



AWF Newsletter

MAY 2008

Founded by Aldo Leopold in 1914 to protect and perpetuate our wildlife and natural resources

GENERAL MEETING

- WHEN:** Thursday, May 8, 2008 — 7:30 pm
WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center (map p3)
PROGRAM: Zoonotic Diseases—From Animal to Human
SPEAKER: Paul Ettestad, State Public Health Veterinarian

Do you know what ZONOSSES are? Maybe they're the snouts of captive animals...or maybe not! Zoonoses (pronounced ZO-oh-NO-seez) are diseases primarily of animals which can be transmitted to humans as a result of direct or indirect contact with infected animal populations.

The emergence and re-emergence of zoonoses and their potentially disastrous impact on human health are growing concerns around the world. The ease and speed of international travel, the rapid growth of international trade in animals and animal products due to globalization, urbanization of populations, and dramatic changes in livestock production systems and patterns are important factors in the spread of animal diseases and zoonoses. The emerging interdisciplinary field of conservation medicine, which integrates human and veterinary medicine, and environmental sciences, is largely concerned with zoonoses.

Our Guest Speaker is Paul Ettestad, State Public Health Veterinarian with the New Mexico Department of Health. Dr. Ettestad heads up the Zoonoses Disease team that investigates cases of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome, Plague, West Nile virus, and Rabies. His talk will focus on the epidemiology of a few specific zoonotic diseases in New Mexico, and the zoonotic risks associated with outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, and habitat projects. Dr. Ettestad has worked with the New Mexico Department of Health since 1994.



Illustration: Stuart Goldenberg
The New York Times

Jim Hubert's NOTABLE QUOTE of the month

This law needs to be overturned. This was absolutely an inhumane act.

— Jeremy Vesbach, NM Wildlife Federation, regarding the March 2008 killing of 39 pronghorns in northern New Mexico, legal under the Jennings Act

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We viewed the film "A Land Out of Time" for the program at our April Meeting. The film made it clear how environmentally insensitive oil and gas development is on our public lands. During our discussion after the film, generally two points of view were expressed. One: conservation action and wise/alternate energy development can change the future. Two: conservation action is the right thing to do but the energy demands for the rapidly urbanizing world would rule the day.

Regarding future energy needs and demands, National Public Radio's Morning Edition last Tuesday, April 22, had an interesting interview with Shell Oil strategist Jeremy Bentham about Shell's view of the world's energy supply to 2050. The text on the next page was excerpted from the following NPR link (<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=89831088>). If you are interested, you can follow the link and read the entire interview summary or listen to the entire 17 minute interview.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Of course demand will continue to increase. Shell anticipates that the supply of easily accessible conventional oil and gas will plateau about 2015 to 2020.

Mr. Bentham describes two outcomes—one a scramble and the other a blueprint scenario—for addressing energy needs. In the scramble scenario, he says, “a focus on supply security drives a lot of decision-making. That can kick off a dynamic where the tensions are perceived to be a fight between nations and hence a scramble for supply. The demand side is postponed, in terms of being managed, in that scramble outlook.” So, a fear of shortage of supply builds up, and the steps to manage the whole energy system holistically aren’t taken, Bentham says. Instead of considering conservation or alternatives, people just grab for oil and other forms of energy.

The “blueprint” scenario, on the other hand, recognizes that forces can combine to effect change. “You see emerging coalitions coming together at the state level but also cross-border” to find solutions.

Shell has a preference for blueprint-type outcomes that address demand, supply and environmental issues together, Bentham says, because “it’s better for society at large, but also it’s better for business and investment.”

It certainly appears that we are currently following the “scramble” scenario to the future. An example is our government’s policy of leasing much of our Public Lands for oil and gas development with little consideration for environmental consequence. VP Dick Cheney said we need 35,000 miles of new roads to support lease development. Our President recently blamed the high price of gas/diesel on the failure to drill in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, and in the same breath blamed Congress for failing to allow the leasing. Our country needs to re-direct its policies to the “blueprint scenario” described by Mr. Bentham.

