

## MINUTES OF THE 1998 COUNCIL MEETING OF THE WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION

### General

The annual council meeting of the 47th annual meeting of the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA) was called to order by President R. McLean at 1:25 p.m. on 9 August 1998 at the Memorial Union, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin (USA). In attendance were: R. McLean, President; T. Rocke, Vice President; E. Howerth, Secretary; L. Uhazy, Treasurer; Council Members Jim Sikarskie, C. Rupprecht, S. Wright, F. A. Leighton, P. Barrows, and M. Spalding, D. Pence, Editor; C. Quist, Supplement to JWD Editor; A. Fairbrother, Past President; and Section Chairs S. S. Hurley, H. H. Dietz, and T. Mörner. I. Barker, R. Botzler, Past Editor, D. J. Elder and S. Mayhew of Allen Marketing and Management, J. Mazet, C. Van Riper III, E. Addison, T. Kreeger, Bill Samuel, E. Greiner, D. Goeldner, D. Stallknecht, E. Shotts, and R. Zarnke also were in attendance. New Council Members at Large, W. Lance and R. Zarnke, were announced.

### Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the 1997 Council meeting of WDA was passed unanimously. The minutes were published in the January 1998 issue of the JWD.

### Vice President's Report

T. Rocke postponed her report until New Business.

### Treasurer's Report

The following report was presented by Treasurer L. Uhazy. During the past financial year, K. Hickey, D. Atwell and T. Ladesic of Allen Marketing and Management (AM&M) ably assisted the Treasurer. In addition, D. Atwell worked very hard with the accounting firm of Schehrer Bennett & Lowenthal to have the final Financial Statement for fiscal year 1997–98 in the hands of the Treasurer 1 wk prior to the annual Business Meeting.

Based on this Financial Statement, it is readily apparent the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA) continues to be financially sound. However, the costs incurred during the operation of the organization did exceed the budgeted expenses resulting in a decrease in the Association's ending balance/reserve. The budget year began with a balance on hand of \$82,925.78

and ended with a bank balance of \$74,591.98 (Douglas County Bank, Lawrence, Kansas, USA). This represents a decrease in the reserve of \$8,333.80. With respect to assets held in investments, the Association's mutual fund portfolio is valued at \$212,096.76 (Buttonwood Partners Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA), the Carlton M. Herman Founders' Fund is \$19,990.49 (American Funds Service Co., Indianapolis, Indiana, USA), and a 1 yr certificate of deposit is valued at \$53,004.59 (5.95% interest maturing 1/14/99, Southern Pacific Bank, Los Angeles, California, USA).

Income to the WDA, primarily generated through membership and subscription fees (\$90,991.56), page charges (\$45,547.00), reprints (\$12,196.92), and the most enjoyable conference and auction in St. Petersburg (Florida, USA) (\$8,136.07) equaled the budgeted amount (\$159,060.47). Overall, expenses were \$2,023.53 less than were budgeted for (\$167,376.47); however, expenditures for the publication, distribution, and management of the *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* (JWD) and the supplement were greater than anticipated by \$13,498.10. Increased costs were associated with the increase in the number of pages published in the JWD and the costs incurred during the editorial/review process. A total of 1,024 pages, an increase of about 25% over the previous budget year, were published and compensatory increases in editorial process, including copy editing, accounted for the majority of the over expenditure. Additional over budgeted expenses were associated with the printing of reprints, the storage of back issues, and postage. Savings were realized from over estimates of expenditures for promotions and for general management of the WDA. In the latter instance, fees to Allen Press Inc. were over estimated and funds allocated for legal fees were not utilized.

Expenditures for the operations of the WDA during the period 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998 equaled \$167,376.47 while total income, including a beginning balance of \$82,925.78, was \$241,986.25. Income exceeded expenditures resulting in a surplus of \$74,609.78 to be carried over to the next budget period. This ending balance, is \$17.80 more than the balance on hand (\$74,591.98) in the Douglas County Bank. This minor discrepancy is a function of the inability of the Treasurer to reconcile the balanced check register with the financial state-

ment provided by AM&M. Since the WDA's checkbook/register is the only record of all financial actions maintained by the Treasurer and the register balances with the 30 June bank statement, the reserve of \$74,591.98 will be carried as a starting balance into the next budget period.

Last year, L. Uhazy recommended to Council that a more detailed budget be prepared to facilitate tracking of the WDA's expenses and to help simplify the preparation of the annual financial statement. I have done this and feel it has helped to some degree. I have also found that spreadsheets detailing specific costs have contributed greatly to my understanding of the cost of publication of the Journal and all other financial activities of the WDA. Quicken, banking software used to maintain the check register, has been helpful in preparing these reports; however, I would like to explore the use of an accounting software such as Quick Books as a means to maintaining these records. It is anticipated that the latter would enable the Treasurer to track particular expenditures and generate end of budget year reports.

Finally, last year Council approved the placement of monies held in the WDA checking account, a non-interest yielding account, into short-term investments. This was not accomplished during this fiscal year. However, on 27 July 1998 a 3 mo certificate of deposit, valued at \$25,000, was purchased from Southern Pacific Bank. The interest rate is 5.6% and the certificate will mature 27 October 1998.

