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Message from the President – Terra Fuller

For those alumni who braved the storm and flooding, this year's annual meeting in Reno, Nevada did not disappoint. Besides the informative scientific sessions, I particularly enjoyed the keynote address. Juan Palma, Director of the Nevada Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, spoke about the goals and objectives of the Conservancy regarding, property acquisition, restoration and public outreach. I was inspired by Mr. Palma's stories regarding his professional perseverance when working in political challenging environments. I believe his message resonated with many in the audience.

During the Western Section Annual Meeting, Conservation Unlimited Alumni Association (CUAA aka HSU Wildlife Alumni) had two meetings. The first one was a strategic planning meeting. During this meeting we discussed our bylaws, organizational structure and fund raising as a newly formed independent non-profit. From this meeting, in the coming months, we will be editing and voting on our bylaws, which will be need to be approved by the members at next year's meeting.

At the second meeting, our annual alumni meeting, we had a very respectable turnout of 55 attendees. Typical topics of the meeting were: financial report, scholarship award, Dr. Dan Barton's Wildlife Department update and nomination of new board members. New board members include Ryan Byrnes as President Elect and Dustin Howland as a committee volunteer and future board member. In addition, a CUAA Lifetime Membership was approved for Dr. Stanley "Doc" Harris, former CU faculty member and Professor Emeritus in the Wildlife Department. CUAA received \$214. We are very appreciative of these financial contributions. The CUAA Board is looking forward to a productive year and we thank you for your support!

Also consider donating to:
CUAA / Wildlife Alumni Scholarship Endowment or
Wildlife Department Trust

Conclave

Unfortunately Humboldt did not take a conclave victory at the 2016 TWS conference in Raleigh, NC. We lost to Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in the second round. University of Georgia, Athens won out over the hometown team of North Carolina State. You can't win 'em all Jacks. Better luck this year in Albuquerque!

Get Involved!

Have ideas for future newsletter articles, alumni activities, or a story to share?
Contact Ryan Baumbusch:
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The Passing of a Humboldt Wildlifer

Dear Wildlife Community,

I am very saddened to share the news of the passing of our colleague, mentor, friend, and legend, Dr. Lowell Diller. Lowell was a conservation hero, having worked for nearly 25 years as the senior biologist at the Green Diamond Resource Company, where he made an indelible impact on the conservation of wildlife on private and heavily managed timberlands. He supported colleagues and students alike on various research projects that took place on Green Diamond land, as well as in other regions, on a huge variety of species from tiny frogs and salamanders to the majestic spotted owl.

Lowell collaborated with Humboldt State as an adjunct professor in the Wildlife Department, where he taught courses, mentored senior undergraduates, and sat on committees of several graduate students. He produced over 35 peer-reviewed publications and reports, and received numerous awards including a "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Society of Northwestern Vertebrate Biology just this year and "Mentor of the Year Award" by the Western Section of the Wildlife Society in 2010.

Lowell was always positive, smiling, supportive, described by a colleague as "one of the most genuinely nice people with whom I have had the privilege to work." "Everyone in wildlife biology in northwestern California knows his influence via the many students and professionals he taught many things, and he is certain to live on in this way for decades to come." Lowell will be sorely missed by many.

All of us who knew him learned from him, admired him, and were touched by his strong spirit. I encourage you to share stories with me, other faculty, each other, and everyone around you about Lowell's passion for wildlife, conservation lessons and daring escapades. Some of you were stuck out in the desert with him, others of you competed against him in the ugly mug contest. Let's rejoice in our fond memories of Lowell, as we mourn his loss.

With great respect,
Micaela Szykman Gunther, Wildlife Department Head

The Lowell Diller Wildlife Scholarship Endowment has been created at Humboldt State University to honor and remember Lowell's life. Interested contributors can contact the Humboldt State Office of Philanthropy at 707-826-5200, or use the following address:

Gift Processing Center
Cashiers Office - SBS 285
Humboldt State University
1 Harpst St.

Make checks payable to: **Humboldt State University Advancement Foundation**
Note in the check memo section: **Lowell Diller Wildlife Scholarship Endowment**



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