

# South Dakota Chapter

## The Wildlife Society



# A Prairie Voice

## January 2016



### What's Inside...

- **President's Message**
- **Photo Contest**
- **2016 Annual Meeting Highlights & Agenda**
- **Chapter Sponsored Events**
- **Board Meeting Minutes**

# A Message From the President



Greetings! The SDTWS board recently met in preparation for the upcoming annual meeting which will be held February 29th - March 2 at Cedar Shore Resort in Oacoma, SD. The theme of this year's special session is "A Look at the Past, Present and Future in Wildlife Conservation". This theme fits well with our 50th anniversary celebration! President-elect Nathan Baker has done a wonderful job putting together a great program with many interesting presentations.

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Secretary Kelly Hepler will be attending and speaking to our group on wildlife management and habitat. I am also pleased to announce that The Wildlife Society President, Gary Potts will be attending and presenting on "Why Wildlife Matter". We will have a presentation and demonstration on drones and Nathan has scheduled a showing and discussion



on the Green Fire Video "Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time". As mentioned in previous newsletters, our keynote speaker will be Shane Mahoney which should be very enlightening and entertaining.

I am a bit troubled to report that at the recent business meeting the board was scrambling to find candidates to run for board and president elect. This issue seems to be getting worse each year. It is very unfortunate that we have few if any individuals willing to step up and support our chapter by giving back with their time and commitment. Thank you to Ben Lardy and Nick Markl for stepping up to run for board member. Their bios will appear later in this newsletter.

We do have some non-elected committee chairs that are open as well. The committees are Resolutions and Public Statements and Fundraising. Casey Heimerl recently stepped down from the fundraising committee. We discussed her duties at our recent board meeting. I can tell you that while the duties are vital to SDTWS and in particular the annual meeting, they are not overwhelming. Please consider taking on one of these positions. Just contact a board member if you are interested. Here is another opportunity to give back to SDTWS!



As we do every year at the annual meeting, we will be holding an auction to raise money to offset costs of the annual meeting. Please consider donating items for the auction. We will also be offering a gun for raffle. This year's item will be engraved with our 50th anniversary logo! Please bring plenty of cash to buy tickets to win this item. Please remember we are still accepting photos for our photo contest and will do so through the annual meeting. Please contact Julie DeJong if you have any questions.

## Congratulations!

I would like to recognize a couple of our members for receiving awards/recognition this past year. First congratulations to Dennie Mann. Dennie was selected for the Central Mountains and Plains Section Professional of the Year Award. You may remember that Dennie received the SDTWS Professional of the Year Award as well in 2015. I would also like to recognize Dr. Kenneth Higgins. Dr. Higgins received the TWS Fellows Award in 2015. This award recognizes current TWS members who have distinguished themselves through exceptional service to the wildlife profession and have been members for at least 10 years. Dr. Higgins will be presenting to us at the annual conference. Please congratulate these gentlemen when you get the chance.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the annual meeting!

John Kanta

President - South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society

## 2016 Annual Meeting

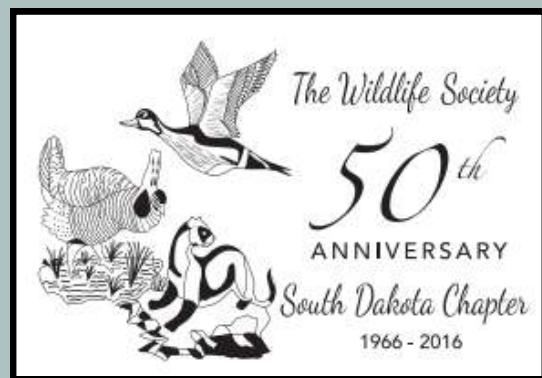
February 29–March 2, 2016

Cedar Shores Resort—Oacoma, SD

Call for room reservations :

605-734-6376

Block of rooms will be held until Friday, Feb 5th





# Annual Meeting Highlights

Monday Evening - Social,  
Fundraising Auction,  
Live Band featuring The Sidehackers