#### JWD Editor Report for 1998

The following report was presented by D. Pence, JWD editor. This report covers the period between 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, and essentially summarizes the activities concerned with the editing and publishing the 1998 volume (34, numbers 1–4) of the JWD. The only major change in the editorial procedures and policies during this period was the initiation of copy editing of the first proofs of each issue of volume 34 by the editor's office. There are two new assistant editors for JWD: Dave Stallknecht assumed some of the responsibility for editing the increased numbers of papers on viruses and bacteria other than rabies, and Al Shostak has agreed to replace Cheryl Bartlett who has asked to be relieved of her assistant editorship after 8 yr of service to JWD.

In the four issues of the JWD, volume 34, 1998, there were 68 full length research papers, 58 short communications, 14 book reviews, two letters to the editor, one set of minutes, and the author and subject indices. In contrast, volume 33 had 2 perspectives papers,

75 full length papers, 61 short communications, eight book reviews, one correction, one set of minutes, and the author and subject indices. The number of pages in volume 34 can not be fully determined until the October (number 4) issue is complete; however, they number 844 pages, exclusive of the indices ( $n = \sim 40$  pages) promising again to be one of the largest volumes of JWD published. Volume 33 had 986 pages.

Twenty countries were represented in papers published in volume 34, compared to 21 for volume 33. Of 116 papers published in volume 34, 64 were from the United States; 11 were from Canada; eight came from Australia; seven were from Germany; four emanated from Spain; three originated from United Arab Emirates; two each were from Finland, Italy, Japan, Norway, United Kingdom, and Zimbabwe; and one each were sent from Belgium, France, French Guiana, Israel, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, and Trinidad-Tobago.

The number of new manuscripts received by the editor's office for the 12 mo review period covered by volume 34 (1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998) was 196. Of these, 59 were accepted, 52 were rejected, and 87 remain in the review (51)/revision (36) process. This indicates a slight decrease in the annual number of manuscripts submitted for consideration by JWD; 250 manuscripts were received last year during the equivalent 13 mo period covered for volume 33 from 1 June 1996 to 26 June 1997. The overall acceptance/rejection rate was 59/52 (52/48%), respectively. The acceptance rate of 52% is considerably lower than the 66% and 62% for the 1 yr review periods of volumes 33 and 32, respectively.

The median time from receipt of a manuscript to its appearance in the journal for papers that appeared in volume 34 was about 11 mo (range = 5 to 72 mo).

As of 1 July 1998 there was a backlog of 118 manuscripts. Of these, 51 were in the review process and 67 awaited revision by the authors.

This year the assistant editors have again done an excellent job for the journal. Between 1 July 1997 and 30 June 1998 manuscripts were forwarded for review to the following assistant editors: C. T. Atkinson ( $n = 22$ ), C. M. Bartlett (15), W. M. Boyce (7), E. W. Howerth (23), T. J. Kreeger (12), K. A. Patnode (12), C. Rupprecht (5), A. Shostak (1), D. Spratt (8), D. Stallknecht (16), L. S. Uhazy (27), and E. S. Williams (23). Acting Editor R. G. Botzler handled one manuscript during this period. Twenty four manuscripts were handled by Editor D. B. Pence including one correction, I. K. Barker has again agreed to provide an author and subject index for the current volume (34); his con-

tribution on this considerable task is much appreciated.

External referees who contributed to reviewing the manuscripts for the period of 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998 for volume 34 numbered 247 individuals. A list of these reviewers will appear in the October 1998 issue of the journal.

As editor, I greatly appreciate all the efforts of the assistant editors; Acting Editor R. G. Botzler; all the external referees; book reviewers; the editorial assistant in Texas; K. Hinkey, WDA Business Office; S. Kindall and S. Davidson at Allen Press, Inc.; L. S. Uhazy, WDA treasurer; members of the JWD Editorial Board; and the ongoing support of WDA Council.

At the Council meeting Editor Pence asked Council's approval of the appointments of D. Stallknecht and A. Shostak as new assistant editors. Editor Pence stated that the cost of publication was discussed at the editorial board meeting. Slightly fewer number of pages were published than in 1997 (<900) which was estimated at \$121.00/page = ~\$109,000.00. The cost of copy editing page proofs of each issue was actually a little under the \$3,000.00 budgeted. Attention was called to fact that the editorial office has a very aging computer system that will require replacement when a new editor comes to office in 2001, if not before. Editor Elect E. S. Williams will begin receiving manuscripts in July 2000 and Editor Pence will end his term 31 December 2000 with Williams beginning her new 5 yr term 1 January 2001. This means that Editor Elect Williams will need to begin purchase of a new computer system, printers, scanner, fax machine, copier, modems, and soft ware during early summer 1999. This will amount to a considerable expenditure by WDA and approval for beginning this process of upgrading the editor's office was requested. Editor Pence reminded Council that his institution (TTUHSC) has, and probably will continue to assume costs of e-mailing, faxing, copying, and long distance telephone calls (including providing equipment associated with these activities) associated with running JWD. We can not expect another institution to do this. Also, many (the majority) of the assistant editors do not charge WDA for their supplies or mailing. The number of extra copies of the journal in storage needs to be considered. Editor Pence indicated that JWD is now listed in Allen Press's Buyer's Guide free of charge.

Editor Pence indicated that the following information was discussed at the Editorial Board Meeting: (1) Confidentiality of peer reviewer's and editor's correspondence to authors initiated in 1998; (2) that copy editing was worth the

effort and cost; (3) emphasis on shorter titles; (4) value of retrospective studies; (5) whether the WDA logo should be changed to improve WDA's image; (6) the possibility of foreign abstracts; and (7) compromise of the peer review system in regards to one manuscript.

