

NAWTA NEWS & VIEWS



To Ensure Excellence in Wildlife Technology Education

ACCREDITATION WELCOME

WRITTEN BY LISA CLEVER

NAWTA has the pleasure of announcing that three programs were granted accreditation during the 2006 Annual General Meeting. Each program focuses on excellence in wildlife technology education. We are proud that each of these programs has taken the time and dedicated themselves to completing the sometimes overwhelming task of the accreditation process.

The College of the North Atlantic's Fish and Wildlife Technician program on their Corner Brook, Newfoundland Campus received five year accreditation this year.

Corner Brook was originally awarded Three Year Accreditation in 2003.

Selkirk College in Castlegar, British Columbia reapplied for Five Year Accreditation this year. This is their third accreditation award for their Recreation, Fish and Wildlife program.

Finally, a warm welcome goes out to Vermilion Community College in Ely, Minnesota. Vermilion's Natural Resource-Forestry Management/Wildlife program was awarded Three Year Accreditation for the first time.

COLOR LOGO DESIGN



NAWTA's current logo has stood the test of time. However, a little color never hurts - right?

Have a look at the updated FULL COLOR logo. This design will not replace the existing logo. If you have any comments please email webmaster@nawta.org.

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www.nawta.org



PRESIDENT'S PIECE

WRITTEN BY NAWTA PRESIDENT BEN HOTELING

Hello from the Wildlife Conservation Technology Program at Holland College in Prince Edward Island, Canada. We're looking forward to an exciting year in our new facilities located on Kent Street in Charlottetown. We have already completed our fall field camp at the Tintamarre National Wildlife Area in Jolicure, New Brunswick during which we all participated in the Red Cross Wilderness and Remote First Aid course. Our next major event is a proposed wilderness hike through the 52 kilometers of trails at Cape Chignecto, Nova



Scotia. Check out their website at www.capechignecto.net to see the beautiful scenery there.

We will be hosting the NAWTA annual general meeting at Holland College June 13-16, 2007 and welcome all to visit our province, participate in the meetings/field trips and stay a few extra days to enjoy the area.

ACCREDITATION DEADLINE 07

WRITTEN BY LISA CLEVER

The call for applications is out. NAWTA will be accepting applications for the 2007 accreditation year until April 1, 2007.

Application materials will be available online at www.nawta.org, mid November. Please note that Microsoft Word is required to read these materials.

If you experience any difficulties with the accreditation files please email webmaster@nawta.org. Paper copies of accreditation materials can also be mailed to interested applicants upon request.

This year's applicants will need to submit their initial membership fees with their accreditation application. We hope that this change does not inconvenience anyone.

For additional information, interested applicants can contact:

Accreditation Chair, Dean Snow
Phone: 709-637-8582
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Executive Director, John R. Marks
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WEBMASTER WORDS

WRITTEN BY NAWTA WEBMASTER LISA CLEVER

NAWTA.org

Progress is the name of the game. As of October 1, NAWTA.org has reached a total of 91,483 hits, as of October 31, 2006! If you are one of the few who has not visited NAWTA.org recently it is time to click on over and see what all of the fuss is about.

There are several new features added to the website. The map on the *Accredited Institutions* page now shows logos for each of our accredited programs. Adding these logos was a quick and easy method of dressing up an otherwise dull map of North America.

The addition of a *Guest Book* allows for site visitors to post their comments and ask questions about NAWTA online. Go online and post your comments and questions. All posted comments will be reviewed by the Webmaster prior to reaching the public eye.

A new *Members Only* section has been created. This section will feature information only available to NAWTA Officers and Members. Starting in 2007 the NAWTA By-laws, Operations Manual, and meeting minutes will appear under this heading. A password will be required to enter this portion of the site. This password will be distributed at a later date.

Research for the Future

For those of you who don't know My undergraduate research project is about NAWTA.

The focus of this project is to increase NAWTA membership and accreditation numbers. I hope to accomplish this task by improving communication between officers, members, and the public.