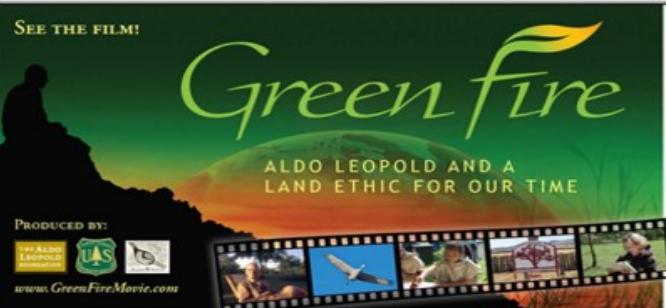


SEE THE FILM!

# Green fire

ALDO LEOPOLD AND A LAND ETHIC FOR OUR TIME

PRODUCED BY:  
Aldo Leopold Foundation, USFS, USFWS  
[www.GreenFireMovie.com](http://www.GreenFireMovie.com)



SCREENING INFORMATION

DATE: Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>  
TIME: 1:00 PM  
LOCATION: Cedar Shore Resort  
SPONSORS: SDTWS

Green Fire is more than a documentary about the great conservationist Aldo Leopold. It portrays how Leopold's vision of a community that cares about both people and land—his call for a

land ethic—ties together a wide range of modern conservation concerns and offers inspiration and insight for the future. The Green Fire film shares highlights from Leopold's multifaceted career, explaining how he shaped and influenced the modern conservation movement. It also shows how relevant his ideas are in modern society through a focus on individuals and organizations working to connect people and land at the local level...



**Jed Meunier**, Ecologist and Great-grandson of Aldo Leopold, will lead a discussion of the movie....

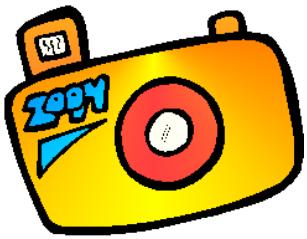
Keynote Speaker Shane Mahoney is an internationally recognized wildlife expert, conservationist, scientist, and thought leader. Former Executive Director of Sustainable Development and Strategic Science for the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Shane is now the founder and CEO of Conservation Visions Inc., a global wildlife initiative focused on providing a broad suite of services to stakeholders within the international conservation community. Shane serves as Vice-Chair of the IUCN's Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group (SULi), International Liaison for the Wildlife Society, and North American Expert to the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC).





## PHOTO CONTEST

We know our members have great pictures from their outside adventures including landscapes, hunting, outdoor recreation, and flora/fauna. We would like to showcase your pictures during a photo contest at this year's annual meeting.

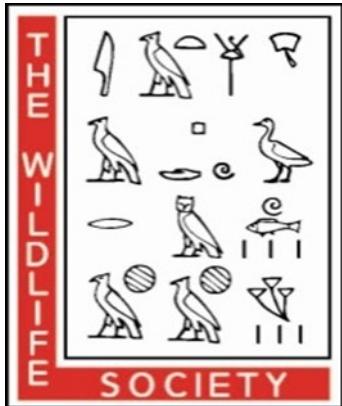


**Entry fee:** \$5 per photo—no limit on number of entries

**Size:** 8x10 attached to 10x12 black cardboard / foam board mat

- Photos can be submitted prior to the meeting to any board member or can be brought to the annual meeting
- Winner will be chosen by popular vote at 2016 Annual Meeting & receive 50% of the entry fees.
- The winning photo will be displayed on the SDTWS website and will be made into a canvas to be auctioned off at 2017 annual meeting.





