

The Southwestern Association of Naturalists
Minutes of the Business Meeting
San Antonio, Texas
Friday, 16 April 2004

President Edie Marsh-Matthews called the meeting to order at 10:38 a.m. with a quorum present.

President Marsh-Matthews appointed the Wilks Award presenters (Gabe S. Bever, Melody Brooks, L.M. Guevara-Chumacero, Carl W. Dick, and S.P. Egan) to serve as tellers for the BOG election.

The membership approved the Minutes of the 2003 Business Meeting as printed in *The Southwestern Naturalist* 49(1) after Howard McCarley's name was corrected from Howard W. McCarley in the places it appears.

Treasurer Jake Schaefer gave the Treasurer's report, with copies of the written version to the BOG available. He reported income, expenses, and checkbook activity as provided in the written report and as summarized in the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors and Officers (BOG).

The Treasurer then reported on memberships, with details on 2003 and current memberships contained in the written report and summarized in the Minutes of the Meeting of the BOG of 15 April 2004. He also presented a roster of new members for approval. There was a motion and second to approve the new members. The motion carried.

Schaefer then reported a summary of the 2005 proposed balanced budget of \$84,400 approved at the Meeting of the BOG on 15 April 2005. The minutes of that meeting summarize the report. President Marsh-Matthews called for questions on the budget, and there were none.

The Secretary read a summary of the 2003 Meeting of the Board of Governors and Officers (BOG).

The President announced that Loren Ammerman had been elected to the post of Secretary after David McNeely resigned. She also asked for a volunteer to become Program Director at the request of Ronald A. Van den Bussche, who has provided long, excellent service in that post.

President Marsh-Matthews then conducted the election for the BOG. Eight persons were nominated, and the election results were to be announced at the banquet on Saturday evening.

Jerry Choate reported for the Trustees that SWAN had a very successful investment year. Details are available in his written report and a summary appears in the Minutes of the Meeting of the BOG.

Edie Marsh-Matthews reported for the Budget Oversight Committee that the society's financial records are in good order, and that the committee found no discrepancies or causes for concern in the records.

Mark Eberle reported that publication of the journal is progressing in a timely fashion, with all of Volume 48 and numbers 1 and 2 of 49 published. Eberle thanked the Associate Editors and the other staff members for their valuable contributions. Several editorial board changes were also announced, and Eberle described some details of the changeover to electronic manuscript review and processing that have improved efficiency, as reported in the Minutes of the Meeting of the BOG.

Paula Williamson, Chair of the Honors Committee, announced that the BOG approved awarding the W. Frank Blair Eminent Naturalist Award to William W. Tanner and the Donald W. Tinkle Research

Excellence Award to James Dixon. Presentations were to be made at the banquet at the 2005 Annual Meeting in Huntsville, Texas:

Robert Channell announced for the Conservation Committee that the committee had nominated a paper from recent issues of *The Southwestern Naturalist* for the George Miksch Sutton Conservation Award, that the BOG had approved the nomination, and that the awardees would be named at the banquet

Karen McBee reported for the Student Awards Committee that there were 12 entries for the Wilks Award, and that 5 of them were selected for presentation; that there were 16 entries for the Hubbs Award, and 18 proposals for the McCarley Student Research Awards, 5 of which were funded at \$1000 each. All winners were to be announced at the banquet on Saturday.

Marsh-Matthews then heard other committee reports as follows:

1. Philip Sudman reported on the Membership Committee's activity over the past year in awarding 18 Student Memberships and producing a brochure to advertise the Association. He also solicited nominees for this year's Student Membership Awards.
2. John T. Baccus reported for the Development Committee. He provided information on plans the committee is forming in order to carry out the charge from the BOG to raise \$100,000 into the endowments to support student activities including research.
3. Historian Meredith J. Hamilton called on the membership to donate items to make the society's historical record more complete.
4. Ronald A. Van Den Bussche reported for the Program Committee. He thanked the Local Committee for its work in making this year's meeting a success, and reminded the membership that next year's meeting is in Huntsville, Texas hosted by Sam Houston State University.
5. Bill Van Auken reported for this year's Local Committee. He made announcements concerning the logistics of the meeting, and thanked those who worked to make the meeting a success.
6. Robert D. Owen reported for the *ad hoc* Cross Border Affairs Committee that the Student Travel Awards program continued its success, with awards given to 17 attendees from Mexico. He also noted that this year's meeting has more non-U.S. residents in attendance than any previous SWAN meeting held in the U.S., and he observed that visa application and travel to the U.S. remain difficult for some.
7. Marsh-Matthews reported that the Long Range Planning Committee has addressed the issues that were originally before it and changes implemented. The committee seeks input on future directions to take.
8. Edie Marsh-Matthews announced that the International Relations Committee was elevated to a Standing Committee. Bruce Stewart, chair of that committee, appealed for issues from the membership, and Marsh-Matthews opined that bi-lingual needs of the Association would increase in importance.
9. Dan Hough reported for the Web Site Committee the successful transition to the OU Biological Survey server and changes to support readability, searching, and use by Spanish language users.
10. Robert C. Dowler reported for the Disposition of Back Issues Committee that back issues are still available at \$1.00 per issue and \$100 per set, though the committee has been successful in its task of reducing the inventory. He also announced that 1 set would be awarded at the student social. He thanked the Angelo State University personnel and undergraduate students who have assisted the committee.
11. Carl W. Dick reported for the Student Advisory Committee by first recognizing the student members, providing thanks to SWAN for its student orientation activity and other support to encourage student participation in the society's activities, and announced a student social to take place on Friday, 17 April. He also reminded students of the workshop and encouraged their participation.

President Marsh-Matthews then took up New and Unfinished Business.

1. William Lutterschmidt presented plans for the 2005 meeting in Huntsville, Texas.
2. M. de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz and Cornelio Sanchez-Hernandez presented plans for the 2006 meeting in Colima, Mexico.

Following a motion to do so, a second, and approval, the Business Meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

The following actions were taken at the Banquet on the evening of Saturday, 17 April 2004:

1. Past-President Paula S. Williamson presented her “Swan Song,” a review of “Memorable Swan Songs.”
2. President Edie-Marsh Matthews presented Distinguished Awards as follows:
 - a. Robert L. Packard Outstanding Educator Award to Robert C. Dowler of Angelo State University.
 - b. Donald W. Tinkle Research Excellence Award to Ronald A. Van den Bussche of Oklahoma State University
 - c. W. Frank Blair Eminent Naturalist Award to Albert P. (“Pat”) Blair of the University of Tulsa in absentia. Marsh-Matthews also announced that a contingent of SWAN members had presented the plaque for this award to Dr. Blair in August at the University of Tulsa, since Dr. Blair is unable to travel.
3. Robert Owen and Celia Lopez-Gonzalez presented Student Travel Awards to recipients from Latin America:

Aguilar-Muñoz	Rosa María	Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa
Arenas Ríos	Edith	Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa
Cadena Salgado	Martin	Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Morelos
Camacho Paz	María de los Angeles	Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa
Espino López	Miriam	Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Biológicas, Instituto Politecnico Nacional
Flores Martínez	José Juan	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico
García Mendoza	Diego Francisco	CIIDIR-IPN Unidad Durango
García Ruiz	Gilberto Federico	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico
González Botello	Miguel	Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León
Guevara Chumacero	Luis Manuel	Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa
Hernández Betancourt	Silvia F.	Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán
León Galván	Miguel Angel	Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa
Reyna Fabián	Mariana	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico
Rodríguez Vargas	Marcelina	Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa
Rojas González	Ramon Isaac	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico
Tejeda Vera	Ricardo	Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Biológicas, Instituto Politecnico Nacional
Zúñiga-Vega	José Jaime	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico

4. President-elect Karen McBee presented the Wilks Award to Scott P. Egan of Texas State University for his presentation entitled: “Host Plant Quality and Local Adaptation as Determinants of the Distribution of a Gall-forming Herbivore.”

5. Clark Hubbs presented the Clark Hubbs Student Poster Award to Jason L. Malaney of Eastern New Mexico University for his poster (coauthored with Jennifer K. Frey of the University of New Mexico) entitled, "Habitat Selection by Snowshoe Hare and Mountain Cottontail in a Zone of Sympatry."
6. Marian McCarley presented the Howard McCarley Student Research Awards to 5 students:

Katie N. Bertrand, Kansas State University. "Interactive effects of disturbance frequency and species composition on ecosystem functioning of intermittent streams."

P. Raelynn Deaton, University of Oklahoma. "Use of microsatellite paternity analysis to determine reproductive success in parasitized male mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*)."