Updates on my research will appear online at nawta.org under the *Members Only* section. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to email me at lisaclever@yahoo.com.

A Call for Photos

We want to see your wildlife photos online. Send us photos from the classroom, field trips, nature hikes, or every day shots of your campus.

Photos can be submitted in two ways. Email your digital photos to webmaster@nawta.org or send printed copies by mail to Lisa Clever 6440 Winterwood Dr. Nashport, Ohio 43830 USA.

Share Your Resources

Have you found a great website? If your site is education or professional development related send the address to webmaster@nawta.org. We will share your findings on our *Resources* page.



"Cleaner Car / Cleaner Air" fuel efficient vehicle. Spotted near the Visitor's Center in the Great Smoky Mt. National Park.



Dining out in Clyde, NC



Jack and Scott with Flame Azelia in GSMNP

Special thanks goes out to Chris Olsen for providing several photos to be used in the newsletter and on the website.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

WRITTEN BY NAWTA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOHN R. MARKS

The first year in my role as Executive Director has been exciting. NAWTA has matured as an organization with a dynamic web site and an increasing number of colleges involved as members and as accredited institutions. The web site has had over 70,000 hits during its first year of existence. We are excited that so many individuals visited our web site, even taking into account multiple contacts by individuals. No one anticipated this much activity. Now we must continue to enhance and update our web site. I want to especially thank our web master, Lisa Clever, for her creativity and drive in helping our organization achieve its goals.

This year was especially productive in terms of contacts and dialog with The Wildlife Society (TWS). Dr. Dan Svedarsky attended our Annual General Meeting this past summer in Clyde, North Carolina at Haywood Community College. We had a very productive beginning in the discussion of the development of a Wildlife Technician Certification as an additional category of certification available through TWS. A special sub-committee was formed under the direction of Dr. Hoagy Schaadt, lead faculty member of the Wildlife Technology Program at Pennsylvania State University's DuBois Campus. This committee will discuss initial items proposed at our AGM and make additional

recommendations, which will be conveyed to the Executive Committee of TWS. All of us look forward to establishing the details of how Wildlife Technician Certification can be achieved and how NAWTA can assist The Wildlife Society in this endeavor. I certainly want to thank Dan for facilitating our discussions in the beautiful Smoky Mountains.

Rick Lindsay and his able "crew" consisting of Dave Dudek, Shannon Rabby, and Jenny Carver served as wonderful hosts for our 23rd Annual General Meeting. The weather was perfect, the scenery breathtaking, the meeting productive, and the professional development activities outstanding. Those attending were able to observe first hand some of the beautiful features of The Great Smoky Mountain National Park. Field experiences included an all-day trip into the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. A special presentation was given by Steve Moore, Fisheries Biologist Supervisor, on Brook Trout populations in the park. We also drove through Cades Cove, the most heavily visited destination in Great Smoky Mountain National Park, which is also the most heavily visited park in the U.S. We saw many white-tailed deer and a black bear. Shannon Rabby, Fish and Wildlife Management Technology Instructor at

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Haywood Community College Campus at Clyde, North Carolina.



Steve Moore, Fisheries Biologist Supervisor, on Brook Trout populations at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

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HCC presented the results of his small mammal research project. The facilities and campus area of Haywood Community College provided at nice atmosphere for our meetings.

Rick Lindsay shared with us that he would be retiring from Haywood Community College in August 2006. I am sure that they will miss his dedication, enthusiasm, and sense of humor as much as all of us will. I want to thank Rick Lindsay and his wife Liz for their many years of support and service to NAWTA. Rick was one of the individuals present at our first organizational meeting held at Pennsylvania State, DuBois Campus. His leadership over these 23 years will be missed. Rick served as President three different times and as Executive Director for a three-year term. He has also facilitated the printing of Accreditation Certificates since this process began in 1987. Rick Lindsay is a valued colleague. Rick has assured me that he and Liz will try to make our AGM next summer at Holland College on Prince Edward Island, Canada.