An example of action being taken is the national campaign—“Sportsmen For Responsible Energy Development”—started by Trout Unlimited, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership and National Wildlife Federation including its NM, CO, WY and MT state affiliates. The goal of this campaign is to get federal legislative reform of oil and gas development on our Public Lands. This campaign contains a sportsmen Bill of Rights – 10 common sense points that summarize what we need to accomplish to make sure that we continue our hunting and fishing heritage and protect wildlife, habitat and water resources for present and future generations.



More information can be found at www.sportsmen4responsibleEnergy.org or by contacting Shoren Brown, Campaign Director, 202-674-2380, Brownsh@nwf.org

— Gene Tatum

People buy diesel oil at a gas station on November 19, 2007 in Wuhan of Hubei Province, China, the world's second largest oil consumer.
China Photos / Getty Images

WILDLIFE IN THE GALISTEO BASIN

An invitation from the Galisteo Watershed Partnership and Wildlife Working Group

We would like to invite you to the upcoming Galisteo Watershed Partnership meeting on **Friday, May 9, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Santa Fe Community College Board Room-#223** (map available on request). The meeting is free of charge.

We welcome your photos, quotes, and other great reminders about the importance of wildlife in the Galisteo Basin. We want to listen to the various viewpoints and perspectives regarding wildlife in the Galisteo Basin in order to learn from landowners and other stakeholders.

AGENDA

- 8:30—Welcome** and Introduction of Meeting Purpose
- 8:40—Introductions:** Sharing of updates and information about wildlife
- 9:40—Key-Note Speaker:** Dr. Kris Johnson (UNM/New Mexico Heritage Program)
- 10:20—Panel Presentations** (local and regional issues, migration patterns, and solutions)
 - ▶ **Oscar Simpson** (New Mexico Wildlife Federation)
 - ▶ **Henry Carey** (Lone Mountain Ranch representative)
 - ▶ **Santo Domingo Pueblo** representative
 - ▶ **Craig Chapman** (New Mexico Wilderness Alliance)
- 11:00—Brief Q&A** for clarifications
- 11:15—Review and Evaluation** of Flip Chart Findings:
 - ▶ Comparison with New Mexico Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy
 - ▶ Review of State and Federal Incentives Programs for Wildlife Conservation
 - ▶ Dialogue about Reaching a Common Vision
 - ▶ Review: “What have we learned from the conversation? Where do we go from here?”
- 12:30—Adjourn**

Jan-Willem Jansens
Santa Fe, NM
jwj@earthworksinstitute.org

2008 FIELD PROJECTS "TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE"

MAY 16-18 • LIMESTONE CANYON

(NM Wilderness Alliance | Albuquerque Wildlife Federation)

THE PLACE: We return to this beautiful canyon on the north end of the San Mateo Mountains, near Magdalena. Our camp will be at the base of the work area where FR 476 crosses the canyon.

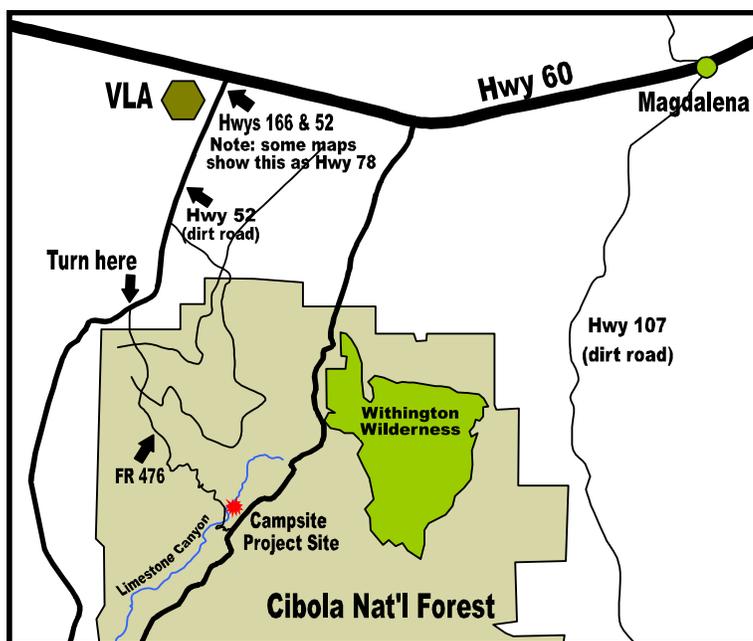
THE PROJECT: The stream in Limestone Canyon is intermittent, with flows coming mostly from snow melt and summer monsoons. Last year we saw evidence of a flow that went 5 feet past its bank in some places! By slowing down and capturing this water, the canyon and its wildlife benefit. We will be building rock structures to aid in riparian restoration, and may also build some post vanes.