#### **Supplement to the JWD Editor's and Information Committee Report**

The following report was submitted by C. Quist, Supplement to the JWD Editor and Chair of the Information Committee. Four issues of the Supplement to the JWD were published since the last meeting for a total of 56 pages distributed as follows: October 1997—20 pp; January 1998—12 pp; April 1998—12 pp; and July 1998—12 pp.

Announcements for the 1998 Annual Conference were placed in the January, April, and July issues of the Supplement. WDA activities and information published in this year's issues of the Supplement included a report and photographs from the 46th Annual WDA Conference in St. Petersburg which included titles and authors of presented papers. Additional information published included four messages from our President, student activities and awards information, WDA section news, calls for nominations for WDA offices and awards, listing of available WDA and other educational aid materials, three diagnostic riddles, four National Wildlife Health Center quarterly reports, miscellaneous disease reports and member information, meeting announcements, educational opportunities and position announcements, several new publications of interest to WDA members, and an obituary for F. Hayes.

We have also transferred the WDA Website to a new address (<http://www.vpp.vet.uga.edu/wda>) to allow inclusion of the Supplement on the webpage. The January and April 1998 issues are currently on-line, and the July issue is in preparation. In conjunction with the Educational Aids Committee and L. Richey, we plan on including a diagnostic riddle on the webpage in the near future.

Allen Press representatives present were asked to obtain a quote from Allen Press for an electronic copy of the Supplement so that the Supplement could be put on the web page more easily. L. Uhazy asked if there were monies allocated in the budget for the information committee to obtain help in getting an electronic copy of the Supplement or for putting the hard copy of the Supplement on the web page. Supplement Editor Quist indicated that currently there were none.

C. Quist requested guidance on what items were appropriate for publication in the Supple-

ment. She indicated that she had received requests to publish items that she felt could be best be classified as "Personals". The web site in general was also discussed. C. Rupprecht moved to include a check off box on the upcoming ballot as to whether members would be willing to accept an electronic copy of the supplement rather than a hard copy. The motion was seconded by C. Quist and passed.

Supplement Editor Quist asked for a budget to investigate the possibilities for putting the supplement on the web page. A motion was made for the Supplement Editor to JWD to have a \$1,500.00 line item in the budget for producing/maintaining the supplement and web page. The motion was seconded and passed.

#### **Australasia Section Report**

The following report was submitted by W. Blanshard (Ex-Treasurer). The Australasian Section's annual meeting was held at Calperum Station (located approximately 15 km northwest of Renmark, in the Riverland of South Australia), from 19–24 July 1998. Calperum is a de-stocked sheep station managed by the Bookmark Biosphere Trust as part of one of the world's best examples of a Biosphere. During the conference we had the opportunity to observe and participate in many aspects of the Biosphere program. The conference was based at the shearers' quarters, and the scientific papers were presented in the woolshed. The annual prize for best student presentation was won by J. Griffith, a veterinary science undergraduate, for her paper on "Parasites in Pademelons" which examined the helminth communities of the Red-legged and Red-necked Pademelons, *Thylogale stigmatica* and *T. thetis*, respectively. J. Griffith's prize included refund of her \$175.00 conference registration fee, plus \$50.00 cash and 1998 full student WDA membership to receive the JWD.

Pre-conference membership stood at 55 full/regular WDA members and eight student members (i.e. registered with the parent body), with another 65 individuals opting to join the Australasian Section only (to receive local mailings but no parent body publications). This represents a significant increase over the previous 4 yr, which have seen total membership in the Australasian Section hovering between 100 to 110. Several new members also were recruited at the Calperum meeting. The Australasian Section is about to produce a membership directory which will list contact details for all  $\geq$  128 members of the Section, together with a summary of their interests and skills. This will be distributed to all current financial Australa-

sian members (and a copy will be sent to the parent body).

Eminent veterinary pathologist W. J. Hartley was awarded Life Membership of the WDA Australasian Section at the 1998 AGM. One time Diagnostic Officer and pathologist with the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture, and Reader in Veterinary Clinical Medicine at the University of Sydney, over the last decade he has served as the (founding) pathologist at the Wildlife Pathology Registry at Taronga Zoo (Sydney, Australia). We are honored to have W. J. Hartley as an active member and participant at many of our annual meetings, and congratulate him on the most recent of his retirements from the Pathology Registry.

The Australasian Section has pledged a \$3,000.00 investment in the Wildlife Pathology Registry over the coming 12 mo. This money is being made available to modify the software program which will be used to computerize the Registry's case records, adapting it to accommodate Australian wildlife species.

The meeting voted to invite the parent body to consider holding its next international meeting in Sydney in 2001. Next year's Australasian Section annual meeting will be held at Jervis Bay in New South Wales, probably in June or early July 1999. At the annual meeting on 24 July 1998 a new Australasian Section Executive was elected. The new Chairperson is L. Skerratt, School of Veterinary Science, University of Melbourne, Princes Hwy, Werribee, Victoria 3030 (Tel: 61-3-9742-8330, e-mail: l.skerratt@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au). The new Secretary is K. Bodley, Veterinary Department, Melbourne Zoo, P.O. Box 74, Parkville, Victoria 3052 (Tel: 61-3-9285-9431, Fax: 61-3-9285-9349, e-mail: vetmz@zoo.org.au). The new Treasurer is C. Monaghan, Animal Health, Perth Zoo, P.O. Box 489, South Perth, Western Australia 6151 (Tel: 61-8-9474-0324, Fax: 61-8-9367-3921, e-mail: c/o sherri.huntress@perthzoo.wa.gov.au). The Executive Member is L. Berger, Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL), CSIRO, P.O. Box 24, Geelong, Victoria 3220 (Tel: 61-3-5227-5209, Fax: 61-35227-5555, e-mail: Lee.Berger@dah.csiro.au).