It is not too early to begin planning to attend our 24th Annual General Meeting next summer. Ben Hotaling is our President and host for this upcoming AGM. Ben has provided us many photos of his "neck of the woods" that will ap-

pear on our web site. These photos will wet our appetite for what we will see on PEI. The specific dates and preliminary meeting details will be announced soon.

This year will provide us with several additional challenges. It is time that we look at our existing accreditation standards and to deal with the increasing availability of on-line or distance learning courses. How are we as an organization going to deal with this trend? What are the implications? Dave Dudek will be conducting a survey of member institutions over the next few months to obtain some information regarding on-line courses and technical competencies. Please provide us with information from your perspective that can be discussed at our next AGM.

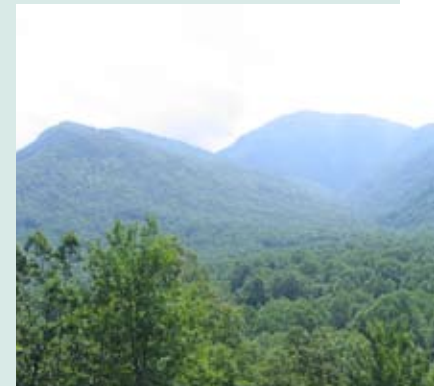
Hugh Banks had a mild heart attack after our AGM this past summer. Al Chamberlain shared with me that Hugh would be taking some time off this fall before returning to the Frost Campus of Sir Sandford Fleming College on a half time basis. I recently spoke with him and found out that he is doing well in his recuperation. I am sure Hugh would appreciate a note or card that could be sent to him at the Sir Sandford Fleming College Campus address.

All of us wish him well.

John R. Marks



Hugh Banks (Left) receives a plaque of appreciation for his service as Executive Director from John R. Marks (Right).



Great Smoky Mountains.



Rick Lindsay



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006

MINUTES SUMMARY BY CHRIS OLSEN

The 23rd Annual Meeting of the North American Wildlife Technology Association was held in Clyde, North Carolina at Haywood Community College. Our meeting hosts were Rick Lindsay, NAWTA President and Dave Dudek, Fish & Wildlife Management Technology faculty member. Individuals from nine academic institutions attended all or portions for the AGM (College of the North Atlantic, Haywood Community College, Holland College, Lakeland College, Pennsylvania State University - DuBois, Sir Sandford Fleming College, Southern Carolina Technical College, University of Minnesota - Crookston, and Zane State College).

The business meeting featured the reaccreditation of the College of the North Atlantic in Corner Brook, Newfoundland and Selkirk College in Castlegar, British Columbia for a full five-year period. Vermilion Community College in Ely, Minnesota was granted a three-year accreditation.

A productive work session on Wildlife Technician Certification was led by Dan Svedarsky from the University of Minnesota - Crookston. Discussions focused on a review of the existing criteria for four-year graduates and some preliminary suggestions regarding possible semester hour requirements by category for a wildlife

technician certification with a minimum of a two-year degree. Hugh Banks, Chris Olsen, Scott Lenthe, Dave Dudek, and Hoagy Schaadt (Chair) (with John Marks and Ben Hoteling as ex officio members) have agreed to serve on a committee to liaison with TWS committee on Wildlife Technician Certification.

Officers for 2006-2007 were elected and are listed as follows:

- Ben Hoteling, President
- Lori Schmidt, President-Elect
- Scott Lenthe, Treasurer,
- Chris Olsen, Secretary

John Marks, Executive Director
(Completed year one of a three year term)



A Warm Welcome!



Member representatives for the 2006 NAWTA meeting:

- Front Row (L to R):** Ben Hoteling, Scott Lenthe, Alan Chamberlain, Chris Olsen.
- Second Row:** John Marks, Leslie Daye, Hugh Banks, Rick Lindsay, Hoagy Schaadt, Dave Dudek, and Dan Svedarsky