support, and use of credible science will be of even greater importance in the future.



Don't forget to bring your own instruments to our 25th anniversary celebration and join in the music jam with our old-time Appalachian string band!

2008 ANNUAL MEETING

Join us at our 25th annual meeting on February 21-22, 2008 at The Summit at Haw River State Park (near Reidsville, NC). The theme for the 2008 Annual Meeting will be "Wildlife Management in the Changing Landscape of Conservation". We plan to celebrate the 25th year anniversary of the NC Chapter of The Wildlife Society and look toward the future of conservation programs in North Carolina. We expect to have a variety of excellent speakers and a field trip in the vicinity prior to the meeting. A registration form has been mailed by U.S. Mail to all current members, but an electronic copy is also available on-line at www.nctws.org along with a copy of this year's presentation agenda. We hope to see you there!

2008 ANNUAL MEETING-CALL FOR POSTERS!

By Chris Deperno

We invite students to submit a research poster to display at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the NCTWS at Haw River State Park. Posters provide an opportunity for authors to participate in one-on-one communication with attendees. This is an excellent opportunity for professional interaction, growth, and development.



Posters will be displayed on February 21, 2008 during the breaks and social. Each poster and

presenter will be judged based on clarity and content and how well the presenter explains the project and answers questions. During the business meeting on February 22, 2008, a **2008 Best Student Poster Award** will be awarded to the best poster/presenter.

If you are interested in presenting a poster, please contact and send an abstract to Dr. Chris DePerno, chris_deperno@ncsu.edu, 919-513-7559.

NCTWS AWARDS PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

By Mike Baranski

Nominations are being sought for the NCTWS Chapter, Wildlife Conservation, and Student Awards. These annual awards will be presented at the 2008 NCTWS Annual Meeting. Please take time to review the following guidelines for Chapter recognition. All Chapter members are encouraged to nominate worthy candidates. A previously unselected nominee may be resubmitted.

Members are asked to complete a nomination form and forward to the Awards Committee chair at first opportunity. **Nominations will be accepted through January 22, 2008.** Award Program guidelines and nomination forms are also available on our chapter website: <http://www.nctws.org>.

Please forward nominations to: Mike Baranski, Committee Chairman (Dept. of Biology, Catawba College, Salisbury, NC 28144, phone 704/637-4442, mbaransk@catawba.edu)

NCTWS CHAPTER AWARD

This award *is presented to a Chapter member* for individual effort and contributions to wildlife conservation. Service to the Society and Chapter is strongly considered, along with professional achievement. The award is a certificate or plaque and a letter of commendation signed by the Chapter President. Presentation to the recipient is typically made at the annual meeting of the Chapter.

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AWARD



This award is presented to individuals or groups within NC who deserve recognition for achievement in wildlife conservation, education, research or related endeavors. *There is no requirement for Society or Chapter membership.* The recognition is for accomplishments widely

recognized and publicized. The award is a certificate or plaque presented to the recipient or organization at a time and location that is meaningful to the recipient and to the Chapter in terms of future interaction with others who work for the betterment of wildlife conservation.

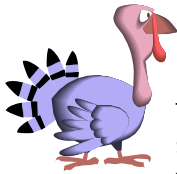
STUDENT AWARD

The Ken Wilson Memorial Award is presented annually to a student or students, nominated by

faculty members of the various schools within the State having wildlife programs and/or by Chapter members, and selected by the Awards Committee. Awards are presented for academics, contributions to research, work projects that contribute to State wildlife conservation efforts, and other accomplishments that the Chapter deems worthy of recognition. The award is cash support, up to \$500, along with a certificate or plaque and a letter of commendation signed by the Chapter President.



2008 NCTWS EXPEDITIONS



NCTWS will again be conducting three raffles for expeditions hosted by NC Wildlife Society members. Tickets and instructions have been sent to members by email and are also available at our website: <http://www.nctws.org>. Terry Sharpe has lined up two fishing trips, two wild turkey hunts, and two deer hunts to choose from.