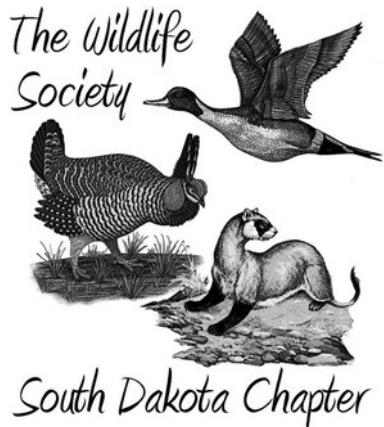
## THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

South Dakota Chapter

50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Program

Cedar Shore Resort and Convention Center  
Oacoma, South Dakota

29 February - 2 March, 2016



### MONDAY, 29 FEBRUARY

11:00 1:00 **Registration and Lunch (sponsored by Truax Company)**

1:00 1:15 **Welcome and Introductions**

#### **Special Session: A Look at the Past, Present, and Future in Wildlife Conservation**

1:15 1:30 **History of South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

John Kanta\*, SDTWS President, Nathan Baker, SDTWS President-Elect

1:30 2:00 **Why Wildlife Matter...**

Gary Potts, The Wildlife Society President (2015-2016) & Fellow

2:00 2:30 **Musings on How the Mix of Science, Politics, and Common Sense Drives Decision Making**

Kelly Hepler, Secretary, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks

2:30 2:50 **Back from the Brink – Some Endangered Species Recovery Stories that touch South Dakota**

Eileen Dowd-Stukel, Senior Wildlife Biologist – Wildlife Diversity Coordinator, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks

2:50 3:10 **BREAK**

3:10 3:30 **Changes in Bird Records Reporting and the Development of the Official Checklist of South Dakota Birds**

Dave Swanson, Professor and Director, Missouri River Institute, University of South Dakota

3:30 3:50 **SD Giant Canada Goose Restoration, 1962 – 1998**

Rocco Murano, Paul Mammenga, Spencer Vaa\*

3:50 4:30 **Drones/UAV's**

Dominique Chabot\*

4:30 5:00 **Social**

5:00 **Supper**

6:00 **Fundraising Auction**



8:00 10:00 **Live Band (The Sidehackers)**



## **TUESDAY, 1 MARCH**

8:00a 8:30 **Committee meetings**  
(This is scheduled time to allow for standing and special committees to meet if desired.)

8:30 12:00 **Annual Chapter Business Meeting**

12:00p 1:00 **Luncheon**  
**Special Session: Green Fire Video**

1:00 3:00 **Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time, Green Fire Video**  
Jed Meunier, WI DNR, Ecologist and Great-grandson of Aldo Leopold.



3:00 3:20 **BREAK**

### **Session One: Contributed Papers**

3:20 3:40 **Update on Management of the Fort Pierre National Grassland**  
Ruben Mares\* and Dan Svingen

3:40 4:00 **Distribution of Native Habitats in Eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota**  
Pete Bauman

4:00 4:20 **Fen soils in carbonate-rich systems of SD: Formation, function and classification**  
Doug Wysocki

4:20 4:40 **Conserving the Plains and Prairie Pothole Ecoregions: A Land Relations Scale**  
Lily Sweikert

4:40 5:00 **Birds, Butterflies, Honey Bees, Dung Beetles, and Jackrabbits: Today's Coal-Mine Canaries: Inconceivable or Not!?**  
Kenneth F. Higgins

5:00 5:30 **BREAK**

5:30 6:00 **Social**

6:00 7:00 **Supper**

7:00 8:00 **Keynote Speaker – “Conservation Matters”**



Shane Mahoney - Internationally recognized wildlife expert, conservationist, scientist, and thought leader. Former Executive Director of Sustainable Development and Strategic Science for the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Shane is now the founder and CEO of Conservation Visions Inc.

## **WEDNESDAY, 2 March**

### **Session Two: Contributed Papers**

8:00 8:20 **Development of a long-term grassland songbird monitoring program for South Dakota with an emphasis on species of greatest conservation need**  
Kassondra Hendricks\*

8:20 8:40 **Community Associations of Grassland Birds on Grazed Mixed-Grass Prairie Occupied by Black-tailed Prairie Dogs**  
Wyatt Mack\*

8:40 9:00 **Species composition and plague prevalence in fleas from small mammals in mixed grass prairies: Implications for the maintenance of enzootic plague**  
Lauren P. Maestas\*

9:00 9:20 **Elk Resource Selection at Parturition Sites, Black Hills, South Dakota**  
Chadwick P. Lehman\*