#### **European Section Report**

T. Mörner gave the report for the European Section which has a total of 49 members. The 1999 European Wildlife Disease meeting will take place in Lyons, France.

#### **Nordic Section Report**

H. H. Dietz gave a brief report for the Nordic section and indicated that the 1999 Nordic

Wildlife Disease meeting will be in Stockholm, Sweden.

#### **AAVW Section Report**

S. Shipiro-Hurley gave the report for the Wildlife Veterinarians. They are still working on getting a delegate on the AVMA and also have talked about board certification.

#### **Audit Committee**

L. Uhazy gave the audit committee report. He asked about whether informal and formal audits should be done. A. Fairbrother asked about membership fees. J. Mazet indicated that the membership fee increase and the brochure were not synchronized which meant that a lot of brochures were thrown away. There was a discussion on how membership fees were increased and what cost of living index to use. WDA finances were discussed and L. Uhazy indicated that the portfolio was doing well. E. Addison proposed that in the treasurer report assets be reported so that comparisons could be made from year to year. L. Uhazy addressed this issue and stated that the reports were available. L. Uhazy indicated that he reports in a cash basis and that improved records and better reporting and continuity needs to be considered. D. Elder from Allen Press said we should make a budget before the fiscal year starts and suggested that the committee chairs submit suggested budgets prior to the meeting.

A motion was made by L. Uhazy to develop the yearly proposed budget in February and that the proposed budget be presented to and approved by Council by mid-May. The motion was seconded and passed.

A. Fairbrother made a motion to adopt a budget that is based on the calendar year beginning in 1 January 2000 and that we adopt an 18 mo budget at this meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Dues for the coming year will be \$55.00 for a full member, \$27.50 for a student member, and \$95.00 for an institution.

L. Uhazy made a motion to accept the new service agreement with Allen Press. The motion was seconded but was tabled after discussion.

#### **Carlton Herman Founders Fund Report**

The fund report was submitted by T. Yuill, Trustee Manager. As of the 1 July 1998 quarterly statement, the fund balance was 589,864 shares. As of the close of business 7 August 1998, the share price was \$32.49 with a total balance in the fund of \$19,164.68. An amount of \$490.27 was disbursed from the fund for the

Herman Fund speaker at the 1997 WDA annual conference and contributions for the last 12 mo were \$445.00. Disbursements from the fund of approximately \$2,700.00 are being made at the present time, to support the travel and conference expenses of the 1998 Herman Fund speaker, B. Cooke (CSIRO, Australia).

#### **Teller's Committee Report**

E. Howerth gave the Teller's Committee report. The Teller's Committee handled the publication and mailing of the 1998 ballot. One hundred twenty-seven persons returned a ballot by 15 June 1998. Ballots were tallied on 24 June 1998 by fellow committee members, T. Cornish and S. Little. The following results were sent to the President: W. R. Lance and R. L. Zarnke are the new Council Members-at-large. The Chair also handled voting for the Emeritus award.

#### **Awards Committee Report**

S. Wright gave the Awards Committee report. E. Addison received the Emeritus award. A nomination for the Distinguished Service Award was brought forth at the meeting. J. Sikarskie moved that Council vote on the Distinguished Service Award nomination even though the nomination was received after the nomination deadline. The motion was seconded by A. Fairbrother. All Council members present voted to pass the motion, except for D. Pence who opposed the motion. The motion passed. The letter of nomination for W. R. Davidson for the Distinguished Service Award was read and the nomination was accepted by all Council members present.

A discussion was held on what to do about getting nominations for the awards and what to do when no nominations were received. A motion was made by T. Roche to change the deadline for receipt of the awards nominations by May 15. The motion was seconded by S. Hurley. An amendment to the main motion was made by F. Leighton to change the deadline for nominations to March 15. The amended motion was seconded and the motion passed.

#### **WDA Student Activities Committee (SAC) Report**

This committee consisted of T. O'Hara (Chair), E. Greiner, S. Shapiro-Hurley, and T. Kuiken. The annual report was summarized for T. O'Hara by E. Greiner.

The following written report was submitted by T. O'Hara. Currently the SAC oversees three different awards for students. This year one application was received by the SAC for the Student Research Recognition Award (aka

Research Award). The SAC is questioning the motivation of advisors and students to participate (take time to apply for) for this award as a limited number of students apply, they are typically late, and only of average quality. We repeat our concerns of last year, and ask are the requirements too stringent or the award too minuscule?

