

PSO Board of Directors' Meeting

State College, PA

March 3, 2001

The meeting of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology board of directors was brought to order at 1:03 p.m. by president Doug Gross. Persons present were directors Doug Gross, Shonah Hunter, Linda Wagner, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Frank Haas, Alan Gregory, Katrina Knight, Mary Jane Seipler, and Deuane Hoffman. Also present were Greg Grove and Nick Bolgiano from the State College Bird Club and Carolyn Blatchley.

Gene Zielinski was not present but sent the treasurer's report with Greg. As of February 1, 2001, the society had \$9,962.37 in its treasury. Frank moved and Alan seconded that the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. The motion passed.

Frank told us that from this point forward all monies coming in for the magazine *PA Birds* will be deposited in the society's account. He will then e-mail Margaret and Katrina with new members' names. On April 1, 2001, all monies in the *PA Birds* account will be transferred to the PSO treasury. Frank will still maintain the membership database.

Doug then asked for the secretary's minutes. Alan moved and Frank seconded a motion that the minutes not be read because they had been distributed to everyone by e-mail prior to the meeting. The motion passed. Frank moved and Alan seconded a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed.

The details of the annual meeting were then discussed. Shonah reported that she has signed the contract with the Ramada Inn to provide us with a meeting place and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday and the banquet. Breakfast both days will be at 6:00 a.m. On Friday evening only cold drinks will be served. The board decided to opt for a full breakfast buffet at a cost of \$7.95 per person plus tax and 18% gratuity. The banquet will be a buffet which will include house tossed salad and cole slaw, with carved prime rib of beef, stuffed boneless chicken breast, and carved glazed ham, and baked potato, wild rice, and vegetable medley. Dessert will be included in the buffet. Cost for the banquet will be \$20.95 plus tax and gratuity. The board decided that PSO will pay the 18% gratuity and the \$35 setup fee for each meal. No tax will have to be paid if the society obtains its nonprofit status before the meeting. Registration fees will be \$25 for members, \$20 for non-members, and \$12 for anyone 18 and under and still in high school. Rooms at the Ramada are \$61 for participants until April 18 at which time the price will be raised to the full price. Other motels are also available in the area as well as camping in several state parks within a one-half hour drive.

Registration will begin at 5:00 p.m. Friday evening. The social will begin at 7:00 with the annual meeting at 8:00 p.m. Following the meeting, a description of each field trip will be presented.

The field trips have been arranged by the State College Bird Club. They are as follows

Saturday	
Field Trip Location	Leader
The Barrens – Scotia State Gamelands 176	Nick Bolgiano
Detweiler/Bear Meadows/Alan Seeger	Greg Grove
Black Moshannon	Deuane Hoffman
Bald Eagle State Park (car based)	Bob Synder
Sunday	
Field Trip Location	Leader
Lower Trail	Dave Kyler
Detweiler/Bear Meadows/Alan Seeger	Greg Grove
	Black Moshannon/Hawk Run
	Deuane Hoffman

Car pools will be used for all field trips unless there is an unusually large registration then vans may be necessary. Also, an additional field trip may be needed for Saturday. One possibility may be to have two leaders for the Bear Meadows area trip and enter the area from different sides. An update on the field trips will be necessary for the newsletter. Maps of the areas should also be available for the participants. All field trips will leave from the Ramada Inn parking lot at 6:45 am and return to same by **12:00 noon**.

Saturday afternoon talks have been arranged with the following schedule:

Topic	Speaker	Time
Breeding Birds of Central Pennsylvania Natural Areas	Nick Bolgiano	1:00 - 2:00
	Greg Grove	
Breeding Biology of the Louisiana Waterthrush in Pennsylvania	Tim O'Connell	2:00 - 2:45
<i>Break</i>		2:45 - 3:15
Birds in Forested Regions: Landscape Effects on Community Structure	Amanda Rodewald	3:15 - 4:00
Bird Identification - PORC	Matt Sharp	4:00 - 5:00
	Paul Hess	

Doug will contact Matt to see what equipment he needs and Greg will contact Amanda. Shonah will make sure that the Ramada has a screen and table for the projector. She will also bring a projector and a power point projector.