Thanks to Pete Campbell and Terry Sharpe for overseeing the raffle and especially to our dedicated hunt guides that make each raffle possible! **All money generated from this raffle benefits our student scholarship funds.**

All ticket stubs and monies generated from ticket sales can be turned in at the annual meeting in February or you can mail them to:

Joe Folta
NCTWS Treasurer
PO Box 37742
Raleigh, NC 27627

The drawing date for the raffles will be after the annual meeting, just after the conclusion of the Dixie Deer Classic on March 7, 2008.

The first expedition will be a choice of mountain trout fishing with David Woody or Pee Dee River giant catfish grabbling with Lincoln Sadler and Terry Sharpe.

The second expedition will be a choice of a deer and hog hunt on Howell Woods, Johnston County, with Jamie Sasser or a deer hunt on Glenn Smith Farm donated by Glenn Smith.

The third expedition will be a choice of a turkey hunt in the mountains with David Allen or coastal plains with Vic French.

FUNDRAISING-SILENT AUCTION DONATION REQUEST

By Pete Campbell

Preparations for the Annual Meeting auction are underway. Both the NCSU and HCC student chapters have agreed to actively solicit auction items from local vendors and other sources. As always, the general membership is encouraged to donate items on their own or solicit donations from sources outside of the Chapter. All proceeds from

the silent auction will be used for the 2008 Student Chapter Summer Scholarships at NCSU and HCC. Tim Langer and Pete Campbell are actively seeking additional funding to bolster the 2008 scholarships so that we can award the full \$1,000 per student. They are also in the process of identifying potential corporate, private, and other donors who may be willing to make significant contributions to the NCSU

and HCC endowment funds. Pete will be meeting with Dave Dudek and a representative from the HCC Foundation on January 25, 2008 to discuss fundraising strategies for the HCC Student Scholarship Endowment Fund. Pete also plans to

meet with Jennifer Viets Catalano in early 2008 to discuss a mailing to Chapter members and alumni of the NCSU fisheries, wildlife and forestry programs soliciting donations for the NCSU Student Scholarship Endowment Fund.

CHAPTER MEMBER TO SERVE ON RESEARCH PANEL

By Jon Heisterberg

Chapter member Mike Begier was recently selected to serve on a research panel of the National Academies of Science, Transportation Review Board. The 2008 Airport Cooperative Research Program of the Academies is putting together a project statement concerning research titled "Analysis and Best Management Practices for the Prevention of Wildlife Strikes at Small Airports." Although a great deal of research and work has been conducted concerning wildlife - safety issues at large federally certificated airports little is known concerning the



scope of the problem at General Aviation airports. These airports are expected to be used more in the future with the advent of air taxi service by a new class of turbine powered aircraft (Very Light Jets). For example, there are currently 61 General Aviation airports located throughout NC and Honda Jet recently announced plans to locate its eastern U.S. headquarters and production facility for VLJ aircraft in NC. Mike will assist in managing the production of a research report to be used by airport operators, local agencies, the Federal Aviation Administration and other interested parties.

NC PRESCRIBED FIRE COUNCIL

By Chris Moorman

It is vital that all natural resource professionals in NC are aware of the NC Prescribed Fire Council. This organization is going to be a guiding and driving force in the future success of utilizing prescribed burns within the state. Individual membership in the Council is FREE.



The next Annual Meeting of the NC prescribed Fire Council is January 16, 2008 at Poplar Grove Plantation near Wilmington. Visit www.ncprescribedfirecouncil.org to find information about prescribed burning and the Council. Maintaining the use of prescribed fire as a management tool is a common goal, but we need unanimous cooperation to make it happen.

To join the Council email Chris Moorman at: chris.moorman@ncsu.edu or complete the membership form on the brochure or the website.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

NC Partners in Flight Meeting:
March 27, 2008 from 9:30am until 4:30pm,
Blue Jay Point County Park, Wake County, NC
Mark Johns, johnsme@mindspring.com

SE Partners in Amphibian and Reptile
Conservation Meeting:
February 21-24, 2008
University of Georgia, Athens, GA

NEWS FROM OUR CHAPTER COMMITTEES

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

The Education and Information Committee is working with a professional designer to provide design input on both the Chapter brochure and the

Chapter poster display. Committee members hope to have both items completed in time for the annual meeting.