The winner was notified on 28 May 1998 and was W. E. Cook, Department of Veterinary Science (University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming, USA) and the project was entitled "Brucellosis in Elk". As winner of the award he will receive a plaque (obtained by W. Adrian) and up to a \$1,000 (US) to cover travel, housing, registration, etc. related to the annual conference in 1998. Historic participation has been one applicant in 1998, two applicants in 1997, three applicants in 1996, six applicants in 1995, with an average of 3.9 applicants/year during 1981–1994. This was the second year that the WDA Scholarship was offered. We received five applications. The SAC was very concerned that one student applied in 1997, but we are very encouraged by this year's response and hope it continues. The quality of the academic performance for these applicants was very good. On 8 June 1998 M. Chechowitz was notified by W. M. Samuel (scholarship consultant and former SAC chair) that she was the second recipient of the WDA Scholarship. The award is \$2,000.00 (US). The SAC proposes we give the scholarship a few more years before deciding on its success. This award was developed and proposed by former SAC chair, W. M. Samuel, who has continued to be involved in its implementation. We suggest that W. M. Samuel continue to be involved with the scholarship program if he so desires. We received 13 abstracts for the Terry Amundson Student Presentation Award (TASPA) and consider this a very good response. Historic participation for this award has been 13 applicants in 1998, 11 applicants in 1997, eight applicants in 1996, and an average of 15.2 applicants/year during 1985–1994. The list of authors and abstract titles are listed in the 1998 program. One submission (in addition to the 13) arrived on 1 June 1998 and was not forwarded or received by the Program Chair and the author withdrew their abstract. We appreciate their understanding that the Conference Program was already established and that they were responsible for contacting the Program Chair as well as the SAC Chair. A Terry Amundson biography will be provided based on, or from, the actual publication in the *Wildlife Society Bulletin* (volume 16, 1988). We are currently asking The Wildlife Society for permission to use the article. Students expressed concern that many of the se-

nior members know of T. Amundson and other recognized WDA members, while the students and more junior WDA members do not. Therefore, we intend to have T. Amundson's bibliography available and will occasionally publish it, or a brief summary, in the *JWD Supplement*.

Announcements for student activities will be published more frequently, if not in every issue, and "due dates" will be highlighted. This will allow for early preparation and discussion between advisors and students as well as quick reference for the due dates. We also hope to have this same information available by Internet.

A. Fairbrother suggested that the student activities committee present suggestions for rectifying the problem with the low number of research award applicants. Discussion centered on redirecting the money to something else, e.g. banquet tickets. W. M. Samuels suggested that the award be changed. It was decided that E. Greiner and committee make recommendations on what to do with the student research award. These recommendations will be presented to and voted on by Council via email.

#### Sections Committee Report

No report was received.

#### Time and Place Committee Report

C. Quist presented a proposal to have the 1999 meeting in Athens (Georgia, USA). A motion was made by S. Wright to have the 1999 meeting in Athens. This was seconded by S. Hurley. The motion passed. The dates for the meeting will be 8–12 August 1999. The 2000 meeting was discussed. J. Dean says that India is still interested in hosting the meeting. T. Rocke read a letter from the Australasia section suggesting that the International meeting be held in Sydney (Australia) in April 2001 in conjunction with another meeting. T. Kreeger suggested Jackson Hole (Wyoming, USA) during the end of June at the Grand Teton Lodge, for 2000. He was asked to call the lodge about this possibility so that Council could vote on the 2000 meeting place during this meeting. California, probably Humboldt State University (Arcata, California, USA) was suggested for the 2001 meeting. A motion was made by A. Fairbrother to accept the Humboldt State University offer to host the 2001 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed. Australia was suggested for the 2002 meeting, which would be the International meeting, but an invitation needs to be received.

### Membership/Promotion Committee Report

This committee consisted of J. Mazet (Chair), S. Black, K. Gilardi, and M. Spalding. The following report was submitted by J. Mazet. Regular membership is up (37 subscriptions), but student and institutional memberships are down 21 subscriptions and 16 subscriptions, respectively. Promotions should continue to focus on increasing overall membership with an increased emphasis on students (options described below) and libraries (difficult).

Proofs for membership renewal reminders were reviewed, edited, and approved pending final confirmation of dues. In order to meet publishing deadlines for on-time release of renewal information, Allen Press requested approval of dues prior to confirmation by Council. This problem has been long-standing, but will now be remedied by having a scheduled Council meeting February of 1999 for approval of year 2000 dues. Membership dues remained \$55.00 for regular members, \$27.50 for student members, and \$95.00 for institutional subscribers. In order to keep WDA brochures current without frequent reprinting and disposing of previous brochures, the brochures will now be printed with the blue screen only, and the black text will be printed as needed. In this way, the text may be updated as often as required.

Thanks are due to C. Quist for taking over the maintenance of the Web Page and adding the Supplement and JWD forms. Suggestions for increasing the Web Page's utility for soliciting new membership follow and will be addressed by J. Mazet, L. Richey, and C. Quist: (1) add photo on first page to increase interest; (2) "Goal and Concerns" to match brochure; (3) add a link to membership application near the top (gets lost below the addresses); (4) indicate that students join at a reduced rate on the front page; (5) if a promotional poster is printed, add a link to a scanned copy and information on how to receive a poster; (6) consider changing the color scheme because once links have been visited, they become unreadable and printed hard-copy from some browsers may be too light to read; (7) change filename from index.htm to wda.htm if possible so that when bookmarked, the user will see "wda"; and (8) update the membership application to reflect appropriate dues.

K. Gilardi polled all international section chairs on the WDA's establishment of a special category for members in order to encourage participation from international colleagues who otherwise may not be able to afford to join. The following report does not include comments from the Africa (N. Kock) or Australasia (R. Booth) sections. The essence of the proposed

membership category is a reduced annual dues of \$10.00 to \$15.00, for which an international member would receive a copy of the JWD Supplement and all other member privileges, but would not receive his or her own copy of the JWD. Instead, a single volume of the JWD would be sent to the section chair, and it would be his/her responsibility to make the journal accessible to the international members in that section who chose to pay reduced fees. This would in no way preclude our overseas colleagues from joining as regular members.

