

Meeting Minutes
New Mexico Herpetological Society (NMHS)
August 2, 2013

President Scott Bulgrin opened the meeting attended by 21 adults and 1 toddler. Jean Burt read the May 2013 meeting minutes. Garth Graves reported a bank balance of \$1122.75.

Old Business

Scott reported that he spoke with Larry Jones of Tucson. Larry is interested in a future presentation to NMHS (Larry was recommended by Esther Nelson – our May speaker).

Recent Outreach Events Attended by NMHS Members:

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| May | Scott mentioned that Jerry Tuttle presented at various locations as listed in the May minutes |
| May 17 | Bioblitz at the Sandia Mountain Natural History Center, Cedar Crest – Josh, Nikki and Chloe Emms and Ted Brown represented NMHS – Scott and Josh led reptile hikes and observed a few lizards |
| June 6 and 20 | Jerry Tuttle presented reptile and amphibian talks at the Junior Rangers Program at the Rio Grande Nature Center |
| June 15 | Wildlife West – Nancy Bush reported that she and August attended. Variety of groups provided wildlife presentations. |
| July 9-10 | Scott presented at the Southwest Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (SWPARC) meeting in Albuquerque. His presentation was on the bosque surveys at Sandia Pueblo. (More on SWPARC below) |
| July 13 | Scott presented at Los Griegos Library to a group of 40 adults and children |
| July 18 | Scott presented to the Junior Rangers Program |
| July 18-22 | Scott, Nancy, August attended the 2013 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists at the Albuquerque Convention Center. More than 600 attended this conference. There were several presentations on rattlesnakes. |
| July 20 | Annual NMHS Potluck was hosted by Jaci Fischer and Fred Yost. Scott and Dave Burt showed digital photos of the Memorial Day field trip at the Lower Gallinas Campground in the Gila National Forest. Josh showed a sneak preview of the 50 year anniversary DVD. |
| July 25-28 | Scott and Logan Bulgrin and Dave and Jean Burt attended the American Tarantula Society (ATS) conference in Tucson and observed numerous lizards and a few snakes while participating in several field trips. Scott recommended that NMHS members visit the Bug Museum in Santa Fe (DeVargas Mall) recently opened by Wade Harrell, an active ATS member. |
| August 2 | Scott spoke at the Esther Bone Library in Rio Rancho on New Mexico turtles. |

Scott, Nancy, and August attended the SWPARC meeting in Albuquerque on July 9 and 10. The conference included presentations and field trips. Scott attended a workshop presented by Frog Watch USA. Scott suggested that NMHS could host a Frog Watch chapter or the Pueblo of Sandia could host a chapter, with NMHS members conducting surveys at the Pueblo ponds. NMHS will discuss this further at

the next meeting. Josh will provide a link to Frogwatch.USA on the NMHS website for members to obtain more information.

Ted Brown reported on the Pueblo foothill survey conducted Tuesday, July 30. The survey took 5 hours, because 24 of the 32 traps had flooded and needed to be emptied, relocated, or surrounded by berms. In spite of the flooding, animals were in the traps.

Upcoming Events

August 17 Santa Ana Environmental Day, Santa Ana Pueblo – no snakes allowed

August 24 Artist Day at Wildlife West

Labor Day NMHS Field Trip

September 7 Dragonfly Festival at Bitter Lake State Park in Roswell – camping site available

Contact Scott to volunteer as a participant at any of these events. Josh will post a list of these events on the NMHS web site.

New Business

Three locations were suggested for the NMHS Labor Day weekend field trip:

- Rodeo – Bob Ashley has a facility that NMHS could rent, or there is plenty of BLM land for camping.
- Lower Gallinas (site of the 2013 Memorial Day field trip)
- Water Canyon (preferably at the group campground)

Josh will e-mail members who are interested in the field trip and ask them to contact Scott and Josh with their preferred site.

Scott reported that a quick decision is needed on a proposed holiday banquet speaker. Nancy met Dr. Dante Fenolio at the ichthyology/herpetology conference and invited him to present at NMHS Holiday Banquet. Dr. Fenolio is available to speak only in December. He is the current manager of Conservation and Research at the San Antonio Zoo, and recently moved from the Atlanta botanical garden, where he was an Amphibian conservation scientist and Curator of Amphibians. Charlie and Lori Painter have offered their house as lodging for Dr. Fenolio while he is here. Josh will send out more information on Dr. Fenolio and estimated expenses to members for a decision before the next meeting.

Dr. Bill Degenhardt suggested that NMHS should have a local speaker at the banquet. Scott will contact suggested potential local speakers – provide contact information to Scott via e-mail.

Members voted on a date and place for the holiday banquet. The banquet will be on Saturday, December 14 at Garcia's on Central. Scott will contact Jaci and ask her to again coordinate with Garcia's.

Lisa and Alf brought additional library books; Scott will compile the list for posting on the NMHS website.

Nancy introduced the speaker, Matt Eschenbrenner, Senior Keeper at the Albuquerque BioPark who presented "Global Crocodylian Conservation Efforts."

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jean S. Burt, Secretary, NMHS