Josh Donlan, Cornell University. "Plant-herbivore interactions along an environmental gradient: how species interactions vary with environmental change."

María Cristina García de la Peña, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, "Organización ecológica de un gremio de lacertilios en dunas de arena en Viesca, Coahuila, México."

Matthew D. Stone, Oklahoma State University. "Calcium regulation in relation to reproductive condition in a calcium-deficient tortoise (*Gopherus berlandieri*)."
7. Dave Hafner presented the George Mitsch Sutton Award for Conservation Research to Joe C. Truett for his report, "Aplomado Falcons and Grazing: Invoking History to Plan Restoration," published in *The Southwestern Naturalist* 47(3):379-400. Margaurite Hinde accepted the award for Dr. Truett.
8. President Marsh-Matthews announced that Brenda S. Clark, Carl W. Dick, David L. McNeely, and Philip D. Sudman had been elected to the BOG Class of 2007.
9. Philip D. Sudman read and the membership adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, the 51st Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists was held at the Radisson Hotel San Antonio Downtown Market Square, San Antonio, Texas, 15-17 April 2004; and

"WHEREAS, our gracious hosts, the University of Texas San Antonio, Texas State University, and Trinity University, combined to run a nearly flawless meeting; and

"WHEREAS, consistent with the city-wide atmosphere of "Fiesta," the opening social featured a colorful flair of food and mariachi music, complete with coverage by the Channel 5 News helicopter; and

"WHEREAS, not only were field trip participants disappointed after being taken to a nearly empty bat cave, but they returned to the social with their two free drink tickets only to find the bar closed down; and

"WHEREAS, meeting T-shirts initially predicted a very, very low attendance, printed as the "Southwestern Association of *Naturalist*"; and

“WHEREAS, trips to the Riverwalk and Alamo provided ample opportunities to sample the local history and charm of San Antonio, however, the local committee failed to warn us to bring multiple credit cards, as a single card was quickly maxed out; and

“WHEREAS, competition for the Wilkes Award was keen, and the research presented was exemplary, but I am pretty sure most of this work has been presented before, either in print or in the movies; for example, I know that I’ve previously read “Lord of the Bat Flies,” “A Tale of Two Squirrels” and “The Ilium,” Sigourney Weaver was excellent in “Aliens IV: Attack of the Fur Runners and Wing Crawlers,” and I’m sure I’ve seen the self-help books “How to Avoid Abscission by Growing Larger Galls” and “The *Gambusia* Diet: Weight Loss Through Parasitism”; and

“WHEREAS, following the Plenary session, the drawback to holding meetings in a city with a plethora of entertainment and shopping opportunities was soon evident; while this environment may appeal to Fi Choate, it is not helpful with respect to attendance at either the business meeting or technical sessions; and

“WHEREAS, while we didn’t necessarily miss the presence of Robert Baker, we did miss his new curls; and

“WHEREAS, are the “Southwest Texas State University” folders distributed with our registration material collectors items, or an attempt by the local committee to pawn off out-of-date University material; and

“WHEREAS, modern technology is great, but a “memory low” warning on the second slide of your talk is a most uncomfortable feeling; and

“WHEREAS, by the end of Saturday afternoon, symposia participants had learned everything there is to know about junipers, and were more than ready to consume fermented products derived from their study organism (i.e. they were ready for a gin and tonic); and

“WHEREAS, this year’s student social was proof that resolutions do work, as “kegs” of beer were provided for the Student Meeting; and

“WHEREAS, you know that times have changed and that we as educators must be doing something wrong, as not a single student or professor has gotten thrown in the pool;

“THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that our heartfelt thanks go out to Bill Van Auken, Paula Williamson, Janis Bush, Stephen Brown, David Ribble, Flo Oxley and all others who contributed to the meetings, including the “deer in the headlight raccoons,” for hosting a delightful, informative, entertaining, and educational meeting highlighting the biota of the American Southwest.”

In business that took place after the meeting, the BOG appointed Philip D. Sudman to the position of Program Director, replacing Ronald A. Van den Bussche. Sudman was then replaced as an At-Large member of the BOG by Michael Husak, who had the next largest number of votes for a gubernatorial position after those who were named at the banquet.

Respectfully submitted,
David L. McNeely
Secretary