In general, this proposal was well-received. Section chairs estimated that a new category of membership might increase overall WDA membership by 200 people (not including Africa or Australasia). However, section chairs had several concerns. There was some confusion about "registering" with section chairs. Some respondents thought that we were proposing that WDA split into truly separate sections along geographical lines, with section chairs responsible for collecting dues, membership directories being produced for each section rather than for the WDA as a whole, etc. This was not the intention. The need for the section chair to know who has joined at the reduced rate, and who will therefore need access to the journal through the section chair remains an issue. Another issue was raised was how do we guard against people "taking advantage" of this membership category, both overseas and even here in the USA. The current recommendation is to not make this category of membership an option for American members. Additionally, the process of "registering" with the section chair might help guard against this happening in the international sections. However, that puts a watchdog/policeman burden on the section chair. Naming the category "Associate" was suggested, although that was the title of a previous type of membership. Would \$10.00 truly cover the costs of printing and distribution the Supplement overseas? Considering the fact that revenues generated from membership dues for the entire organization do not cover journal publication costs (as per L. Uhazy), this may be irrelevant. The \$10.00 would likely cover production and postage of the Supplement, but would not allow compensation for the copying and distribution of the JWD by the section chair. Would the single volume of the JWD being sent to the section chair really be accessible to the international members without an enormous amount of effort by the section chairs? One person wondered if this would really be any better than simply having access to the journal through a library. It's important to remember that in some parts of the world, interlibrary

loan is probably completely unknown, and that most universities in these areas probably do not receive the journal. Alternatively, there was a suggestion that international sections could xerox the entire journal for their members if copyright issues could be worked out with WDA. Clearly, this points to the fact that we are dealing with a lot of variation in terms of infrastructure, logistics, economics, etc; and the plan should be to come up with a category that benefits everyone but is flexible enough to work with the very different international sections. If the potential subscribers are simply looking for affiliation, this type of membership with listing in the directory and receipt of the supplement is feasible. The distribution of the JWD will be much more difficult. We will potentially also have to deal with North American and European full members with good library access (especially students) requesting the reduced level of subscription.

A committee meeting of all international section chairs by e-mail will be convened to further explore this complicated issue. T. Mörner will chair this committee.

Reports from last year's meeting were conflicting regarding the printing of full color (photographic) promotional posters. One report requested the printing of 2000, another indicated no printing. The posters could be updated with the web page address, etc. . . . and printed in a very short period of time. The printing of 2,000 copies would cost approximately \$5,000. These could be given away to international sections, wildlife biology and conservation academic departments, and student groups. Interested people could request posters from the web page (see above). Due to revision of the WDA's fiscal year and the temporary uncertainty of the budget, promotional posters will not be printed.

The consensus is that the display is out of date and very cumbersome for taking to meetings. S. Black has offered to work on its replacement. Options for new displays will be presented to Council during the February 1999 meeting at which time we will need a budget from Council.

In an effort to confirm information listed by Allen Press and the 1996 Membership Directory, members were e-mailed for confirmation of their information. Over 50% of the messages were returned for incorrect address. As a result, an address and information card has been developed to be mailed to members. The printing and mailing of the self-addressed card will cost approximately \$200.00. We will work with Allen Press to absorb those costs and update the information accurately. Printing of 1,200 copies of the resulting directory will cost approximately \$4,500.00. T. Rocke has suggested

that the Constitution and Bylaws also be printed in the directory.

Designs for a WDA t-shirt were solicited in the hopes of having many available to choose from at this meeting. Only two were submitted. Development of the t-shirt was tabled pending the development of the WDA logo. Tie tacks will also be evaluated for use with the new logo. A budget will be presented during the February 1999 meeting.

Two motions were made during the meeting. The first motion, made by L. Uhazy, was to not increase the dues for the coming year. The motion was seconded. All Council members present, except for one (D. Pence), voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed. The second motion, made by F. Leighton, was to spend monies needed to print the membership directory. The motion was seconded and passed.

#### Educational Aids Committee Report

The committee included L. Richey (Chair), C. Quist, S. Little, and S. Terrell. The following report was submitted by L. Richey.

Several requests to borrow the WDA Wildlife Histopathology Cases Glass Slides Study Set were received from inside and outside the USA. Significant cost is associated with overseas shipment and several slides were broken during transport. It is proposed that the glass slide set now be reserved for North America. A proposed user fee of \$5.00 subtracted with postage from a deposit of \$55.00 would contribute to maintenance of the slide set.

Five videotapes (*Blood Collection in Birds*, NWHC; *White-Tailed Deer Necropsy*, NWHC; *Sample Collection*, NWHC; *Parelaphostrongylus*, Lankaster and Prestwood; and *Elaphostrongylosis*, Lankaster and Preswood) are available to be loaned for 2 wk periods. The committee only has one copy of each, and at least one additional copy should be purchased or (with permission of the authors) copied at a cost of approximately \$114.00 per video. The kodachrome sets that were previously available for purchase are in need of revision.

