

# Board of Directors Meeting

## November 13, 2004

### Boalsburg, PA

The board of directors of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology met on November 13, 2004. Persons present were Rob Blye, Nick Bolgiano, Greg Grove, Frank Haas, Margaret and Roger Higbee, Shonah Hunter, Rudy Keller, Arlene Koch, Flo McGuire, Mark McConaughy, Nick Pulcinella, Carmen Santasania, and Linda Wagner. Greg called the meeting to order at 11:48 a.m.

Mark moved and Carmen seconded a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the previous directors' meeting. The motion passed.

Frank gave the treasurer's report. The society as of 11/12/04 has \$16,766.92. Prior to 2004 Frank has no bank statements. Previous treasurer, Gene Zielinski, has not sent him any other statements.

Frank reported on the sale of checklists. He said that we have sold enough to cover the cost of printing them and actually made a few dollars. Frank wanted to know what to do with the current checklists because they are outdated due to the change in nomenclature and checklist order. It was decided to continue selling the old checklists until March and then order new ones with the correct names and order for the annual meeting.

The total PSO membership as reported by Frank is 394 with total subscriptions of 435. This is down slightly from membership in 2003.

According to Frank, the publication dates for *Pennsylvania Birds* are getting closer to being on track. The next issue should be closer than recent issues. To reduce costs, Frank found a new printer, but the printer has been taking a longer turn-around time.

Greg mentioned that the board members should plug PSO at any of the local bird groups to which they belong or are associated. Carmen will ask Bob Mulvihill to send an invitation to join PSO to the persons who are helping with the Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Rob will forward the blurb to Carmen.

Nick P. reported that *PA Birds* is about 60 days behind schedule. Frank reported that the publication is staying within budget. Greg will contact Dan Brauning concerning the payment that has not been received for publishing several articles for the Game Commission.

Arlene asked about the questionnaires concerning the content of *PA Birds*. When the results are compiled, they will be sent to the board.

Roger questioned the stipend that Wendy Jo Shemansky is paid and when it will be paid. Greg asked if the \$1000 dollars should be increased. The work load has not changed so the amount will not change. Frank will check to see when she has been paid in the past and use that date for future payments.

## Annual Meeting

Flo has already done much of the work for next year's annual meeting. For the banquet, menu choices are a much better value than the buffet. She will get several choices and e-mail the board with them after which we can vote on the menu.

Frank suggested that the vendors be in the same room as the meeting. It was mentioned that maybe they could be just outside the room if space is limited. In any case, for the vendors to get the most from the time they are at the meeting, they should not be in a separate room.

The registration fee will remain at \$25. Shonah said that we still make money at this amount. She also requested that Flo check to see if there is a child's banquet price.

Lunch will be on our own. Will the Holiday Inn serve breakfast at 5:30, continental or otherwise? We will also need a list of other places to eat that open at 5:30.

Linda commented on the liability insurance. She said that the best deal is with the current insurer. The idea of a canoe trip sponsored by the PSO was ruled out because the increase in cost of the insurance.

The field trips have been arranged and are in good shape.

A silent auction will be tried again at this meeting. A notice will be placed in the newsletter for donations of items. Donors will notify Shonah about the item to be donated, and she will organize the auction. The local committee will have to have volunteers to oversee the actual auction. Shonah will write an article for the newsletter explaining the auction and soliciting items.

The possibility of having a pin for this meeting was discussed. It was decided that people liked the pins so we will try it again. The design discussed was the Clarion County outline with possibly a Short-eared Owl on it. Greg will contact Doug Gross and ask him to contact Nancy Dennis whose daughter designed last year's pin.

The article for the young birder scholarship should be placed in the newsletter again for this meeting. The same conditions apply as in previous years.

Speakers for the afternoon sessions and the banquet were discussed. The following persons and organizations were suggested: Robert Curry, Scott Stoleson, Nick Bolgiano, Bob Mulvihill, Doug Gross, Hawk Mountain, and PORC. Rudy will contact Robert Curry and Nick B. will contact PORC. If PORC agrees to a presentation, it should be short. Of the above speakers, Doug and Hawk Mountain's program, *River of Raptors*, were suggested as possible banquet programs. Registration fees for the program presenters will be waived. Travel, food, lodging, and presentation fees will also be paid as necessary.

Much discussion concerning the Earl Poole award ensued led by Nick B. The outcome is as follows:

1. The Vice President will chair the committee that selects the recipient.
2. The board will approve the recipient.

3. The recipient will be notified ahead of time so that the recipient's family can be present.
4. The biography of the recipient will be placed on the web site and in the newsletter.

Mark made a motion that the above guidelines be accepted by the board. Rob seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The committee will be composed of the following persons:

Bob Ross  
Dan Brauning  
Paul Hess  
Frank Haas  
Doug Gross

The PSO will pay the expenses for the recipient, the spouse, and dependent children. The recipient will receive a \$50 gift certificate and a plaque that the committee will obtain. Anyone can recommend a candidate to the committee. Greg will write an article explaining the above and include it in his president's message. Rudy will write an article describing who Earl Poole was.

Carmen will write an article asking if anyone would like to serve as a board member.

Linda asked the board how she should proceed with the T-shirt sales. It was decided that the beige ones should be phased out and that Linda and Margaret should pick a new color. The new color will probably be sky blue or lighter. The green ones will also be available. The price of the shirts should remain the same. Linda will write an article describing the shirts and patches.

Frank would like someone to take over the website. He will write an article for the newsletter.

At 1:56 Mark made a motion to adjourn seconded by Frank. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger V. Higbee, Secretary