CELEBRATING OUR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION HERITAGE (COWCH)

By Jon Heisterberg

Bob Hazel and Ted Dossett conducted two COWCH interviews with retired Wildlife Resource Technicians John Tucker, Norman Lantz, and James Odum and also one interview with Wildlife Biologist Terry Sharpe. All of these folks worked for the

NCWRC out of the Sandhills Depot. Carl Betsill has used his personal computer to duplicate copies of a number of COWCH interviews onto additional DVD's. Bob Hazel has agreed to act as keynote speaker for the annual meeting in February.

CHAPTER WEBSITE

By Susan Miller

Our Chapter website has been through a lot of changes in the last year. I hope that you find the new layout well organized and easy to use. This year we added a "NCTWS members section" to the website so that we can securely post information (budget reports, board meeting minutes, a member directory, list-serve information, etc.) that is relevant only to NCTWS members.



On our Chapter website you will also find some new things like an events calendar, a wildlife news section and a link to our Chapter's history. If you have an event that you would like added to the events calendar or news related to wildlife

that you would like to share with everyone, please send me a note at webadmin@nctws.org and it will be added.

In the coming weeks, I'll be working with Liz Jones to develop a Chapter mailing list that will be maintained through our web hosting service. All current members with a valid e-mail address will be added to this mailing list which will provide one-way communication from the board to the Chapter members. And of course, don't forget the NCTWS listserv. The NCTWS listserv was created so that members of the NCTWS could easily tap into the expertise of wildlife professional across the state. To date, 18 members have joined the list. For directions on how to subscribe check the "NCTWS members section." If you don't have the login and password information for the NCTWS members section contact me at webadmin@nctws.org.

I look forward to hearing from each of you about the usefulness of these tools. Please drop me a note at webadmin@nctws.org with comments or suggestions.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

By Lori Williams

Upcoming Professional Development Workshops (being held in conjunction with the NC Herpetological Society) include:

NC Frog Call I.D.: January 26, 2008, Davidson College
Contact: Steve Price (sjprice@davidson.edu)

NC Frog Call I.D.: February 12, 2008, Fayetteville; April 8, 2008 River Park North, Greenville; and April 17, 2008 Howell Woods Learning Center, Four Oaks
Contact: Jeff Hall (jeff.g.hall@earthlink.net)

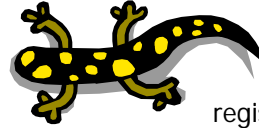


NC Frog Call I.D.: February 21, 2008 Falls Lake State Recreation Area

Contact: Brian Bockhahn
(brian.bockhahn@ncmail.net)

Amphibian Workshop: April 3, 2008; 8am-4pm; Cool Springs Environmental Education center, near New Bern; qualifies for Component II of the NC OEE certification; registration (free) required.

Contact: Mike Campbell (mike.campbell@ncwildlife.org)



Reptile Workshop: June 26, 2008; 8am-4pm; Cool Springs Environmental Education center, near New Bern; qualifies for Component II of the NC OEE certification; registration (free) required.

Contact: Mike Campbell (mike.campbell@ncwildlife.org)

MENTOR

By Brady Beck

As of December 2007, 42 NCTWS Chapter members signed up to become mentors. All 13 students that have signed up for the program have been matched

with a mentor. A summary of the past two years of mentor-mentee interactions is being prepared to be shared at the annual meeting.

CONSERVATION REVIEW

By Mike Beiger and Salinda Bacheler

Long-term Funding for Wildlife Conservation:
(info. taken from NC's TWW web page)

"There are a number of "cap-and-trade" bills in the U.S. Congress that would set a cap on carbon emissions and establish a market for carbon pollution credits. The Pew Center on Global Climate Change offers a comparison chart of the various climate change bills. The bills are complex and vary in terms of the economic sectors that are covered, the level and timeframe for the cap, and how the carbon credits are allocated.



global warming pollution from major emitters such as power plants and oil refineries, leading to reductions of about two percent each year from current levels.