A kodachrome slide set of histopathologic lesions in wildlife diseases was created from the slides in the WDA glass slide set. This set is in the same "What is your diagnosis?" format as the glass set and will be available for purchase or loan from the committee. A proposed \$3.00 user fee would be used to keep the notebook and slides in good condition. The original kodachrome set plus accompanying study guide cost \$93.26 to develop. If the kodachrome set is to be lent out, a set should be created for this purpose at a cost of \$98.50 to avoid losing

the original. Copies also may be made available for purchase at a price to be discussed.

A call for material to be included in the "Mystery Cases of the Month" on the WDA website will be distributed at this meeting and was published in the April 1998 Supplement. In addition to an exercise in diagnosis, the mystery cases will also include questions regarding case management, pathogenesis, and implications to public, domestic animal, and wildlife health. In order to encourage contributions, which will be incorporated into new and revised kodachrome study sets after their website appearance, a 10% discount was offered on any one of the new kodachrome sets when at least one case is submitted.

S. Little and W. R. Davidson have completed the revision of the guide to Identification of Abomasal Parasites of White-Tailed Deer. The kodachrome slides of the parasites and gross lesions that accompanied the first edition have been replaced by very good quality color copies that are integrated into the 13-page reference. Sections include information on collection, handling, and specific identification of specimens.

An electronically accessed Current Resources Guide has been developed that includes information on in-print publications, videotapes, kodachrome sets, etc. Listings can be submitted by the authors for inclusion and also will include those listed in the Supplement. The guide will be updated quarterly and also will include information on externships and other educational opportunities that are offered on a generally year-round basis. This reference was created in the interest of gathering this information in a central location that can be accessed easily by new members (especially students) who do not have back copies of the Supplement. E-mail requests for the guide will be honored from WDA members. Alternatively, this information could be placed on the WDA website.

A number of students have suggested that WDA's lending library of videos be expanded to include more field collection techniques, animal handling, and clinical disease footage. These videos would need to be purchased or donated. Suggestions are welcomed for new videos if WDA receives the author's permission to lend out these materials.

#### **Ad hoc Liaison Committee**

The following committee report was submitted by D. Jessup but not read at the meeting. The one major project taken on was a Disease Symposium at the Wildlife Society's Annual meeting at Snow Mass (Colorado, USA). It was

well received, about 90 people (other than our speakers) attended. The chairman of next years TWS meeting in Buffalo (New York, USA) was impressed enough to include pertinent wildlife disease talks in the 1998 meeting.

For a variety of reasons no additional projects were initiated. It was not clear to this chairman or this committee whether it was to be continued under the current leadership (having been appointed by President Fairbrother). Council and officers wishes regarding the status of this committee, its charge and chair, need to be expressed.

#### **Old Business**

##### *Liability Insurance Report*

A. Fairbrother had information about liability insurance from several companies. A. Fairbrother suggested that we obtain the insurance. P. Barrows made a motion to pursue the purchase of liability insurance for officers and Council members and general insurance up to a cost of \$5,000. The motion was seconded by T. Rocke and the motion passed.

##### *Register agent*

President McLean indicated that Council had approved U. Kitron (at the University of Illinois) as the association's new register agent via an e-mail vote.

#### **New Business**

##### *Council Representation*

The following motion was made by T. Rocke: We reaffirm that the Supplement Editor is one of the editors of the association's journals and as such, under the constitution, is a voting member of Council (refer to volume 18, p. 117). This motion is consistent with the 1981 comment that the Microfiche Editor was a voting member. The motion was seconded and passed.

##### *Ad hoc constitution revision committee*

An ad hoc committee was formed to revise the WDA Constitution. Members of the committee include: T. Rocke, E. Addison, A. Fairbrother, D. Jessup, and E. Shotts.

##### *Logo Change and Journal Cover change*

These items were briefly discussed but no action was taken.

##### *Treasurer bonding*

L. Uhazy indicated that the Constitution and Bylaws of the WDA states that the Treasurer

TABLE 1. Adopted budget for 1 July 1998 to 31 December 1999.

Category	Income		Expenses
	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
Start Balance	74,591.98		
Membership			
Regular/Student	47,795.00		
Subscriber	40,185.00		
Subtotal	87,980.00		
Journal/Newsletter			
Printing			154,500.00
Editor's Office			33,750.00
SupplEd Office			1,500.00
Page Charges	75,000.00		
Reprints	22,500.00		22,500.00
Back Issues: Storage			
Back Issues: Sales			
Royalties			
Other Printing			
Postage/Mail			18,000.00
Subtotal	97,500.00		230,250.00
WDA Education			
Bibliographic Software	150.00		1,000.00
WDA Promotion			
Direct/Brochure	1,000.00		5,000.00
Conference	10,000.00		9,000.00
EdComPromo Fund	10,000.00		
IAFAWA (dues)			700.00
Ballot & Postage			2,000.00
Awards			6,000.00
Travel			
Subtotal	21,150.00		23,700.00
Management			
Annual Fee			
Service Membership			
Service/Subscription Fee			36,000.00
Postage			
Renewal Notices			
Insurance			6,000.00
Accounting			2,100.00
Bank Charges			1,800.00
Donation: Student			
Donation: Herman			
Tax Preparation			1,000.00
Subtotal			<u>46,900.00</u>
Grand Totals	281,221.98		300,850.00
Ending Balance	(19,628.02)		

TABLE 2. Financial Statement 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998.

