

Nebraska Ornithologists' Union
Spring Board Meeting

Friday, May 20, 2011
Norfolk

Board members present: Mark Brogie, Betty Grenon, Dave Heidt, Jan Johnson, Urban Lehner, Nancy Leonard, Janis Paseka, Kevin Poague, and Lanny Randolph.

Guests: William Flack, Jill Liske-Clark, Wayne Molhoff, and Kent Skaggs.

8:00 p.m. — Urban called the meeting to order. Members reviewed and accepted the minutes of the fall meeting in McCook.

Committee Reports

(Some committee representatives submitted printed reports, and these are attached to these minutes.)

Treasurer — Betty reported there was not much change from the last meeting. NOU will make some money from this spring meeting. There is a solid monetary cushion in our accounts but membership is not bringing in enough to cover expenses.

Program — No report.

Breeding Bird Atlas — Wayne said nest records continue to be entered. Many blocks still need to be surveyed this summer, which is the last season of the atlas project. Betty asked if funds need to be accessed to pay the Game and Parks. Wayne said not until the end of the year. The majority of the BBA funds will stay in CDs for now.

Old Business

- 1) Urban introduced Kent Skaggs of Rowe Sanctuary, who brought the board up to date on plans for the fall meeting scheduled for September 23-25. The speaker Saturday night will be **Walter Wehtje**, who is the Whooping Crane Telemetry Project Coordinator for the Crane Trust, Inc.
- 2) Urban reported on the progress of the paperless project, in which members are given the option of receiving the newsletter by e-mail in an effort to reduce mailing expenses and save resources. About 100 NOU members have agreed so far to this service.
- 3) The quilt Jan Johnson donated to NOU will be auctioned off Saturday evening. About \$150 has been raised so far.

New Business

- 1) Jill Liske-Clark, Coordinator of the Nebraska Bird Partnership, talked about working with NOU member Tim Hajda, Nebraska editor of eBird, in putting on an eBird workshop at a future NOU meeting. The workshop would be co-sponsored between the NOU and the NBP. There would be no cost to the NOU, it would be promoted in the NOU newsletter, and Jill asked for a nominal fee of \$5 per registrant.

Space would be limited. The board agreed to offer the workshop at the fall 2011 meeting, possibly on Friday from 4:00-6:00 pm.

2) Kevin asked the board their thoughts on getting new NOU t-shirts. The board agreed and Kevin said he would work on getting the shirts designed and ordered. Board members requested that pre-orders be taken through announcements in the newsletter and the Web site. Kevin would have his home e-mail address listed so members can provide him with their orders. It is planned to have the shirts initially available at the 2012 spring meeting.

3) Janis proposed the spring 2012 meeting to be held at Covenant Cedars Bible Camp near Central City on May 18-20. The camp offered excellent rates for housing and meals. Members agreed to the location and the Pasekas will arrange details. (After the meeting, Tim Hajda offered to organize the spring 2012 meeting in Broken Bow, and the board accepted his offer through an e-mail conversation. Central City will now tentatively be the site of the spring 2013 meeting.)

4) A UNL library employee has offered to digitize all past issues of *The Nebraska Bird Review* at no cost. The board agreed to the proposal and to the fact that the NOU would keep old paper copies. But two questions remained:

a) How many paper copies should be kept? It was decided that Anita should report on how many copies the NOU has now.

b) Should all copies be digitized, or should there be a lag time between paper publishing and digitizing? The board's consensus was to wait 3 years for a published issue to be digitized. A motion was made and passed to allow the library staff to begin the process.

5) The next item was whether to pay our Webmaster, Ann Johnson, for her time in fixing/upgrading the Web site. Ann sent a contract outlining her proposal. A motion was made to accept her contract to pay her \$90/hour for her services, and it was accepted. Urban will work on getting the contract signed.

It was mentioned that to alleviate confusion on what changes and upgrades should be made, only one NOU member should be the contact for Ann. It was decided that NOU members should go through Kathy DeLara first so she can be the gatekeeper for all changes. This will also allow us to more easily keep track of how many hours Ann puts in.

6) Urban asked the board about the printing of county lists in the newsletter. The lists take several pages to print and a lot of time to produce, and there is a question of whether it is even necessary to do. The board decided to print the lists in one more issue. After that, the lists will be available on the Web site and at meetings. Mark Brogie said he would mail lists to people who ask. A check box can be put on the NOU membership renewal form and in the newsletter for this purpose.

7) Betty informed the board that more NOU brochures are needed. She will get some price quotes. A question arose as to whether the brochure needs to be updated. Urban offered to send a copy to each board member for their input on any changes that need to be made (new Web site address, etc.).

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion accepted.

Respectively submitted,

Kevin Poague
Secretary

**Nebraska Ornithologists' Union
Annual Meeting**

Saturday, May 21, 2011
Norfolk

Urban Lehner call the meeting to order.

1) Urban introduced Kent Skaggs of the nominating committee who announced the slate of candidates for election to the NOU board: President, Urban Lehner; Vice President, Nancy Leonard; Treasurer, Betty Grenon; Secretary, Kevin Poague; Editor, Janis Paseka; Librarian, Anita Breckbill; Director-at-Large, William Flack. A motion was made and seconded to accept the slate of candidates. Motion passed.

2) The next item of business was voting on the set of changes to the by-laws, which were outlined in the October 2010 NOU Newsletter. Urban asked for questions and comments from the group. No concerns were raised, so a motion was made and seconded to accept all the changes to the by-laws. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted,

Kevin Poague
Secretary