9:20 9:40 **Predator corridor use in an aspen-dominated (*Populus spp.*) forest at the Olson's Bison Conservation Ranches, Manitoba, Canada.**  
Ryan N. Dufour\*

9:40 10:00 **BREAK**

10:00 10:20 **Evaluation Of Waterfowl Use And Thermal Characteristics Of Alfalfa And Perennial Grasses In Eastern South Dakota**  
Neal Martorelli\*

10:20 10:40 **Novel contributions of wetlands in South Dakota's intensively farmed landscapes for spring-migrating ducks**  
Adam Janke\*

10:40 11:00 **Evaluation of Anthraquinone as a deterrent to Canada goose damage on soybeans**  
Matt Gottlob\*

11:00 11:20 **Current Status of Falcon Populations in Saudi Arabia**  
Albara M. Binothman\*

11:20 12:00 **Present Student and Open Presentation Awards**  
**Gun Raffle Drawing**  
**Closing Comments and Adjourn Meeting**

\* indicates presenter

### **Contributed Posters:**

#### **Associating Allelic Diversity and *Mycoplasma Ovipneumoniae* Shedding Histories in Bighorn Sheep**

Austin J. Wieseler\*, Brandi L. Felts, Justin E. Jensen, Daniel P. Walsh, Thomas E. Besser, E. Frances Cassirer, Kristine L. Pilgrim, Michael K. Schwartz, Troy W. Grovenburg, Michael G. Gonda, and Jonathan A. Jenks

#### **Dynamics of contour feather molt among spring-migrating blue-winged teal**

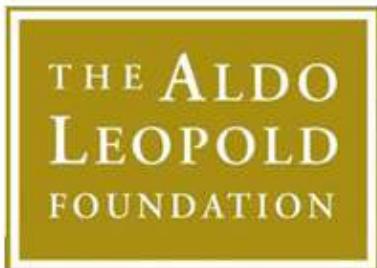
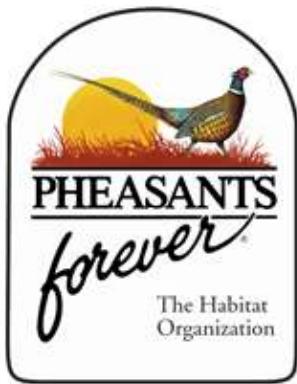
Alyse E. Homola\*, Adam K. Janke, Michael J. Anteau, Joshua D. Stafford



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP**

If you are not able to attend the 2016 Annual meeting, please remember to fill out the membership renewal [form](#), and send your payment to Julie DeJong, 304 North Cherry Street, Lennox, SD 57039. Your membership dues are vital to helping the SDTWS chapter support numerous activities vital to our mission....And we keep up to date with any address and email changes. Thanks...

## 2016 Annual Meeting Sponsors



## **South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

### **2015 Executive Board Elections**

Information on candidates for President Elect and Executive Board Member is presented below. If you are not able to attend the 2015 SDTWS annual meeting at the Cedar Shores Resort, an absentee ballot is included in this edition of *A Prairie Voice*.

#### **Candidate for President Elect—Joshua Stafford**

Dr. Joshua Stafford is a Waterfowl Ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey's South Dakota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, where he serves as Assistant Unit Leader and is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Natural Resource Management at South Dakota State University. Prior to this position, he was Director of the Stephen A. Forbes Biological Station and Frank C. Bellrose Waterfowl Research Center with the Illinois Natural History Survey. Recent research interests focus on factors influencing onset of migration in waterfowl, condition of waterfowl that use agricultural landscapes, and ways to improve habitat management for multiple avian species. He is an avid waterfowl hunter, and he and his chocolate lab, Typha, enjoy spending the fall in the marshes of South Dakota.

#### **Candidate for Executive Board— Ben Lardy**

Personal Info: I live near Grenville, SD with my yellow lab pup Woodrow.

Education: Bachelor of Science from South Dakota State University 2011

Current Position: Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist (2011-Present)

Memberships and Affiliations: South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Pheasants Forever Life Member, Habitat Chair for the Day County Chapter of Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, and the South Dakota Grassland Coalition.

