

**Meeting Minutes**  
**New Mexico Herpetological Society (NMHS)**  
**April 7, 2011**

President Scott Bulgrin opened the meeting attended by 22 adults and 1 child. Jean Burt read the minutes from the March 2011 meeting. Garth Graves reported a final bank balance of \$1,662.27 as of 4/7/11.

Old Business

Tom Eichhorst reminded the group that volunteers are welcome at the BEMP student congress on April 28-29, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. He provided directions and logistics were discussed, such as the NMHS banners, posters, t-shirt sales, etc.

Scott will be representing NMHS by providing an educational display at the Santa Clara Pueblo Earth Day on 4/28/11.

Scott reported that the Sandia Pueblo Foothill traps will be set up on Saturday, April 30, 2011. He asked volunteers to meet at his office at 9:00 a.m. that morning. He is currently reviewing the trap configuration designed by a contractor. Traps will be checked twice a week, starting in May. This year, we will also be setting up two funnel traps in each area.

Scott reported that House Bill 319 related to animal cruelty went to the House committee and stayed there. The draft bill included captive reptiles, not insects.

There was some discussion of the Memorial Day field trip location, but a decision was not reached. Locations (in addition to those suggested last month) include Rock Hound State Park, Cerrillos State Park, Springtime Campground, and Datil Well (BLM land west of Reserve). It was also suggested that a place close to ABQ be selected due to the skyrocketing gas prices. A location will be decided at the May meeting; bring your ideas. Josh Emms will send out the newsletter after a location is decided.

New Business

Tom reported that he had received a call from Evelyn Candelaria asking if NMHS would be interested in participating in a fair that will be held to raise money for "A Park Above," a park for children with special needs. The fair will be held Saturday, May 7, 2011 in Rio Rancho at Haynes Park. Setup is from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m., and the fair runs until 9:00 p.m. NMHS would need to bring a table. There might not be a tent. Contact person is Roberta Birch at 796-5655.

Other upcoming events:

- July 8-10, 2011, Osprey Festival at Heron Lake, Volunteers will enjoy free camping and the Friday night wine and cheese reception. Scott asked for volunteers to set up a table for NMHS with the banner, posters, and critters.
- July 20-23, 2011, Biology of Rattlesnake Symposium in Tucson
- July 27-30, 2011 - International Herpetological Symposium (IHS) at the Radisson Hotel, Fort Worth, Fossil Creek
- August 10-16, SW PARC Meeting, in Tucson, AZ with the meeting on August 10-11 and an Inventory and Monitoring Workshop on August 12-13. The meeting will be held back-to-back with Current Research in Sonoran Desert Herpetology V, on August 15-16, with August 14 as a day for relaxation in between the two conferences. Scott will set up the NMHS display if he attends.
- August 13, 2011 (early) – Ted Brown will present herp information at the Audubon Center in Santa Fe.
- August 13, 2011 (later) – Ted and Sue Brown will provide their annual presentation at Villanueva State Park.

Please let Scott know if you plan to attend the Rattlesnake Symposium, IHS, or SWPARC.

Scott received a call from a gentleman looking for a good home for a 3½ ft Nile monitor. Contact Scott if interested.

Scott reported that in response to an ad in the Rio Rancho Observer, Garth Graves attended a snake conservation exhibit at Esther Bone Memorial Library in Rio Rancho on April 2, 2011. Garth reported that he attended and spoke with Jan Masic from Los Alamos, who is a former NMHS member and was exhibiting tanks with snakes and answering questions. Carolyn Newell and Val Shambo reported that they also attended the exhibit and spoke with her as well. She is available to help with our educational exhibits to get youngsters interested in herps.

Scott thanked Josh for the meeting reminder and links to herp articles.

Members discussed web sites that have information and photos of New Mexico herps and the new TV show, “Swamp People.”

Ted distributed three handouts:

- A Report on Surveys Conducted in the North American Wetlands Conservation Act Area of Sandia Pueblo, Sandoval Co., New Mexico, by the New Mexico Herpetological Society in 2009-10
- A Herpetological Survey of the Foothills Mesa, Sandia Pueblo, Sandoval Co., New Mexico, 8 May – 30 October 2010
- Hoover Dam and the O’Callaghan-Tillman Memorial Bridge – to be used for information related to Ted’s presentation.

Ted thanked all who helped with the surveys.

After a celebration of April birthdays, including cookies, chocolate cake, doughnuts, and iced tea, Ted presented “A Bridge to Nowhere” – slides of Ted and Sue’s trip to Hoover Dam and the recently opened bridge.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jean Burt, Secretary NMHS