The social prior to the banquet will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the banquet at 6:30 p.m. Scott Weidensaul will present the program, *Mountains of the Heart*, which is about the Appalachians. He has agreed to present the program for \$300 and room and board. It was agreed that if he wishes to sell his books at the meeting that he is more than welcome.

Vendors will be invited to come to the meeting. Deuane will be in charge of coordinating which vendors will be invited. Anyone with an idea of whom to invite should let him know. He will then inform Shonah how many tables will be needed for them. There will be no fee charged this year. Vendors will be invited to be available from 5:00 p.m. Friday until after the meeting and 12:30 until 6:30 p.m. Saturday. Vendors who have already expressed an interest are Barnes and Noble Books, Wiscoy – bird feeders, Aden Troyer – optics. Mary Jane suggested that vendors who sell arts and crafts be contacted as some people may be interested in buying souvenirs, jewelry, or other art items.

Alan mentioned that the Wild Turkey Federation raises money by having a silent art auction. It was decided that this may be something that the PSO may want to do at a future meeting.

The recipient of the Earl Poole award has been chosen and will be attending the meeting.

There are two directors whose terms expire this year. They are Margaret Higbee and Dan Brauning. Frank will also be leaving the board because *PA Birds* will be published by the PSO. Margaret will remain on the board because she will become newsletter editor again after the annual meeting, and Frank would like to stay on the board by filling Dan Brauning's seat. Dan did not want to remain on the board because of his heavy work load with the Game Commission.

Doug thanked the State College Bird Club and Shonah for their help in organizing the meeting.

Information concerning the annual meeting will be posted to the web by Katrina, and Alan will send notices to various newspapers. Mary Jane will compile a list of all the news media who have been contacted and informed about the meeting.

The *PA Birds* transition team will meet with Frank next week. Katrina would like to have a job description so that she knows where her authority ends with regard to such things as policy, editorial content, and various decisions regarding the *PA Birds* magazine. It was decided that the magazine needs an editorial review board.

The PSO web site was discussed. Katrina said that she has contacted Bob Brown, who is an experienced web site designer and willing to design and host PSO's web site for free. The possibility of obtaining the domain names pso.org and pabirds.org were discussed. Deuane said that he has investigated the two and found that pso.org is already registered to someone else but they are not using it and they may give it up to us if we contact them. The pabirds.org name is available. The cost of registering a domain name is \$70 for two years. Katrina recommended registering both names if they are available to us. Frank made a motion that both pabirds.org and pso.org domain names be registered to PSO as soon as possible if they are available. Deuane seconded the motion which passed.

Frank would like to organize a website committee consisting of the following people: Carmen Santasania, Frank, Deuane, Carolyn Blatchley, Katrina, Bob Brown, and anyone else who would like to help. Frank made a motion that a committee be formed, and Shonah seconded the motion. The motion passed. The formation of the committee will be announced at the annual meeting. Anyone interested in serving on the committee should contact one of the board members.

Alan made a motion that PSO establish a separate account for donations to offer a scholarship to a college senior or graduate student interested in ornithology with the dollar amount to be determined at a later date as funds become available. He further recommended that PSO seed the account by placing \$500 in it and award the first scholarship in 2002. Frank seconded the motion. The motion passed. Shonah and Alan will be on the committee to review the applicants and award the scholarship.

Frank made a motion that the PSO sponsor a student 18 years old or younger to attend the annual meeting. The person should be nominated by a member with the knowledge that the member will be responsible for providing transportation for the person to the

meeting if he or she is selected. The board will review the applicants and decide who will be sponsored with the possibility of more than one person being sponsored. The motion was seconded by Alan and passed.

The location of the 2002 annual meeting was then discussed. The meeting should be held in the east according to past practice. The Poconos and Susquehanna County were suggested as possibilities. Shonah volunteered to check on the possibility of meeting at East Stroudsburg University or possibly at a hotel in the Poconos.

Frank moved that the meeting be adjourned at 3:57 p.m. Everyone agreed.

Respectfully submitted

Roger V. Higbee, Secretary