Professional Interests: My primary interest is in the development, improvement and implementation of private lands conservation programs-Federal, state and local. Other interests include the promotion of working lands habitat practices that benefit South Dakota's wildlife- including crop rotations, cover crops, and grazing land management. I also have a strong interest in young professional recruitment and development. It is critical that future natural resource professionals not only have strong technical skills, but can also effectively work and communicate with the general public, private landowners and other stakeholders of South Dakota's wildlife resources.

Personal Interests: Hunting and Fishing the Glacial Lakes, seeing new country, and bartending part time at the Webster American Legion.

#### **Candidate for Executive Board —Nick Markl**

I grew up in Windom, MN. I enjoy hunting, fishing, camping and anything else related to the outdoors. I knew from a young age that I wanted to work in the wildlife field so I went to South Dakota State University and obtained my BS degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. While in College I worked four internships with SD Game Fish and Parks, three summers in Watertown working with wildlife damage and waterfowl biologists, and one summer working on elk research in Custer State Park. After graduating college and finishing up my last internship, I took a full time position with SDGFP in Webster, SD as a Wildlife Damage Specialist. This position allows me to work with wildlife landowners on a daily basis as well as helping out with various research projects and surveys going on in the region. I am also a member of Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, and the local trap shooting club.

# **South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

## **Absentee Ballot**

### **For President Elect:**

(Vote for One)

**Joshua Stafford**

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write in)

### **For Executive Board Member:**

(Vote for One)

**Ben Lardy**

**Nick Markl**

\_\_\_\_\_ (Write in)

If you are unable to attend the South Dakota Chapter of The Wildlife Society Meeting, please complete this absentee ballot and return it by February 19, 2016 to Nathan Baker, SDGFP, 20641 SD Hwy 1806, Fort Pierre, SD 57532

# SDTWS Chapter Sponsored Events

## Bald Eagle Awareness Days 2016

Our chapter is again supporting this educational event, which will feature live raptors brought by educators from The Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota. The schedule is as follows:

### Thursday, February 25

The Outdoor Campus East  
2500 S. Oxbow Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD  
Start time: 6:30 pm (Registration Required)

### Saturday, February 27

Ramkota River Center  
920 W Sioux Avenue, Pierre, SD  
Start times: 10:30am, 12:30am, and 2:00pm



The event will also feature school programs in Plankinton and a statewide raptor bookmark contest for 5th graders. The SDGFP Outdoor Campus West in Rapid City is also hosting a Raptor Open House from 10:00 - 3:00 with a presentation by the Black Hills Raptor Center at 1pm. No registrations required.

## Castlewood High School Wood Duck Box Project

SDTWS received a funding request from Doug Ruesink, Castlewood High School shop teacher, requesting assistance for purchasing supplies for his students to build wood duck boxes and distribute them to area residents. This has been a yearly project for Mr. Ruesink's class. This year his class of 9 students in grades 10 - 12 worked for about 6 weeks, 40 minutes a day, to complete 18 duck houses.

*"It really is a great project that the kids enjoy doing and take pride in their work. I think this group did a great job on them and they will make an awesome nesting place for wood ducks in the area." - Thank you, Mr. Ruesink*



# Congratulations!!

## Ken Higgins Get Thumbs Up From TWS President Baydack

Page 3 • Volga Tribune • November 19, 2015

### Former Volga resident receives national award

Ken Higgins of Brookings, a former rural Volga resident was recently presented with a Fellow Award from The Wildlife Society at their 22nd annual conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The membership of The Wildlife Society totals over 9,000 individuals in one of 42 different countries.

The TWS Fellow Award recognizes members of the Society who have distinguished themselves through exceptional service to the society and to the wildlife profession during their career. They are encouraged to engage in TWS activities that will benefit and promote the society and the wildlife profession as a whole.

