

**Meeting Minutes**  
**New Mexico Herpetological Society (NMHS)**  
**March 8, 2013**

President Scott Bulgrin opened the meeting attended by 31 adults, 1 toddler and 3 junior herpers. Jean Burt read the February 2013 meeting minutes. Garth Graves reported a bank balance of \$1543.64.

Old Business

February 8-9, Scott attended the annual conference of the Arizona/New Mexico Chapters of the Wildlife Society in ABQ, including a breakout session on reptiles and amphibians conducted by the Arizona and New Mexico game and fish departments. As a result of discussions on garter snakes collected by the ABQ Biopark, Scott suggested inviting Doug Hotle back to present this project.

February 17, Scott provided educational outreach to a Sunday school youth activity group of approximately 12-15 children at the Unitarian Church. Logan Bulgrin helped with this outreach activity.

Scott reminded members to submit photos, stories, memories, for the NMHS 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary DVD. Especially needed are photos from events prior to the year 2000. Josh Emms will verify if the room at his place of business is available for the anniversary celebration/pot luck in October.

The woman who previously donated turtle figurines to NMHS has donated four framed posters of Galapagos tortoises. Let Scott know if you are interested in providing a home to the large posters.

Books available for donation are listed on the NMHS website, including two books on the Galapagos.

Upcoming Events and New Business

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| March 16    | NMHS is again invited to Dog Canyon Experience at Oliver Lee State Park. As of meeting time, five members have volunteered to attend this experience.   |
| March 21    | Scott will present to two kindergarten classes at a Montessori School in the northeast heights.   |
| May 17-18   | BioBlitz 2013 at Sandia Mountain Natural History Center, Cedar Crest; let Scott know if you are interested in participating.  |
| April 25-26 | Tom Eichhorst reported that this year's BEMP will be held on 4/25/2013 at Las Golondrinas (younger students) and 4/26/2013 at the Bosque School (high school students). Tom asked for volunteers at the educational display at these events, noting that it is best to display native critters. The events start at approximately 10:00 a.m. and end at approximately 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. |
| June        | Scott has been asked to lead an open space hike in the bosque behind Tingley Beach where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have developed wetlands and blinds.   |
| July 18-22  | The SSAR ichthyology/ herpetology conference will be held in Albuquerque, with a registration fee of over \$300. Jen Stabile said that she can speak to one of the organizers about our interest in participating; however, it is unlikely that a deal can be made due to the rigid guidelines set by the sponsoring groups and ABQ Convention Center.  |
| August 2    | An event at the Ester Bone Library in Rio Rancho – will discuss at a future meeting.  |

Dave Burt reported that early progress is being made on plans for the Memorial Day field trip. Ted Brown provided a list of all NMHS field trips to Dave. After researching sites, tallying the number of

times NMHS has visited, and getting suggestions from Ted and Josh, Dave narrowed down the list to four potential sites.

- Springtime Campground
- Lower Gallinas Campground
- Three Rivers Campground
- Water Canyon – a group site must be reserved; Dave suggested that we call to reserve this site as soon as possible.

Dave will e-mail to Josh the list of four sites with a link to and description of each site. Josh will forward the information to members before the April meeting, asking them to vote early or come to the April meeting to vote. Sue Brown asked how many people plan to attend; quite a few hands were raised.

News items were discussed – including Tara’s story about a cobra encounter in South Africa by Tara’s sister and her coworkers while producing TV commercials. A truck had been left open and the snake managed to sneak in.

Josh reported that Hobart Smith passed away at the age of 100, on Tuesday, March 6.

Members munched on cookies, then enjoyed a presentation provided by Travis (with humorous background stories). Travis showed digital photos of herps, colorful people, and his amazing adventures in Indonesia and Australia while he studied abroad last semester.

As members were leaving, Scott mentioned an animal cruelty bill being considered in the New Mexico Legislature.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jean S. Burt, Secretary, NMHS