EQUIPMENT: Wear sturdy boots/shoes and bring gloves, hats, and sunscreen, and water and appropriate gear for camping.

FOOD: NMWA will provide all meals *except lunches*. AWF will supply snacks and drinks during the project activity.

Maximum participants: 35 **Driving distance:** 2½ hours south and west of ABQ, 3 hours north and west from Las Cruces.

CONTACT: Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696, scial@nmwild.org for more info and to sign up.



DIRECTIONS TO LIMESTONE CANYON

Take Hwy 60 west of Magdalena about 20 miles to the turnoff for the Very Large Array (VLA). Head south. Cross one arm of the VLA and then continue straight ahead on the maintained dirt road when the paved road goes west. After around 9 miles you'll see a sign for Sargent Cyn and Bear Trap Cyn. Head south on this route. In less than a mile it will cross a cattleguard onto the Cibola National Forest and FR 476.

From here stay on FR 476 until it crosses Limestone Cyn and reaches the campsite. At 2 miles you'll pass the junction for FR 220; in about 7 more miles you'll pass a sign for Baney Park; Limestone Cyn is about 2.5 miles past Baney Park.

2008 PROJECT SCHEDULE

MAY 2-4	☉ SAN FRANCISCO RIVER
MAY 16-18	☉ LIMESTONE CYN
JUNE 20-22	RIO DE LAS VACAS
JULY 18-20	VALLE VIDAL
AUG 15-17	VALLES CALDERA
SEP 19-21	WIND RIVER RANCH

☉ Project of NM Wilderness Alliance—Contact Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696 or scial@nmwild.org

ANOTHER GREAT OUTING CEBOLLA CANYON APRIL 18-20

Our thanks to the terrific group of members and friends who participated in the April project at Cebolla Canyon. A huge amount of rock was carefully positioned in the deeply-incised channel to continue undercutting the banks and dropping the arroyo walls, all aimed at raising the channel bottom.

ATTENDEES

Gene Tatum, Pat Hester, Michael Scialdone, Jim Wilson, Toby Rosenblatt, Stephen Bohannon, Glenda Muirhead, Marilyn Szydowski, Bob Tilley, Paul Siewert; and Hamish Thomson, who brought friends Jessie, Cathy Binger, Jodey, Connie and Bill.



AT THE GROUP CAMPSITE:
COLD NIGHTS BUT
BEAUTIFUL DAYS!

GAME COMMISSION MEETING REPORT

I attended my first Game Commission meeting on April 9 in Santa Rosa to represent AWF regarding the antelope massacre executed under the Depredation rule. The Commission approved the reopening of the rule for revision. Once the public participation starts for the rule revision I will send out a notice and update.

I found the meeting to be interesting. I will provide an update of two items: status of the River Otter Reintroduction and the Rio Costillo Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Program. There were many other items of interest. This link (<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/commission/index.htm>) will take you to info regarding Game Commission proceedings. At this e-site, you can find Meeting Agendas, Agenda Briefing Papers and meeting notes. Currently, the agenda for the May meeting in Farmington is posted. The briefing papers for the April meeting are still posted but the notes for the April meeting have not been transcribed. The April briefings will soon be replaced by May papers.

River Otter Update: In 2007, work was initiated with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to acquire approximately 10-20 native river otters. Unfortunately, due to a late start in trapping effort and logistical problems associated with the live traps, no animals were brought to New Mexico.