Higgins joined The Wildlife Society in 1963 while a student at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. During his career Ken has served TWS in various leadership capacities including being president of the North Dakota Chapter, the South



Ken Higgins, left, received a Fellow Award from Dr. Rick Baydack, president of The Wildlife Society and a professor at the University of Manitoba, Canada.

kota Chapter, and the Central Mountain and Plains sections of TWS. In 1998, Higgins was elected as the first recipient of the Fellow Award of the South Dakota Academy of Science. He retired in January 2006 after a career of 40-plus years of service as a Wildlife Research Biologist with the U.S. Department of the Interior; for 20 years, he held a joint appointment as a university professor and as the assistant leader of the SD Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Unit at South Dakota State University and the SD Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit in Brookings. Higgins continues to be active with the University and The Wildlife Society in a Professor Emeritus capacity.

The award winner currently resides in Brookings where he spends time writing and publishing books and research articles for various journals.

### 2015 Central Mountains and Plains Section

#### Wildlife Professional of the Year -Awarded to Dennie Mann

Dennie Mann received the SDTWS Wildlife Professional of the Year Chapter Award at our 2015 Annual meeting, and his nomination was also submitted to the



Central Mountains and Plains Section. At the CMPS Annual Meeting in August of 2015, Dennie was recognized and awarded the Central Mountains and Plains Section Wildlife Professional of the Year!

Congratulations, Dennie!!!

# Check it out...

- SDTWS has a new website..

<http://wildlife.org/south-dakota-chapter/>



- SDTWS is on Facebook!

Click [here](#) to join the group! Facebook is a great way to share information, post events, to stimulate discussions on environmental issues or other topics of interest.

Contact Chuck Pyle at [goosemansd@hotmail.com](mailto:goosemansd@hotmail.com) if you have events, pictures, or topics you would like posted to the site.

## The Wildlife Society News

### Popular Articles on the TWS website

- [Video: Map Illustrates Bird Migrations Across America](#)
- [FWS Proposes New Methods for Prioritizing Listing Petitions](#)
- [Mortality Survey Shows Leading Causes of Bat Deaths](#)

For the latest TWS News Center

<http://wildlife.org/learn/news-center/>



23rd Annual Conference

Save the Date!

Raleigh, NC  
October 15-19, 2016

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**  
Leaders in Wildlife Science, Management and Conservation

# Save the date!

Central Mountain and Plains Annual meeting  
Steamboat Springs, Colorado

August 8-11, 2016.



Photo credit Sheraton Steamboat Springs

It's a great time of year to be in Steamboat Springs and we are going to be on the mountain so easy access to hiking, mountain biking, wildlife, and a great scientific program ☺

We are looking for suggestions for workshops so if you have any suggestions, please contact Mindy Rice at [mindy.rice@state.co.us](mailto:mindy.rice@state.co.us).

Put it on your calendar now!

We are looking for suggestions for workshops so if you have any suggestions, please contact Mindy Rice at [mindy.rice@state.co.us](mailto:mindy.rice@state.co.us).

## SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

### Application for Membership Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (indicate home or work) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (for newsletter delivery) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:**

SDTWS's newsletter, *A Prairie Voice*, is all-electronic. Therefore, an e-mail address must be provided above in order to receive it (paper copies will be provided only to individuals who do not have a computer, internet access, or an email address).

Please Check One:  New Member\*  2016 Dues Renewal

\* If you did not pay your dues in 2015 you will be considered a new member as per the SDTWS Bylaws.

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Send the completed application/renewal form and a check for \$10.00 (regular), \$6.00 (student) to:

Julie DeJong  
304 North Cherry Street  
Lennox, SD 57039  
(605) 214-1779

Regular Dues: \$10.00

Student Dues: \$6.00

Life Membership dues are prorated by age as follows:

Age 20 to 35: 25 x annual dues (\$10 x 25 = \$250)

Age 36 to 45: 20 x annual dues (\$10 x 20 = \$200)

Age 46 to 65: 17.5 x annual dues (\$10 x 17.5 = \$175)

Age 66 to 75: 12.5 x annual dues (\$10 x 12.5 = \$125)

Age 76 and over: Free

For more information on becoming a life member, contact Chuck Pyle (605) 353-5753.



# THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

*Leaders in Wildlife Science, Management and Conservation*

## APPLY NOW FOR 2016 LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The Wildlife Society (TWS) is currently accepting applications for its Leadership Institute. The Institute's goal is to facilitate the development of new leaders within TWS and the wildlife profession. The Institute will recruit 10-15 promising early-career professionals for a series of intensive activities and mentoring relationships. The focus will be on exposing the participants to the inner workings of TWS and increasing the number of active leaders in TWS and the wildlife profession.

From May until October, participants will engage in a series of activities to develop and expand their leadership skills. Institute members will attend the TWS Annual Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina (October 14-19, 2016) and participate in various activities, including mentoring and leadership workshop sessions. The Institute is free, and participants receive free registration and a travel grant to attend the conference.

Participation in the Institute is geared toward early-career professionals who are 2 to 3 years out of school (either undergraduate or graduate school), currently working full-time in a wildlife professional position, and have demonstrated evidence of their leadership potential. Also eligible are more recent graduates who have shown strong evidence of their leadership potential and those who are working while concurrently pursuing a graduate degree. All applicants must be dues-paying members of TWS and a Chapter or Section of TWS. The selection committee will be seeking to create a diverse group with participants of varying gender, ethnic, and regional diversity. Selection will be based upon:

- An excellent academic record
- Demonstrated leadership capability or potential
- Demonstrated level of excellence in current position
- Commitment to and involvement in TWS

Preference will be given to individuals who are certified as Associate Wildlife Biologists® or Certified Wildlife Biologists®, or who have submitted such an application to TWS.

**Applicants must submit (in one PDF, excluding online application form and recommendation letters):**

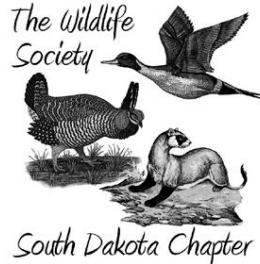
- Application form (available at <http://wildlife.org/LIApplication-2016>)
- Cover letter with evidence of leadership capacity or potential, such as previous leadership positions held in TWS Chapters or Student Chapters or in other organizations
- Résumé including a list of publications, awards, etc.
- Academic transcript/s
- 2 letters of recommendation from supervisors, academic advisors, professors, or others in leadership positions with whom you have worked and who are familiar with your leadership potential, commitment to TWS, and commitment to wildlife management and conservation
  - Letters should be emailed directly to [leadership@wildlife.org](mailto:leadership@wildlife.org), subject line "Leadership Institute Recommendation for [applicant last name]"
- An essay (1000 word limit), which succinctly summarizes (1) your concept of leadership, (2) your aspiration for your role within TWS in 5 to 10 years, and (3) why you are an ideal candidate for the Institute

# Executive Board Meeting

January 19, 2016

Call to order 10:0 AM CST

Cedar Shores Resort, Oacoma



President: John Kanta, President Elect: Nathan Baker, Past President: Mark Norton, Treasurer/Secretary: Julie DeJong, Board Members: Alex Solem and Lee Erickson

## Secretary/Treasurer's Report

- Approval of minutes from last meeting
- Approval of treasurers report

## Old Business

- Fundraising Committee Chair – Casey Heimerl
  - ⇒ Before meeting:
  - ⇒ Keep up on items as they are brought in, send thank-you's, Laying out items, separate into live and silent, forms/pens, Casey willing to help out this year, will send excel file and forms
  - ⇒ Suggests making a post-it for each item with donor, item desc., etc. to take to the podium.
  - ⇒ Auctioneer –
- Section Awards - TWS Fellows and the Group Achievement Award
  - No nomination for this year

## New business

- New board member/president nominations
- Board had a discussion about president nomination but there are no candidates, will need to call some people to see if they will get involved, need something in newsletter
- Potential board candidates to talk with:
  - Josh Delger, Brian Pauly, Emily H, Dale Gates, Jacquie Ermer
- Award Nominations reviewed
  - Will take some time to look over and vote by email this week
- Review/discussion meeting registration form
- Increased meal rate
- Increased registration cost to cover speakers, band, extras due to 50th Anniversary
- Costs estimated to cover the meeting with predicted attendance
- Motion to double fees general – Solem, Baker second, All in Favor
- Add retirees to student category for registration fees
- Annual meeting checklist review and assignments
- Program review – Baker, Sponsorships – Group, Gun Raffle – Kanta,
- Finalize menu with Kathi from Cedar Shores

