Winter Break Review

Over the break, our members were volunteering for the Texas Youth Hunting Program on the Llano River Field station in Junction, assisting alum Robert Stubblefield. Additionally, we sold raffle tickets for the TCTWS Collegiate Challenge, submitted the Chapter of the Year application for TCTWS, and hosted the Wild Film Tour stop in Lubbock. Ayla Ryan, Saybra Hahmann and Hailey Wright were our top raffle ticket sellers and received a free registration for the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society annual meeting. During the College of Agricultural Science and Natural Resources (CASNR) Winter Welcome event, we won Best Queso in the CASNR Queso Cookoff, and our Mr. CASNR nominee, Johnathan Bentley, did an amazing job singing during the talent portion of the pageant. Thank you to all members and supporters that helped make sure that this semester started off on the right foot!

Meet Our New Officers!

Jonathan McClellan | Outreach Coordinator
“I’m a senior NRM (Wildlife Biology) major from Greenville, Texas. I started out in computer science but switched after a few semesters when I saw what this major had to offer. Some of my hobbies include backpacking, college sports, and a bit of cooking/gardening.”

Price Clayton | Ag Council Representative
“I’m a junior NRM conservation science major. I am from San Marcos, in central Texas. After graduating high school, I went straight to Texas Tech for Mechanical Engineering, and after a few years eventually changed my major to Natural Resource Management. I have many hobbies such as baking bread, ultralight backpacking, and minimalist running.”
Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting

On 20-23 February more than 2 dozen members of the Texas Tech Chapter of The Wildlife Society will be traveling to Montgomery, Texas for the TCTWS annual meeting. Madeleine Thornley will have an oral presentation about her research on breeding season food habits of American Kestrels in the Southern Great Plains, and Jonathon Bentley will present his poster about how precipitation affects abundance and density of passerines in a short grass prairie. Additionally, we will be fielding a Wildlife Quiz Bowl team for the fourth consecutive year. For those of you attending, please come to our first TTU Alumni Reception on Thursday, Feb 21st in the Bordeaux Room from 7:30 – 8:30 P.M. Also, please check out our raffle basket featuring an elk print, TTU-TWS gear, and various wildlife- books written by Texas Tech professors and Lubbock residents. We are excited to have the opportunity to represent Texas Tech at the meeting! Be sure to stop by the TTU NRM booth to say hi to us and purchase some new promotional materials, such as our new TTU-TWS patch!

Alumni Spotlight

Dr. Jena Moon | I&M Upper Gulf Coast Zone Biologist | TCTWS Current President
TTU Bachelor of Science: 2002 | TTU Master of Science: 2004 | SFASU Ph.D.: 2014

What did you get involved in?
“While enrolled as an undergraduate at Texas Tech University, I was inducted into the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) and completed 2 internships within the program. My first assignment was completed in Roswell, NM with endangered and wetland species, and the second was completed in Yuma, Arizona on the Kofa NWR working on big horn sheep and bat conservation. In addition to USFWS assignments, I worked on Rio Grande turkeys in southwestern Kansas, collected and identified vegetation for the University herbarium, and trapped/tagged small mammals for a study on the Texas Tech campus. I also was an active member of the Range, Wildlife, and Fisheries Club serving as an officer, and competed in international and national competitions as a member of the Range Plant Identification team and the Wildlife Quiz Bowl team.”

Favorite memory at Texas Tech?
“There are so many to choose from! I think my best would have to be defeating all the other Texas Universities in the Wildlife Quiz Bowl at the TWS Western Conclave in Logan, Utah.”

Advice to current students?
“Get out there and get involved! Volunteer, join Quiz Bowl and Plant Identification teams, join your TWS Student Chapter and become a member of the Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society. I have had so many great things come my way just by being members of these groups, including: learning how to be a leader, how to study, how to juggle a busy schedule and multi-task, getting to travel all over the United States, and have even received scholarships from these groups. If I could wave my magic wand and have every biologist come out of TTU with one skill it would be the art of staying flexible and having the ability to adapt to changing circumstances while keeping a good attitude. Recognize opportunities when they are the right ones for you at the right times. You will inevitably be faced in the near future with making decisions that will make or break your future career. You need to know yourself well enough to recognize these opportunities and seize the moment when these opportunities are presented to you. Find a mentor who you trust and can help you navigate these difficult life decisions.”