River Otter
Photo: DesertUSA

ODFW has indicated that they will be able to assist in Fall 2008. Discussions with other states to assist in providing otters will continue. Other potential sources include Arizona, Missouri, and California. Disease concerns associated with otters from the Mississippi River drainage and other areas east of this drainage currently affect consideration of otter from these areas.

Discussions with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have indicated that the proposed release of river otter in the Gila River system will require Section 7 ESA consultation due to the number of federally listed fish and the Chiricahua Leopard Frog in the drainage basin. A Biological Assessment will likely be completed in 2008 which will determine reintroduction into the Gila. For 2008, efforts will continue to translocate river otters to Rio Grande Gorge.

Update on Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Restoration in the Rio Costilla Watershed: Mechanical and chemical methods were used to remove non-native fish from the upper **COMANCHE CREEK** system in 2007. An additional CFT Legumine treatment is proposed for the summer of 2008 to likely complete non-native removals in this phase of the overall project. The proposal includes the restocking of Rio Grande cutthroat trout in fall 2008 and spring 2009.

In addition, staff from Vermejo Park Ranch documented the presence of hybrid trout in a previously restored segment of **COSTILLA CREEK**. Mechanical and chemical removals of hybrid trout are proposed in the 5-mile section between the migration barriers in upper Costilla Creek (summer/fall 2008). Restocking Rio Grande cutthroat trout into Costilla Creek is proposed for as early as fall 2008 or spring 2009.

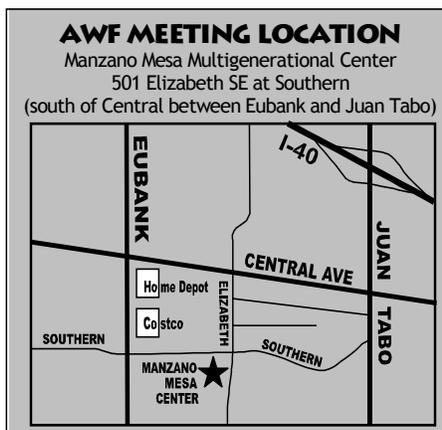
The Commission approved the Department's request to continue restoration of the native fish assemblage in the Rio Costilla watershed in a step-wise manner including the use of mechanical and chemical means in upper Comanche and Costilla Creeks.

— Gene Tatum

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION
PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

**TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR
THE AWF NEWSLETTER:**

Please contact Glenda Muirhead
505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net



AWF OFFICERS AND BOARD

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MEET OUR MEMBERS

TOBY ROSENBLATT

AWF Board Member

Born/grew up where? Born in Marburg Germany, moved to West Virginia and Alabama, then to New Mexico in 1960. Have lived in Fort Stanton, Bayard, Silver City, Las Vegas, Santa Fe, and Albuquerque.

Age: 57 **Marital status:** Single **Children:** None

Education: BA in Political Science, and MA in Public Administration, both from University of New Mexico.

Occupation/how long? Budget Director at NM Department of Technology for two years.

Or retired? From what profession? Retired as Deputy Director of the NM Public Health Division at the end of 2003.

Previous jobs: Volunteer fireman (12 years; structural and bosque). Social Worker (Silver City). Have occasionally worked in solar heating since 1990. Also maintain rental properties.

How long in New Mexico? 47 years.

Favorite place in NM: Wide-open plains; also rivers, mountains.

Favorite vacation destination/activity: Outdoors.

Favorite outdoor activities: Working outdoors, and hiking.

Greatest adventure(s): Hiking to Hermit's peak (near Las Vegas) right after a driving snowstorm, hiking the Grand Canyon during a storm and in the dark, and riding freight trains.

Favorite book(s): New Mexico History.

Favorite magazine(s): *The Nation* and *Nature Conservancy*.

Hobbies/free time activities: Donate blood since 1973 (14-gallon donor). Work as Precinct Judge in Santa Fe elections [Ed. note: And Toby participates in most of the AWF and NM Wilderness Alliance field projects.]

Other organizations you belong to: American Civil Liberties Union, Ducks Unlimited, New Mexico Public Health Association (ex-Board Member), Audubon Society, New Mexico Historical Society, Health Action New Mexico (probable future Board Member).