ACSA commits an unprecedented level of financial resources to conserving wildlife and wildlife habitats threatened by global warming. The bill's sponsors have made this investment against the wishes of industry groups and others. They will need a united wildlife conservation community to work closely with them to achieve its enactment." The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies is pushing for strong state support of this bill.

On October 18, 2007, U.S. Senators Joe Lieberman (I-CT) and John Warner (R-VA) introduced a new bill - "America's Climate Security Act" (ACSA) - and Senator Elizabeth Dole (R-NC) has signed on as a co-sponsor. This bill establishes mandatory caps on

NCTWS recently signed onto a letter of support (requested by National TWS) for the Lieberman-Warner bill. For more information, visit: <http://statewildlife.nwf.org/nc/Long-termfunding.htm> or <http://www.teaming.com/funding/climate.html>

Diggs Tract Letter: In October, NCTWS sent a letter of support to the Cole Foundation to encourage their positive review of a proposal by the NCWRC to purchase the Diggs Tract in Richmond County. Jeff Marcus of the NCWRC has informed us that the proposal was successful and the Cole Foundation has agreed to provide funding for the project.

Outlying Landing Field (OLF) Update:
(information taken from the NC Wildlife Federation website and media posts)

The OLF Study Group (assembled by Gov. Easley to study sites for a proposed outlying landing field in NC) held public hearings in October at Elizabeth City State University to hear what residents there have to say about an OLF in their area. The hearing came in the wake of opposition to four of six new sites proposed by the Navy and DENR at the study group's meeting in September.

Two of the newly proposed sites, Sandbanks and Hales Lake, are in Gates County and two are in Camden County in the northeast portion of the state. Two others are in southeastern North Carolina. They are Angola Bay Gamelands, in Duplin and Pender counties, and Hoffman Forest, land owned by NCSU in Jones and Onslow counties.

The Navy hopes to find a viable alternative to the Navy-preferred Site C in Washington and Beaufort Counties.

Representatives from state environmental groups gave a tentative "OK" to the six new sites at the study group's second meeting Oct. 4. But local political opposition has sprung up in northeastern NC, mirroring local reaction to Site C. Commissioners in Pasquotank and Currituck counties both adopted resolutions opposing an outlying landing field in neighboring counties. They join Camden, Hertford, Perquimans, Gates and Chowan counties, which have all adopted

resolutions opposing an OLF in their counties since the new sites were announced.

The OLF Study Group set its next meeting in Raleigh for Nov. 1.

The most recent news concerning the OLF revolved around a "spat" between the NC Governor's office and the NC Senate delegation. The Governor's office recently came out in opposition to new site locations and requested new information from the USN. The Senate delegation led by Senator Dole pointed out that the sites had been proposed by the Governor's office and urged the Governor to try harder to find a solution with the USN.

Wind Turbine Energy: The CRC is interested in learning more about a proposed wind turbine energy proposal by the Blackwater Worldwide in northeastern NC.



This topic recently came up in discussions with NC PIF but little information is available. The national chapter of TWS recently released a technical review of wind energy and associated issues

currently available from TWS. Issues of concern to the profession include the impacts of wind farms to migratory birds and other wildlife and current lack of guidance from state and Federal agencies. The Government Accountability Office recently released a study highlighting the lack of guidance on this topic.

See the TWS review press release on-line at: http://www.enn.com/press_releases/2186.

Do you have an interest in taking over as chair for the Conservation Review Committee? ***The answer should be yes!*** Mike and Salinda would like some new blood to take over the committee and will be actively soliciting participation in the coming weeks and months. It's a great way to stay up to date about wildlife policy news and events.

NCTWC Member Profiles and Musings

Below are member profiles submitted by two of our earliest members, who were both early Chapter Presidents and who remain active members of the Chapter today. Also included are two essays from them on their thoughts and musings regarding the North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society yesterday and today. Thank you to Dr. Phil Doerr and Dr. Dick Lancia for taking time to provide us both a profile and an essay!

