

KENTUCKY CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Chapter Web Site: <http://www.biology.eku.edu/KYWildlifeSociety.html>

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INFORMATION ON THE 2004 ANNUAL MEETING

The 2004 Kentucky State Chapter of The Wildlife Society's Annual Meeting will take place on **March 26-27, 2004** at Pennyriple Forest State Resort Park. A block of rooms are reserved for the meeting, but will only be held until March 1, 2004. After that date they will be automatically released to anyone wanting them on a first come first serve basis, so don't wait too long to make your reservation. You can reserve rooms by calling **800-325-1711** and refer to the rooms reserved under the group names of "Eastern Kentucky University Biology Department" or "Kentucky Chapter of The Wildlife Society". Rooms are \$49.95 for a single and \$59.95 for a double (each additional adult after two is an extra \$5). **The Chapter is providing two cottages for free student housing. Student advisors note:** please contact Chuck Elliott (859-622-1538 or Charles.Elliott@eku.edu) to provide him with an idea of how many of your students will be attending. The registration fee for this year's meeting will be \$10.00 (\$5.00 for students).

Tentative Agenda (All times local - CST)

Friday, March 26:	Arrival and Registration	12:30 - 2:00 pm
	Workshop: "Kentucky's Herpetological Fauna", John MacGregor, KDFWR Wildlife Diversity Biologist	2:00 - 5:00 pm
	Dinner (on your own)	5:00 - 7:00 pm
	"Herp Walk"	7:00 - TBA
	Social Activities	TBA
Saturday, March 27:	Business Meeting	8:45 - 9:45 am
	Paper Presentations	10:00 - Noon

CALL FOR PAPERS/PRESENTATIONS

The Presentation Session at the annual meeting consists of student or professional presentations (e.g., presentation of research results or proposed research projects) **OR** topical issues presentations (agency activities, NGO activities, etc.). The presentations **are not** limited to student presentations! This is an opportunity to bring folks in the state up-to-date on what might be going on at the schools or agencies. Any one interested in making a presentation at the annual meeting, please send a title and short abstract **by March 12** to Chuck Elliott, Biology Dept., EKU, 521 Lancaster Ave., Richmond, KY. 40475-3102 or e-mail Charles.Elliott@eku.edu.

TOPICS FOR THE BUSINESS MEETING

The Chapter's annual business meeting is open to any topic the membership decides to discuss and/or act upon; prior notification or placement of a specific subject on the agenda is not necessary. However, some items came up during the past year that the Executive Committee thought should be discussed by the membership.

- Can the Chapter run a workshop outside of the annual meeting to provide credit for TWS certification renewal?
- What can the Chapter do to increase the size of its membership?
- Should the Chapter make a donation to the TWS *Endowment Campaign to Sustain Wildlife Conservation*?
- How should the Chapter comment on the LBL Land and Resource Management Plan?
- Should the Chapter contribute financial support to the 11th Annual TWS Conference?

Please be prepared to discuss and possibly vote on a course of action concerning these topics.

STATE & CHAPTER NEWS & NOTES

Chapter dues: If you haven't yet paid your \$4.00 chapter dues, you may do so in any one of the following ways: (1) pay at the annual meeting; (2) send a check to the chapter treasurer Dave Frederick (KDFWR, #1 Game Farm Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601); or (3) pay them with your national Wildlife Society dues. Look on the right-hand side of the Renewal Notice you will receive for a section entitled "CHANGES". Under this heading find "\$ ___ Chapter ___" and fill it in as follows "\$4.00 Chapter 25 - Kentucky". The national office will send us a check with your chapter dues money. Remember, **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY TO BE A MEMBER OF THE KENTUCKY CHAPTER.** We encourage you to join The Wildlife Society--applications and other information concerning The Wildlife Society can be found at "www.wildlife.org". If all you want to do is belong to the state chapter and receive the Newsletter and other state-oriented wildlife information, paying at the annual meeting or sending in a check to the treasurer will do it for you. **The Chapter operates on money it receives from dues payments--so please consider renewing your membership or joining us today!**

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

The Wildlife Society's 11th Annual Conference will be held in Calgary, Alberta, September 18-22, 2004. The conference's preliminary program can be found at www.wildlife.org/conference/PreliminaryProgram03.pdf.

The 27th Annual Southeast Deer Study Group, Lexington, Kentucky, February 22-25, 2004. For more info call 1-800-858-1549 ext.348 or go to the website at fw.ky.gov/sedsgm.htm.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES (KDFWR) – Several personnel changes have recently occurred within the Department. Mark Cramer moved up to Deputy Commissioner, Tim Slone is now the Director of Information and Education, David McChesney became the Wildlife PR Coordinator/Assistant Director, Chris Garland is now a NRCS Liaison/Wildlife Biologist, Kevin Tucker became the WRP Biologist, Tony Black moved into a Private Lands Biologist position, John Morgan has moved into the Upland Game Program, and John MacGregor has rejoined the Department as a herpetologist. In other Department news, the AWAKE (All About Kentucky's Environment) web site, with information concerning animals, plants, and habitats found in Kentucky, recently went on-line. The web site serves as a source of environmental and wildlife information for teachers and other interested citizens in the state.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY (UK) – Dr. Tom Barnes is involved in two research projects. One involving Texas Coastal Prairie Restoration (work to be performed on the Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Foundation refuge) and the other Tall Grass Prairie Restoration in Eastern South Dakota (work to be conducted in the prairie coteau region of southeastern South Dakota). Each project is designed to support a Ph.D student – interested students should contact Dr. Barnes at tbarnes@uky.edu.

EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY (EKU) – Four students under the guidance of Dr. Bob Frederick have recently defended their thesis work: Rebecca Stults (thesis: "Evaluation of Swamp Rabbit Habitat Suitability Models in Western Kentucky) in now a biology instructor at West Kentucky Community and Technical College in Paducah. Heather Brace (thesis: "Comparison of Red and Gray Fox Use of Developed Vs Undeveloped Landscapes in Suburban Maryland") is a zoologist with Wildlife Safari in Winston, Oregon. Scott Harp (thesis: "Evaluation of Kentucky's Private Lands Habitat Improvement Program") is a Private Lands Biologist with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Matt Pieron (thesis: "Winter Distribution Patterns of Ontario breeding Mallards and Black Ducks") is a biologist with Ducks Unlimited in North Dakota. Emily Horton continues her thesis research on the status of wild hogs in Kentucky and anticipates wrapping up the project in the spring. Amy Bradshaw, working with Dr. Guenter Schuster, finished her project on the "Mussel Assemblage Structure Relative to Biotic and Abiotic Factors in Sinking Creek, Kentucky.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE (USFS) – The USFS is developing a 10-15 year Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) for the Land Between the Lakes (LBL) National Recreation Area. The draft LRMP and draft EIS are scheduled for release in April 2004. For more information, contact the Forest Service by email at FocusLBL@fs.fed.us. Periodic planning updates are posted on LBL's web site at www.lbl.org (click on planning). James Kiser recently accepted a position as a biologist with the USFS-Daniel Boone National Forest.