

Meeting Minutes
New Mexico Herpetological Society
January 7, 2010

President Scott Bulgrin opened the meeting attended by 20 adults. Jean Burt read the minutes from the November 2009 meeting. Garth Graves reported the final bank balance as of 1/7/10 is \$1419.74.

Old Business

Scott reported that the holiday banquet was a success. Everyone enjoyed Nick's Crossroads Café. There were some parking problems, but the owner of the parking lot is willing to make arrangements with NMHS if we have the banquet at Nick's again. We will also need to look at a different setup for the silent auction.

Scott will check on the digital frames and options for types of printers that could be used at the Bosque del Apache next year. Costco sells a 12-inch digital frame for \$89.00.

Scott reported that NMHS will again conduct surveys for the Sandia Pueblo. This year, bosque surveys will be more intensive and additional surveys will be conducted in the NACWA area, and foothills. He will have more information at subsequent meetings.

Approximately 1200 people visited the NMHS educational exhibits at the Bosque del Apache Festival of the Cranes. NMHS again gave away posters, pictures, and applied temporary tattoos. NMHS collected \$70.00 in donations for both days. Scott recommended that we ask for use of the second room to run continuous slide shows next year. Scott thanked August and Nancy for bringing the rattlesnakes and also recommended that NMHS reimburse part of the expenses for couples who had attended both days of the festival. Members present voted and approved \$50.00 reimbursement per couple. Jean mentioned that a woman from Silver City at the exhibit had asked if NMHS could exhibit at the Founders' Day festival; Jean provided Ted Brown's contact information.

Scott contacted the ABQ Journal regarding free advertising in newspaper inserts. This free service is available to nonprofits or 501(3)(c)s. Scott will contact Sandi Jackson of RGTTTC to ask how they went about getting 501(3)(c) status. Tom Eichhorst noted that we really need to incorporate for our own protection.

The Game and Fish Committee addressed Bob Ashley's case on 12/3, but did not take any action. The matter will come up later this year. Scott will draft a letter in time for the February meeting. Lori King reported that Charlie Painter was at the meeting. Charlie believes that the Commission really listens to the public. There is a link on the web site that allows the public to provide comments for items on the docket. Charlie will provide information on the link.

New Business.

Jaci Fischer reported that Max (her son) is now working at the Behler Chelonian Center in California. They have a collection from the Bronx Zoo housed there.

Dave Burt provided early information on this year's International Herpetological Society (HIS) meeting. It will be held in Tucson, AZ, 7/21-24/10. Scott suggested setting up a booth to promote NMHS. Dave also mentioned the NM Game and Fish Wildlife publication that recently came out. There are great pictures and range maps.

Jaci displayed new T-shirts designed and printed by her daughter, with a snake skeleton design that glows in the dark. Scott made a motion to adopt these as the official NMHS t-shirt, with unanimous approval. The cost is \$12 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$20 on the web site (to include shipping costs). Jaci will look at the cost for long-sleeved t-shirts.

Scott brought a new pamphlet that he created, titled "Living with Rattlesnakes." He asked for member review. He is also working on a pamphlet on "responsible reptile owners." Scott is updating the web site calendar and mentioned that he was contacted by someone who has a red-eared slider, "Sara" available for adoption. This someone, Jason, was in attendance at the meeting and members present gave him a few ideas for finding a new home for Sara.

Lori, Scott, and Rebecca Bulgrin are working to get Herps of NM on the web site, with links to brief descriptions and photographs. They need help. At the next meeting, Scott will bring a list of animals and ask for volunteers to write descriptions for 1-2 animals. Tom suggested that Scott provide a format for developing these descriptions. Scott will provide one. Lori suggested looking at a website, Herps in Arizona by Tom Brennan for ideas. Bob Myers volunteered to write descriptions for rattlesnakes, and Tom volunteered to describe horned lizards.

Steve Carey from NM State Parks presented a slide show on the Broad Canyon Ranch in northern Doña Ana County. He will coordinate with NMHS for a possible survey in the near future.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jean Burt, Secretary NMHS