NCTWS MEMBER PROFILES

In each newsletter, a couple of our more than 200 chapter members are featured so that we can get to know each other better, gain a greater appreciation for each other, and work together more effectively on our common wildlife mission. Again in this newsletter, we feature profiles of some of our earliest Chapter members that have helped to guide us to where we are today.

Phillip D. Doerr



What you're called: Phil, (often "PD," or a few things students used over the years that can't be published!

Current Position and Employer and location: RETIRED, almost one year! After 34 years as Wildlife Professor at NCSU

Phone number and/or e-mail: 919-834-9353.
pdoerr@nc.rr.com

Education: B.S. Zoology Colorado College 1964, M.Sc. Wildlife at Colorado State 1967, Ph.D. Wildlife Ecology University of Wisconsin-Madison 1973.

Where did you grow up? Northern Illinois, Southern Wisconsin,

What other work experience do you have? Laboratory Animal Care Technician 1958-59; Farm Machinery Assembly mechanic 1961-62; Instructor in Zoology Rockford College 1967-68; Independent Consultant 5 projects) 1972, 1978-79, 1982, 1987

Why did you go into a wildlife career? As a youngster I had this love of the outdoors, and have always been enthralled by watching and attempting to understand critter behavior. Over time as education increased my exposure to wildlife and ecology, I realized I really wanted to understand how animal populations worked, and to use such understanding to develop management and conservation strategies for wildlife. In addition, I discovered I really like to share this passion with others, and thus an academic career became my goal quite early. I think it was when I was in Junior High School I realized I wanted to be a wildlife professor.

Have you always been interested in wildlife? Yes! My interests trace to when my mother, a

biology professor at a small college in Illinois, began taking me along on collecting expeditions to obtain pond water, for her introductory zoology classes. We'd bring that stuff home and check out the contents on the microscope! I was amazed by the community of animals and plants in a drop of water, moving around, all eating and being eaten! That led to huge butterfly and other natural history collections, as I began to fill cabinets with insects, leaves, minerals, bird nests, feathers, all properly labeled and categorized taxonomically with help from mom. I was always outdoors collecting stuff! Then someone gave me a pair of good binoculars (age 8), and my vertebrate (esp. bird-) watching career that persists to today was launched.

Who has been an influence on you in your career? How and why? That's difficult to pin down. My mother fostered an early interest (see above), but while I was in High Schools, a teacher (Don Prentice) introduced me to Falconry, and the live trapping of hawks. That fired a real interest in studying raptor ecology, and predator prey interactions. In College, I continued raptor studies and then studied Northern Goshawks in Colorado for my Masters, while continuing to hunt with hawks. During my doctoral program at Wisconsin, Dr. Robert McCabe, Department Head, and Aldo Leopold's last grad student, was an important influence because he shared so many of Leopold's philosophies with me as a member of my graduate committee. McCabe made me as a UW graduate want to "walk in Leopold's shadow" and share with students the excitement Leopold had for all things natural.

What species or habitat do you know most about or work with the most? The Longleaf Pine Forest Ecosystem, and the Red-cockaded woodpecker, of course thirty years of banding, monitoring, watching, collecting field data and supervising grad students in this system, with treasured colleagues tops it all.

MUSINGS ON THE LIFE OF NCTWS

By Phillip Doerr

My memory is a bit fuzzy about some events associated with the beginnings of the State Chapter, but I'll give it a try. One thing that gets overlooked in the discussion of the early history is that before there was a State Chapter, there was an NC State University Chapter that we started and which supplied the first professional society opportunity for many of us, and wildlife students at State. As interest grew in forming a state chapter, part of the deal was that the NCSU Chapter would morph into a Student Chapter so that University wildlifers would not be conflicted about how and where to devote their energy.

The early years were a bit of a struggle to attract members beyond the University and recent grads as they populated the government natural resources agencies in the state. At that time the Wildlife Resources Commission leadership did not encourage participation in chapter professional activities, and so a large segment of the states' wildlife professionals found it difficult to become actively involved. This policy was implemented by refusal to allow travel to meetings in State vehicles and not permitting employees to use leave or comp time to facilitate attendance. Despite the NCWRC stance, state biologists did participate with enthusiasm, albeit quietly.

