

**Minutes of the 2001 Wildlife Disease Association Business Meeting
July 24, 2001**

President T. Rocke called the 49th annual WDA business meeting to order on July 24, 2001 at 12:15 PM and welcomed the WDA members in attendance. T. Rocke congratulated D. Jessup and J. Mazet on organizing such a successful meeting in such a wonderful place. D. Jessup provided the following meeting statistics: There are 233 attendees, fairly evenly divided between the STVM and WDA; 36 are accompanying persons, 29 are sponsored delegates (The Wildlife Conservation Society and the USDA were the two largest sponsors of delegates), 104 are STVM or WDA. Ninety three of the delegates are from Africa, 112 are from North America, 27 are from Europe, four are from Central and South America, one is from Australia, and one is from New Caledonia.

T. Rocke delivered the Vice-President's report provided by B. Samuel. Most of the Vice President's duties this year were dealing with day to day business of the standing and adhoc Committees. To define the work ethic of our Committees in 200/2001, outstanding would be an understatement. The following people who have completed their terms on standing committees did a great job and deserve special thanks: Ted Leighton, Billy Karesh, and Torsten Mörner (membership committee); Todd O'Hara (nominations committee), Pam Nankervis, Sandi Black, Kerry Beheler, and Mike Ziccardi (promotions). The same accolades are expressed to those continuing their service on committees. T. Rocke pointed out the B. Samuel is being very modest and also deserves much appreciation for his work reviewing and updating all of our By-laws and Section guidelines and dealing with the Committees on an almost daily basis. He also chairs the Time and Place Committee and heads the group is working on the development of an Executive Manager position.

L. Creekmore provided the Secretary's report. The election was successful with over 260 WDA members returning ballots.

L. Creekmore read the Treasurer's report (see the Council Meeting minutes).

E. Williams presented the Editor's report (see the Council Meeting minutes). She expressed thanks to the Assistant Editors, outgoing Editor Danny Pence and to membership for their high quality manuscript submissions. T. Rocke announced that D. Pence will be receiving a plaque expressing the appreciation of the WDA. She also complimented E. Williams on the new cover design.

T. Rocke reported the results of the recent Council election and Constitutional Amendment question. The new President is Paul Barrows and the new Vice-President is Torsten Mörner. New Council members are Mark Drew and John Fischer. She congratulated the incoming Officers and Council members. She thanked all of those that stood for election and encouraged them to stand again next year. She also thanked the outgoing Council members Randy Zarnke and Bill Lance.

The Constitutional amendment passed and, as a result, we will be electing a student member to Council next year to serve a 2-year term. T. Rocke encouraged students to stand for election. The Student Activities Committee has been split into a Student Awards Committee and a Student Activities Committee. This new Student Activities Committee will explore the establishment of Student Chapters for WDA.

The promotions committee has produced 6 posters; 1 at the Africa meeting that will be sent to the European Section, 1 will be sent to the Nordic section, 1 was delivered to the Australasian section, and 3 are available in the U.S. Let the Promotions Committee or the new President know if you are attending a meeting and need to use one. New brochures are being developed now and hopefully will be out in the next year. Our new logo will be included in this new brochure and also now has replaced the old on the Supplement and Journal. T. Rocke has received a really good response with regard to the new logo and complimented M. Ziccardi on his efforts to develop the new logo.

At the end of last year WDA had 1115 regular members and 445 institutional members. This was an increase over previous years. This year (as of mid year) we have 1040 regular members, 9 associate members, and 435 institutional members. These numbers are expected to increase by the end of the year exceeding last year's membership numbers. T. Rocke reminded the membership that we have a new sponsor a member program is available. Allen Press will begin to keep track of the number of sponsored members. The field veterinarian program professional development awards provided by the Wildlife Conservation Society has been successful. In 2000 the program provided 13 individual and 2 institutional memberships and in 2001 provided 30 individual and 5 institutional memberships. This program also sponsored attendance of two African Veterinarians to this year's meeting. The membership responded with a round of applause.

T. Rocke reported on her recent trip to attend the joint meeting of the Australasian Section of the WDA and World Association of Wildlife Veterinarians. This was a good meeting and she had an opportunity to meet and discuss some issues and concerns regarding their relationship with the parent body. In response, Council approved the provision of the password allowing access to protected areas of the website to dues paying members of sections. There will be a meeting to discuss the establishment of an African section this evening.

Council also decided that auction funds will be accounted for and set aside to be used for student funds and outreach activities to sections.

Next year's meeting will be at Humboldt State July 28 through August 2. R. Botzler reported that the meeting will be held at the Redwood Coast Conference Center and he encouraged potential attendees to plan to take time to view the famous redwood trees as well as the area wildlife. The theme for next year's meeting will be exploring lessons we have learned from recent and past emerging diseases to better prepare us for dealing with diseases that will be emerging in the future. T. Rocke reminded the membership that the 2003 meeting will be in Saskatoon and the 2004 meeting will be a joint meeting with AAZV in San Diego. The 2005 or 2006 meeting will be another international meeting and will be hosted by the Australasian section.

The effort to sell back issues went well; 353 were sold for about \$15,000. Most of the remaining journals are being donated as 100 issue sets to libraries in developing countries. These include five sets to Bridge to Asia, five sets to Books for Africa, four sets to Cuba, four sets to the University of the Philippines Veterinary Teaching Hospital, three sets to Argentina, and 1 set each to Conservation International in Brazil, Kenya Wildlife Service Veterinary Library, University of Zambia School of Veterinary Medicine, Bolivia, West Hungary, Budapest, Venezuela, Malaysia, and Egypt. We have 15 sets left and T. Rocke requests the membership let Officers or Council know if they know of any additional potential recipients.

The final item for discussion was the Resolution drafted by the Public Awareness Committee in conjunction with STVM and submitted to Council. Council has approved this Resolution for presentation to the membership for a vote. The vote will be held after the presentation of the Resolution by Steve Osofski in the Thursday afternoon session. Copies of the Resolution were distributed and a summary from the Public Awareness Committee was read by T. Rocke. In brief, this Resolution is targeted at the international government-related donor community or bilateral aid agencies such as USAID, EC, the World Bank, etc, encouraging them to consider the potential for wildlife disease impacts when development projects are being planned or implemented. The Resolution points out the inter-relatedness of development actions and the environment, the potential for adverse consequences in projects that neglect to consider wildlife disease issues, and the importance of considering the true overall costs and benefits to natural as well as human made production systems when evaluating or defining sustainable projects. T. Rocke requested that the membership review the Resolution before the Thursday session; following the session there will be a discussion and vote on the Resolution by both the STVM and WDA memberships.

There were no further questions or discussion. T. Mörner moved (seconded by Zarnke) adjournment.

Respectfully submitted
Lynn H. Creekmore
Secretary