Category	Income		Expenses	
	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual
Start Balance		82,925.78		
Membership				
Regular/Student	46,420.00	48,850.26		
Subscriber	42,465.00	42,141.30		
Subtotal	88,885.00	90,991.56		
Journal/Newsletter				
Printing			100,000.00	93,389.70
Editor's Office			19,000.00	21,836.42
Page Charges	29,500.00	45,547.00		
Reprints	29,500.00	12,196.92	8,500.00	13,594.06
Back Issues: Storage				3,231.34
Back Issues: Sales		760.50		
Royalties		104.84		
Other Printing				
Postage/Mail		547.16	2,000.00	10,946.58
Subtotal	59,000.00	59,156.42	129,500.00	142,998.10
WDA Education				
Bibliographic Software	100.00	60.00	1,000.00	
WDA Promotion				
Direct/Brochure	500.00	10.00	1,000.00	2,245.00
Conference	5,000.00	4,492.76	4,500.00	1,036.12
Auction	6,000.00	3,643.31		46.00
Awards				
Contributions			1,000.00	1,000.00
IAFAWA (dues)			350.00	250.00
Ballots & Postage			1,000.00	553.26
Travel				2,340.27
Subtotal	11,600.00	8,206.07	8,850.00	7,470.65
Management				
Annual Fee				1,250.00
Service Membership				4,735.00
Service/Subscription Fee			22,000.00	2,150.00
Postage				1,874.59
Renewal Notices				1,353.45
Legal Fees			5,000.00	
Accounting				1,350.00
Bank Charges			1,200.00	863.46
Awards			2,450.00	2,865.22
Donation: Student		565.27		
Tax Preparation			400.00	420.00
Misc. Gen. & Admin.		141.15		46.00
Refund				81.25
Subtotal		<u>706.4</u>	<u>31,050.00</u>	<u>16,907.72</u>
Grand Totals	159,485.00	241,986.25	169,400.00	167,376.47
Ending Balance	74,609.78			
Checking Balance	74,591.98			

TABLE 3. Status of WDA membership.

Types	Status of WDA membership							
	mo/yr							
	8/91	8/92	8/93	8/94	8/95	8/96	8/97	8/98
Regular	709	718	749	795	795	786	772	809
Student	155	127	177	180	176	141	144	123
Emeritus	8	6	4	5	7	9	10	8
Complimentary	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Sustaining/Associate	1		1	0	2	5	3	1
Institutional	470	472	498	467	467	453	445	429

shall be bonded. Therefore, Treasurer Uhazy was directed by Council to become bonded. L. Uhazy has contacted R. Kerley, Allen Marketing and Management to determine the cost.

#### *Allen Management Plan*

D. Elder from Allen Press discussed a new service agreement. S. Mayhew, the new Business Manager, also was present. There was a general discussion whether the proposed service, at an estimated \$22.00/member, would be worthwhile. A vote on the new service was postponed until Council reconvened later in the week.

#### *Adjournment and Reconvening*

The Council meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. and reconvened at 12:30 11 August 1998.

#### *Meeting site for 2000*

More discussion on the meeting site for 2000 took place. A meeting site in Jackson Hole (Wyoming), which would be for the first week of June, could be secured if a \$5,000.00 deposit were paid by the end of the week. Phoenix and Flagstaff were still considered as possibilities. S. Wright moved to pursue the offer for Jackson Hole. The motion was seconded and passed.

#### *Current Service Contract with Allen Press*

A. Fairbrother had two problems with the current service contract with Allen Press. One was a line item for \$9.50 and the other a line item for \$300.00. She felt that the two line items needed to be changed before we signed the agreement. The agreement will stay the same for 1998, \$5.00/member and a \$1,250.00 annual business management base fee with increases in 1999 (\$5.00/member will stay the same and the base fee will increase to \$1,500.00) and 2000 (an increase to \$5.50/member with the base fee remaining at

\$1,500.00). F. Leighton made a motion to accept the service contract with the appropriate modifications. The motion was seconded and passed.

#### *New Service Contract with Allen Press*

The new services proposed by Allen Press were discussed. An ad hoc committee was formed to look at the service contract add on and to come up with an appropriate contract for us. This committee consists of L. Uhazy, T. Roche, and A. Fairbrother.

#### *Sustaining Memberships*

T. Roche discussed the sustaining memberships. Supposedly these are \$1,000.00/yr for advertising in the JWD (see vol. 23 (4):732). The sustaining members have not paid for several years and their names should thus be removed from the journal. T. Roche agreed to write letters to the sustaining members to request payment.

#### *Auction Proceeds*

There was a general discussion as to what to do with these monies. From a tax standpoint we could be considered a profit organization depending on how these monies are handled. A motion was made by J. Sikarskie to designate the auction funds as the wildlife disease education, communication, and promotion fund on the budget. This was seconded and passed. However, it was mentioned that a knowledgeable individual should assess whether we are handling these funds appropriately.

#### *Reprints*

Currently, what we charge for reprints does not cover the cost of the reprints so last year we lost money in this category. L. Uhazy will determine what we need to spend to break even on the sale of reprints.

*Adjournment and Reconvening*

J. Sikarskie made a motion to adjourn at 1:30 p.m., it was seconded, and passed. Council reconvened on 12 August 1998.

*Proposed Budget*

The 18 mo budget was discussed and it was indicated that the JWD will need to keep page numbers down to decrease deficit spending. A motion was made for Editor Pence to make an effort to cap the journal at 750–800 pages. The

motion was seconded and passed. L. Uhazy made a motion to present the proposed budget to the membership and for Uhazy to change our CD as needed. The motion was seconded and passed.

*Adjournment*

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth W. Howerth  
Secretary