Our membership options are tailored to fit individual needs and include the following:

- **Regular Members** have the right to vote, stand for elected office, receive the Journal of Wildlife Diseases, receive any Supplements to the Journal, receive the WDA Newsletter, access to all material on the WDA website and all discounts for registration at annual conferences and meetings, for publication page charges, and other identified privileges.

- **Student Members** have all the rights and privileges of regular members. Student members must be (1) enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate student program at least half time, or (2) be participating full time in an internship or residency program, which is approved for credit towards board certification. Student members must obtain their academic (or equivalent) supervisor’s signature designating their student status and submit that annually when paying dues.

- **Associate Members** are those members who wish to remain part of the WDA for a reduced fee. Associate members do not receive the Journal of Wildlife Diseases, but do receive the Newsletter. Associate members have the right to vote and the right to stand for elected office. Associate members also have access to the membership directory and receive access to material on the WDA’s website. Associate members do not receive discounts accorded to other types of membership.

- **Sustaining Members** are those having particular interest in the objectives of the WDA and who wish to make a significant contribution to support those objectives. Sustaining members may be individuals or organizations; they will receive special recognition by the WDA.

To learn more about the membership options of the WDA and current membership fees, please visit our website (http://www.wildlifedisease.org), where you can join through our easy online application process. Our homepage also provides information on how members can serve on committees, council, or as officers.
In March 1951, a group of 28 U.S. and Canadian scientists interested in wildlife diseases founded the Wildlife Disease Committee, which became the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA).

Today, the WDA is an international scientific society of wildlife professionals, veterinarians, epidemiologists, biologists, ecologists, research scientists, and other individuals involved with wildlife health and related disciplines, promoting research, management, education, communication, consultation, and collaboration.

**WDA SECTIONS**

We have international sections (Australasian Section, European Section, Latin American Section, Nordic Section, Wildlife Veterinary Section) that help meet the needs of our members worldwide.

**PUBLICATIONS**

The WDA publishes an internationally recognized peer reviewed journal and a newsletter quarterly; both can be accessed electronically on the WDA web site.

- **The Journal of Wildlife Diseases** includes reports of disease investigations, research papers, research notes, case and epizootic reports, book reviews, and information concerning the WDA's activities.
- **The WDA Newsletter** keeps members informed of WDA business and items of contemporary interest in wildlife diseases.

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The WDA conference offers an informal and friendly exchange of ideas in addition to formal presentations.

- Conferences are usually held in July or August at locations around the world.
- Workshops and special sessions held at the conference can qualify for continuing education credits.
- Students are active participants in conferences and serve on the WDA Council.
- Students can participate at the conference through oral and poster presentations and can compete for presentation and research recognition awards.

**CAREERS OF WDA MEMBERS**

The careers of our members span a wide range of sub-disciplines within the wildlife health profession including disease management activities, clinical laboratory work, and basic and applied research. The professional activities of WDA members are diverse and include, but are not limited to the following:

- **Threatened and Endangered Species**: preserving and improving the status of at-risk wildlife populations.
- **Game and Furbearing Animals**: enhancing the understanding of diseases in wild animals that are used for food and fiber.
- **Wildlife Conservation**: investigating the effects of environmental toxins, global warming, habitat alterations, and introduction of exotic species on the health of native wildlife.
- **Wildlife Translocation**: preventing the introduction of diseases and monitoring the health and welfare of translocated animals.
- **Wildlife Rehabilitation**: rehabilitating sick and injured wildlife.
- **Zoological Parks**: providing husbandry and veterinary care for captive species and providing veterinary support to zoo-based conservation and educational programs.
- **Public Health**: contributing towards our increased knowledge of environmental toxins as well as diseases transmissible from animals to humans.
- **Livestock and Poultry**: controlling wildlife diseases that can be economically devastating to domestic livestock and poultry.
- **Comparative Medicine**: conducting basic research using animals as models of diseases found in humans or domestic animals.
- **Ecosystem Health**: addressing the complex issues of ecosystem health. The WDA has had a "One Health" perspective for over 50 years.
- **Wildlife Disease Ecology**: studying the ecology of endemic and exotic diseases to understand population, community, and ecosystem level impacts.