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HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

WILDLIFE CHAPTER
- HSUAA

Wildlife Chapter News



Volume 1, Issue 2

Summer 2008

Special points of interest:

- Faculty updates
- Program news
- Volunteer opportunities
- Join the Wildlife Chapter- HSUAA

Hello HSU Wildlife Alum!

Thanks for remaining connected to the HSU Wildlife Department, here are some of the latest highlights:

- Prof David Kitchen officially retired in '06 but he continues to teach part-time and co-supervises the Conclave team.
- Prof Rick Botzler also retired after Fall '07. He too comes to the office on a nearly daily basis, keeping busy with various writing projects.
- Dr Rick Brown, ex-campus veterinarian and long-term adjunct faculty member, will take over as our Wildlife Diseases professor in Fall '08.
- In Spring '06, we welcomed Dr Micaela Szykman Gunther (Spotted Hyenas (*Crocuta crocuta*) and wild dogs (*Lycaon pictus*) via the Smithsonian). She teaches Ethology, Mammals Management, and Wildlife Techniques.
- Prof Mark Colwell was awarded HSU Scholar of the Year award this year!
- Profs George, Golightly, and Johnson are still here and doing well.
- Current research by faculty and associated MS candidates include studies on Warblers, Thrushes, Corvids, Seabirds, Shorebirds, Waterfowl, Otters, Bears, Deer/Elk, Felids, and Canines. A good way to see what we are up to is by viewing professor's homepages: www.humboldt.edu/~wildlife/fac_staff/index.html

We wish you every success and encourage you to continue to do your part for the natural world.
Jeff Black Professor, Department Chair HSU Wildlife Department

Alumni Meeting!

ATTENTION:

The 3rd annual meeting of Wildlife Chapter - HSUAA will be held in conjunction with the Western Section of The Wildlife Society conference in Sacramento, January 21-23, 2009.

Join the HSUAA: Wildlife Chapter

In June 2006, Conservation Unlimited Alumni Association officially became the Wildlife Chapter - HSU Alumni Association (HSUAA).

The new Wildlife Chapter will receive a \$10 portion of the dues paid to HSUAA for projects benefiting the Wildlife Department. The remaining portion is used by the HSUAA to support alumni events, scholarships, publications and communications, and chapters. Visit: alumni.humboldt.edu, or contact: alumni@humboldt.edu, for information on the benefits of being a member.

Register today! Use attached form or register online at: alumni.humboldt.edu. Click on Join HSUAA.

Wildlife Chapter - HSUAA will continue to provide the successful short-term loan program for Natural Resources students. We will continue to raise funds to support the Wildlife Department with equipment purchases, such as spotting scopes, display cabinets, and new and upgraded computers for use by wildlife students (a donation in the amount of \$5,392.50 was given in 2006 for the purchase of computer equipment). The attached registration/

donation form can be used to support additional equipment donations to the Wildlife Department. We are currently seeking donations to fund equipment purchases in 2009.

A wonderful gift of \$50,000 was donated to the Wildlife Department—in memory of Warren "Bud" Rienecker (class of 1950). Many thanks to the Valentine and Hofstetter families. It is donations like these that help make the quality of education at HSU unique.

The attached registration/donation form can be used to support our initiatives.

Look inside to stay connected and find out how to get more involved!



Humboldt State University
Alumni Association
1 Harpst Street
Arcata, CA 95521

Phone: 707-826-3132
Fax: 707-826-5148
E-mail: alumni@humboldt.edu

**WILDLIFE CHAPTER
- HSUAA**

Want to get involved?
Join a planning or organization committee!
Contact Luke George
tlg2@humboldt.edu

**Wildlife Chapter – HSUAA
Current Officers**

President

Dave Juliano
707-268-0227
hawol@att.net

Treasurer/Secretary

Scott Frazer
661 725-2767
Scott_Frazer@fws.gov

President-Elect

Open for Nominations

Immediate Past President

Chet Ogan
(2005-2007)
707-442-9353
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Newsletter Editor

Sara Lowry

Quiz Bowl Success

The Wildlife Conclave Team continues to impress at regional and national competitions.

Wildlife Wins National Wildlife Quiz Bowl (Tucson, Sept '07). It is our 5th win in 7 National competitions. The pressure was on and the score was tied in the championship round when questions turned to animal sounds. "I knew they'd do well with sounds," said faculty advisor, Prof Kitchen. And sure enough the team nailed a cricket question.

Next came the birds. "We are really good with bird calls. We have students who do biology by ear. That is when the stu-



dents really took off in the competition—they never looked back." Their challenger in the championship, Stephen F Austin State University, never scored another point. HSU took home the coveted trophy to the College of Natural Resources and Sciences with a final score of 125 to 75.

Sixteen teams in all competed, the largest showing in the 10

year history of the National Quiz Bowl; 4 of the teams were Big 10 schools.