In recent years the Chapter has benefited from wide participation of wildlife professionals from virtually all possible areas of wildlife work, including state, federal agencies, NGO's, private and public firms in education, and consultants and educators. That has been an amazing and pleasing development to observe.

I was privileged to serve as Chapter President in 1987, a term that was a learning experience for me, but I'm not certain how good it was for the

Chapter. I really enjoyed that chance to work with fellow wildlifers from across the state and in the region as an officer, and hope it was equally worthwhile for others. For me the real rewards in working with TWS at any level are the interactions with professionals. The joys of working alongside creative and talented professionals with a burning passion for wildlife cannot be overstated.

The Chapter has always benefited from strong leadership, and that's certainly been true in recent years. Important initiatives of the Chapter have included the Russian Exchange, the student mentor project and summer experience scholarship fund for wildlife students. The Chapter is a very ambitious and aggressive fund-raiser for these projects, and that's a difficult task for a group averaging 100 active members. This has worked because of the dedication of current leadership.

I'm certain the Chapter will continue to have the advantage of strong leaders from the community of wildlife professionals across the state. Success in the future will require maintaining the core of very active people willing to invest the time to achieve success. I suspect an important challenge for the Chapter will be to maintain (or better, increase) membership. There's a large number of people out there we haven't been able to attract to serve. Those folks need to be identified and courted, as they could contribute much to the State, the Chapter and wildlife resources. They would benefit greatly as well, they just don't know that yet! Among those groups are wildlife technicians and many folks in education and with NGO's.

I plan to be involved with the Chapter for some time, if a bit less intensively, in my retirement. Hunting and fishing is a much higher priority in my life since January 07!

Richard A. Lancia



Nickname: Dick, DL, Dr. L, Pigslayer, Ovenbird (my radio handle at summer camp), and other less flattering names

Position: Alumni Distinguished Professor, NCSU

Time at NCSU: 30 years

Phone,Address: 919-515-7586, Fisheries and Wildlife Program, Box 7646, NCSU, Raleigh, NC 27850; Richard.lancia@ncsu.edu

Education: BS University of Michigan 1968, MA Southern Illinois University 1974, PhD University of Massachusetts 1979

Born and Raised: Evanston, Illinois (one block north of Chicago)

Other Work Experience: USMC, 1968-71, artillery officer, Vietnam 1969-70, Purple Heart, rifle range officer Camp Lejeune, 1970-71 (does that count as work experience?)

Why a wildlife career? Must be genetic and skipped a generation. I grew up in the city -- neither of my parents was outdoorsy. But, my maternal grandfather was a country veterinarian in rural Pennsylvania in the 1910s-1940s. He doctored farm animals solely, I think, so he could get permission from farmers to hunt and fish on their property. I spent summers there as a pre-teenager, and my maiden aunt took me fishing as often as she could. I heard stories from my grandfather, who unfortunately was suffering from Parkinson's disease and couldn't go in the field any more. Maybe one day, when I retire, I'll go to the places on Mt. Savage that my grandfather described and seek the game he hunted -- primarily grouse and woodcock. He dreamed of deer and bear, but there wasn't any big game when he roamed those woods -- amazing how things have changed.

Always interested in wildlife? As a kid, I lived to fish. When everyone else in high school was going to football games (we won many state championships), I was off fishing. Growing up on

Lake Michigan, perch was the major sport fishery -- no salmon then. Can you imagine a kid riding the El (elevated train) in Chicago with a fly rod in his lap on his way to Wilmette or Montrose Harbor pier to fish for perch?

At Michigan I started out as a pre-dental major, but somehow discovered in my sophomore year that I could study ecology and wildlife management, which at that time were fledgling disciplines! I was elated to switch majors and learn about the things that really interested me. Looking back, my parents probably raised their eyebrows, but didn't protest. I wonder if they thought I would ever find a real job.

