



UOS General Membership Meeting Notes
Saturday, September 17, 2005
Utah State University

The meeting was called to order at 3:55 pm by Vice President Bob Bradley, as President Merrill Webb was not able to attend because of illness. **Attending:** Kim Sullivan, Amanda Bakian, Buck Russell, Tony Jones, Dave & Sue Drown, Dominique Roche, Eric Huish, Bonnie Williams, Lee & Paula Shirley, Steve Carr, Kris Purdy, Dave Allan, Hal and Kathleen Robins, Steve & Cindy Sommerfeld, Jack Skalicky, Jack Rensel, Keith Evans, Arnold & Aaron Smith, Tuula Rose, Milton Moody, Bob Bradley, Betsy Beneke.

Vice President Bob Bradley welcomed everyone to the meeting. Thanks were given to Professor, Kim Sullivan and Bridgerland Audubon Society, especially Stephen Peterson, for hosting the event and doing such a good job.

Bob announced that new officers had been appointed by the Board of Directors. Betsy Beneke will be assuming the Presidency after this meeting. The gavel was passed. Pomeria Fronce will be the new Secretary. Bob will remain as Vice President, Tony Jones will remain as Treasurer. Steve Carr and Tony Jones will act as co-field trip leaders.

Steve Carr announced ideas for UOS-sponsored field trips, like to see specialty birds. Tony Jones also told about plans to organize a "quick chase" to see rare birds reported, which would include coordinating a meeting place and notifying those interested by email, should they wish to join a caravan.

Bob asked if there were other ideas for trips. None were offered by the membership.

Bob also relayed that the next Journal should be coming out shortly. John Spence has been working on getting it to the printer. Keith, who is the manuscript editor for the Journal, asked people to share birding "stories" for upcoming issues. The Journal is more than technical papers; they would like field ornithology-type submissions as well. Keith said, "At this year's conference, were some of the best papers we've ever heard." If these people will submit, Keith will be happy to assist with editing. Ours is a "cite-able" Journal; it's been around for a long time. We need to do better – get people to submit a variety of manuscripts; get it back on a regular printing schedule.

Arnold Smith related that we are sometimes contacted by people from around the country, after they have read a research article in our Journal.

Kim Sullivan mentioned SORA, the Searchable Ornithological Research Archive, which is a searchable database out of the University of New Mexico by Blair Wolf; coordinated by several of the high profile ornithological societies like Cooper and Wilson. We should mention this archive in our next Journal, so everyone knows it's available.

Bob led a discussion regarding next year's fall conference, asking if members had any suggestions on changing the format, speakers, etc. All seemed to think the current format is a good one.

Kathleen Robins wondered why there were no students participating from the University of Utah.

Tony explained that we contacted them, but no students/papers were ready for presentation this year.

Kim Sullivan and Jack Rensel both suggested that next fall's conference be held at Bear River Refuge, as the new wildlife education center will be open, and it would be a good location. Jack suggested we might invite biologists from the other two refuges in Utah to present papers on any research being done. Kim asked us to send her an announcement, or call for papers, in the spring, as a reminder that we'd be looking for presenters for the fall conference.

Kim also mentioned that if anyone wanted to sign up for the ivory-billed woodpecker search team, she could put them in touch with appropriate people.

Bob thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and we adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Beneke, Secretary