"During the very first round our young team answered a real stumper of a question," says Kitchen. "A lot of heavy hitters were dismayed. Once again HSU Wildlife proved to be the team to beat!" Read

the full story at:
<http://now.humboldt.edu/news/hsu-national-quiz-bowl-champs/>



We Need You!

The wildlife major at HSU attracts about 275 students. Nationwide, however, there is a downward trend - fewer high school graduates are choosing majors in the natural resources. This seems strange given heightened concern for global environmental issues. The

Humboldt wildlife major has a good reputation among professionals, but we suspect there will be an increasing need to 'get known' by high school and junior college biology teachers and career counselors who can reach young student prospects.

Some alumni have volunteered to spread the word about HSU in their local area. Please let us know, by checking the box on the form below, if you would like to get involved.

New Endowment Fund For Scholarship Grows

A little over a year ago our Wildlife Alumni Chapter initiated an endowment fund to allow the annual award of a student scholarship. Wildlife Department faculty identified access to scholarship funding as an important issue for them when recruiting or attracting top caliber students.

Establishment of the endowment fund began with \$1,000 collected from membership and allowed us to qualify for matching funds from the HSU Alumni Association. We have continued to seek donations from individual

donors and have received some help, in the form of a bequest and donations directed by the Wildlife Department.

We have good news to report. The endowment fund has just grown past the half way point to our goal of \$25,000. The University will manage the endowment funds once we have reached our objective. Future interest earned will enable the Wildlife Alumni Chapter to award one \$1,000 student scholarship annually.

New donations to the endowment fund can be made using the form in this newsletter. Gifts may also be made online. It is a multi-step process and the links can be obtained from Mary Wells, Development Officer at HSU, email Mary at mpwl10@humboldt.edu.

Please consider helping us complete this scholarship fund raising project. All donations to the Wildlife Alumni Chapter and the scholarship fund are fully tax deductible.

Education at HSU

HSU still offers one of the best undergraduate wildlife curriculums in the nation! After the foundational courses, students specialize by choosing from the 'Critters' management classes (Ecology and Management of Mammals, Non-Game, Upland Game, Waterfowl), Upland or Wetland Habitats, the advanced courses (Diseases, Energetics, Ethology, and Populations), and the Senior Thesis.



Check out the curriculum at:
www.humboldt.edu/~catalog/programs/wldf.html

The renovated Wildlife & Fisheries building (finished in 2000) is great. If you have not been back to visit, you should. We have many new museum displays in the hallways and in the classrooms. The main lab was recently fitted with 24 new computers and a waterfowl heritage decoy cabinet, thanks to contributions from collectors, carvers and the Conservation Unlimited Alumni.

Catching Up

WALL OF FAME!

- Retired Wildlife and Fisheries Profs will be recognized in a series of picture-plaques.
- The series, containing career highlight content and photos, will be placed in a prominent location in the building.



WILDLIFE SOCIETY MEET!

- 20+ HSU students and Profs participated in Wildlife Society meeting in Redding, CA (Feb '08).
- Our MS students won several awards for outstanding oral or poster presentations.

Student and Alumni Chapter News

The student club, Conservation Unlimited is going strong, and the Conclave team continues to dominate in regional and national competitions. Recently, the undergrads created student chapters of the Wildlife Society and Ducks Unlimited. A few years ago, the grad students created the Wildlife Graduate

Student Society and have some great Humboldt Wildlife merchandise for sale: www.humboldt.edu/~wildlife/current/index.html We encourage you to join the HSUAA and the Wildlife Chapter. The Wildlife Chapter receives support from the HSUAA for events,

database management, mailings, and scholarship matches. Member benefits include library privileges, email account, consumer discounts, group insurance rates, and more. Please use the form below to register or register online at: alumni.humboldt.edu. Click on membership.

**SUPPORT THE
WALL OF FAME
INITIATIVE**



Renew Online

alumni.humboldt.edu

Click on join HSUAA

Registration Information

- \$45 annual dues Wildlife Alumni Chapter—HSUAA Membership Join now! This year your entire membership dues go to the Wildlife Chapter!
- \$10 annual dues Wildlife Alumni Chapter (current HSUAA life member)

Additional donation opportunities

\$25, \$50, \$100, \$1,000 or _____ Wildlife Chapter of HSUAA Endowment
\$25, \$50, \$100, \$1,000 or _____ Wildlife Department Trust Fund (supporting recruitment and the purchase of classroom/lab equipment)

Name _____
Email _____
Street _____
C/S/Z _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Work Phone _____

- Tell me more about Alumni spreading the word about the HSU wildlife program.
- I would like to receive/keep my humboldt.edu email address. Below is the data required for activating my account, including my HSU ID # OR my Social Security #. HSUID/SS# DOB

Make checks payable to: HSUAA

Return to : Alumni Association
Humboldt State University
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Membership in the Alumni Association is important. Member support of key programs – such as alumni scholarships, grants, special events, and publications – is what drives our success.