# SDTWS Executive Board 2015

## President

John Kanta

SD Game, Fish & Parks  
4130 Adventure Trail  
Rapid City, SD 57702  
(605) 394-2391

## Past-President

Mark Norton

SD Game, Fish & Parks  
523 East Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57501  
(605) 773-3096

## President-Elect

Nathan Baker

SD Game, Fish & Parks  
20641 SD Hwy 1806  
Fort Pierre, SD 57532  
(605) 223-7709

## Secretary-Treasurer

Julie DeJong

304 North Cherry Street  
Lennox, SD 57039  
(605) 214-1779

## Board Member

Lee Erickson

NRCS  
200 4th Street, Room 208  
Huron, SD 57350  
(605) 352-1281

## Board Member

Alex Solem

SD Game, Fish & Parks  
895 3rd Street SW  
Huron, SD 57350  
(605) 353-7319

Northern Great Plains Working Group Representative: Rocco Murano, 353-7185

## **The South Dakota Chapter TWS Objectives are:**

- To develop and promote sound stewardship of wildlife resources and of the environment upon which wildlife and humans depend.
- To undertake an active role in preventing human-induced environmental degradation.
- To increase awareness and appreciation of wildlife values.
- To seek the highest standards in all activities of the wildlife profession.

**To aid in the achievement of these objectives,  
the South Dakota Chapter proposes to:**

- Provide opportunities for better liaison among individual members, their Section, and The Society.
- Evaluate and respond to the principles involved in proposed or enacted societal actions that could affect wildlife or its habitats.
- Recognize and commend outstanding professional achievements in maintenance, restoration and enhancement of habitats for wildlife.
- Focus the aims and objectives of The Society and the Central Mountains and Plains Section upon professional wildlife needs, problems, and events in local situations.
- Encourage communication between members and nonmembers to facilitate understanding and effectiveness of research and management of wildlife resources.

Evaluate the principles involved in proposed or enacted public or private actions that could affect wildlife and to make these evaluations known to the public and public officials.

## SDTWS—Standing Committee Chairs \*

Audit - Mark Norton, 773-3096  
Awards - Nathan Baker 223-7709  
Conservation Review - Paul Coughlin, 773-4194  
Education & Information - Laura Hubers, 947-4521  
Membership - Chuck Pyle, 353-5753  
Program - Nathan Baker 223-7709  
Nominations and Elections - Nathan Baker 223-7709  
Resolutions & Public Statements - Vacant

## SDTWS - Special Committee Chairs \*

Arrangements - Mark Norton, 773-3096 & Tom Kirschenmann, 352-1874  
Certification - Troy Grovenburg, 688-5064  
Chapter History - Corey Huxoll, 773-4195  
Energy - K C Jensen, 688-4781 & Silka Kempema, 773-2742  
Fee Hunting & Ownership of Wildlife - Andy Lindbloom, 223-7709  
Fund Raising - Casey Heimerl, 773-4345  
Grassland Issues - Lee Erickson, 347-4952  
Missouri River Issues - Nathan Baker, 223-7709  
Newsletter - Jennifer Briggs, 256-2974  
Website - Charlene "Charlie" Bessken, 222-9445  
Public Lands - Dennis Mann, 939-8156, Eddie Childers, 433-5263  
Tribal Fish & Wildlife - Diane Mann-Klager, 226-7621  
Wetlands - Randy Meidinger, 380-0380  
Wildlife Diseases - Steve Griffin, 394-6786  
Wildlife Diversity - Eileen Stukel, 773-4229, Silka Kempema, 773-2742  
Workshop - Travis Runia, 353-8477 & Casey Heimerl, 773-4345

\*Please see the Committees webpage at [SDTWS](#) to find the list of Committee members and email contact information.