

Meeting Minutes
New Mexico Herpetological Society (NMHS)
October 6, 2011

President Scott Bulgrin opened the meeting attended by 21 adults. Jean Burt read the minutes from the September 2011 meeting. Garth Graves reported a bank balance of \$1,190.13 as of October 6, 2011.

Old Business

Scott spoke with Santa Ana officials regarding potential problems with exhibiting snakes at the Santa Ana Earth Day. We will discuss this further before the 2012 Santa Ana Earth Day.

Ted and Sue Brown provided another educational presentation at Villanueva State Park on September 10, 2011, to 25 attendees.

Scott reported highlights of the NMHS Labor Day field trip in Mills Canyon, including the torrential storm and hundreds of tiger salamanders brought out by that storm.

Members discussed potential banquet locations for the holiday banquet. Josh Emms will reserve the banquet room at the Golden Corral on Coors for Friday, December 9. Other members will look into alternate locations. August contacted Doug Hotle (curator of reptiles at the ABQ Biopark) who has offered to be the guest speaker at the banquet. He will present information on the latest zoo projects and current topics in herpetology. August will ask Doug if he can provide a behind the scenes tour for NMHS members in January (preferably on a Saturday).

Scott will print blank silent auction forms and provide them for completion before the auction.

New Business and Upcoming Educational Events

October 8, 2011: Open House at the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Volunteers discussed what critters they will show at the event.

November 19-20, 2011: Bosque del Apache Festival of the Cranes, we will discuss details in November.

Scott followed up on an e-mail he received from a woman who donated a turtle figurine collection to NMHS. The collection will be included as silent auction items.

Scott received a call from the New Mexico Animal Protection Organization reporting that elementary school children are abusing amphibians. The organization is developing an educational presentation and asked Scott for input. Scott provided slides of amphibians of New Mexico.

Scott reported that the Sandia Pueblo surveys will end October 29 and asked for volunteers to close the traps. The Pueblo is gearing up for 2012 bosque and foothill monitoring. Contact Scott if interested in monitoring bosque traps as a paid contractor.

Del reported on the 2-day Leesburg Dam BioBlitz held in October. He and Charlie Painter surveyed the area and reported sightings of herps including bullsnakes, patchnose snake, lesser earless lizards, Great Plains skink, and whiptails.

Scott thanked Josh for the quarterly newsletter.

After a break for cookies, Bill Gorham showed digital photos of the Labor Day trip to Mills Canyon and an assortment of reptiles and incredible scenes from his field herping adventures.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jean S. Burt, Secretary, NMHS