One of the highlights of my career has been my long-time involvement in TWS. First -- a little history for our younger members. Over parts of four decades, I have been active at state, regional, and national levels. I am a founding member of our state chapter and served as president; was president both nationally and the southeastern section (which means a lot of time on governing councils and executive committees); and served as Editor-in Chief of *The Journal of Wildlife Management* and the southeastern proceedings. So what does all this volunteerism mean? I see two things: (1) an opportunity to give back to a profession that has been so rewarding to me, and (2) a chance to make a difference. I hope others, when called to serve, will take advantage of the opportunity and do the same. It doesn't pay very well (i.e., nothing), but it has been most rewarding to me because I can look back and believe I made a difference. You can too. I encourage all of you to get involved with TWS in whatever way you can. It is truly one of the most rewarding experiences of my career.

Finally, what would fellow wildlife biologists be surprised to learn about me? I subscribe to Netflix and love to rent horror movies. I think it stems from when I was a kid going to double-feature matinees on Saturday afternoon and seeing things like *Body Snatchers*, *The Fly*, *The Blob*, *The Thing*, *Creature from the Black Lagoon*, and other classics of the 1950s and 60's. It undoubtedly warped me forever.

MUSINGS ON THE LIFE OF NCTWS

By Richard Lancia

I remember sitting in the McKimmon Center 25 years ago, as a fledgling faculty member at NC State, with a small group of fellow wildlife biologists, planning to establish the North Carolina Chapter of The Wildlife Society. I don't remember who all was there, but I have a vivid recollection of Dr. Don Hayne in the audience. For those who don't know of him, he was the penultimate wildlife statistical authority, who given the slightest opening, could crucify anyone who dared to present a scientific paper in his presence. So, I wondered what he would contribute to the seemingly straightforward, and certainly non-quantitative, discussions about setting up a TWS chapter. I think he saw his role as making sure all details of the Chapter's bylaws were as precise as his statistical thinking. Every time he made a comment, which in retrospect was seemingly far too often, I could feel a collective wince in the audience as they wondered what pitfall loomed ahead. Apparently, he did a pretty good job of keeping everyone on the straight and narrow, because 25 years later, the Chapter is well established and secure.

Why do I bring this up? It is because everyone with an interest in wildlife conservation and management (perhaps even statisticians) can make a contribution to our professional society. It is participation by a legion of concerned individuals like Dr. Hayne that established our Chapter, made it successful over the past quarter decade, and will ensure its success in the future.

If you are reading this, you are already engaged in our Chapter. Although we have done an excellent job recruiting members – up to two hundred and some at the latest count – what worries me most

about the future of our Chapter, and TWS nationally, is that there are many times that number of wildlife biologists who don't belong. To me, this is the biggest problem we face: Why isn't every wildlife biologist a member of TWS? Wildlife management and ecological problems will certainly get worse, and the only way we are going to influence outcomes is to work together collectively. Although wildlife biologists have different interests and specialties, we all share a common concern for the welfare of the natural world and all the ecosystem services and recreational benefits it provides Mankind. It is incumbent upon us to put differences aside and work together. Furthermore, it is an obligation of a true professional to be a member of one's professional society. I recognize that there are other ecologically based societies, but TWS is the only one with a significant focus on applied management.

So, what can we do? You've heard this before. Every one of us knows a colleague who isn't a member of our Chapter. Get them to join. If they complain that ten bucks is too much, lend them the doe. If your employer makes it difficult to participate, get after them to change their policy. After all, wouldn't every employer benefit from having a more professional workforce? It seems to me that this is a win-win for employer and employee.

Perhaps I am an anomaly. I have been active in TWS for my entire career that spans four decades. If I could do it, why can't everyone else? And you don't necessarily have to be a card-carrying biologist – just think back to Dr. Hayne. Everyone can, and should, contribute something.

CHAPTER VISION STATEMENT

*To guide and promote the conservation and management
of wildlife resources throughout North Carolina.*

The CHAPTER MISSION STATEMENT and CHAPTER OBJECTIVES
can be viewed on the Chapter's website at:

www.nctws.org



THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

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