Personal goals: Live young until I die old. My life has been expensive to the planet and to its populations. Offset the environmental and resource cost of my life by facilitating conservation. Convince others to value population reduction.

AWF member since: 2006

Origin of my interest in wildlife: More interested in habitat; wildlife will tend to take care of itself if undisturbed.

Why did you join AWF? Interest in doing something worthwhile.

Goals for AWF: Increase involvement in public policy development and implementation. Also provide leadership on issues regarding land development, resource decline, global warming, and population.



Toby building fence on the National Forest near Datil in 2006



A Yellowstone Wolf
Photo: Oregon State University

NM WILDERNESS ALLIANCE — EVENTS

FILM NIGHT at O'Niell's Pub — Tuesday, May 6, 7 - 9 pm

(4310 Central Ave SE, Central at Washington in East Nob Hill) Watch the documentary "Wolves in Paradise," a tale of survival as ranchers face the challenge of living with wolves in the decade after the top predator was restored to Yellowstone National Park. A portion of O'Niell's menu will be available for us to order from — so come hungry! Contact: Nathan Newcomer at 505-843-8696, ext. 1006.

2ND ANNUAL GEAR SWAP — Sunday, May 18th, 10 am to 4 pm

NMWA Office (142 Truman St. NE) The public is invited—BUY OR SELL. For those wishing to sell equipment, check-in Monday, May 12 thru Friday —9 am to 4 pm. Day of the event check-in, 7 to 10 am. Contact: Craig Chapman at 505-843-8696, ext. 1009.

COEXISTING WITH BEAVERS!

Beavers are second only to humans in their ability to alter the landscape. They require relatively deep water to carry out their daily activities, and will build dams if water levels are low. Conflicts between beavers and humans usually arise when dam building results in tree damage and flooding of property. However, killing or removing beavers from an area is often only a temporary solution. The key is to come up with a long-term solution that allows the beavers to remain where they are.



Beavers are a keystone species. The dams beavers build create wetlands upon which many species depend. In fact, almost half of all endangered and threatened species in North America rely on wetlands to survive, and eighty-five percent of all North American wild animal species depend on wetlands. Beavers also purify and control water by filtering silt from the water bodies in which they live, resulting in higher water tables, less erosion, and cleaner water.

Want to know more? The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and Animal Protection of New Mexico (APNM) are sponsoring a two-day workshop for government-agency personnel and the public about beavers, their role as a keystone species, and how New Mexicans can make the way for beavers to improve the land.

The public is invited to Coexisting With Beavers on May 21, 2008. Participants are to meet in the NMED Harold Runnels Building Auditorium in Santa Fe at 9:00 am, for a morning of speakers including Dave Foreman, Bill Zeedyk, Barbara Coulter (NMDG&F Depredation Coordinator), and Denise Smith (US Fish & Wildlife Service Partners). At 12:00 pm, break for lunch on your own (many restaurants are within walking distance). At 1:15 meet at NMED south parking lot to carpool to Beaver Deceiver™ site. Adjourn at 4:00.

Please RSVP to Debbie Risberg of APNM at Debbie@apnm.org, 265-2322 x 25; call if you need more information.

—Laura Bonar | Program Associate | Animal Protection of NM



Coexisting with Beavers by Preventing Damage

Join Animal Protection of New Mexico and New Mexico Environment Department for a free, all-day workshop to learn about the benefits of beavers in riparian habitats. The afternoon includes a field trip to visit a flow device installed on a culvert—installed to keep the beavers from building a dam there.

Speakers include:

- Dave Foreman, Rewilding Institute
- Sherri Tippie, founder of Wildlife 2000; she'll demonstrate how to properly live trap beavers
- Skip Lisle, founder of Beaver Deceivers International
- Bill Zeedyk, riparian and wetland restoration expert
- US Fish & Wildlife Service Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program
- NM Department of Game & Fish Depredation Coordinator

Learn:

- how beavers enhance New Mexico's land and wildlife
- how to coexist with beavers
- how to relocate beavers
- about tree wrapping and other mitigation methods
- how to become part of APNM's volunteer Beaver Brigade

For more info and to RSVP, visit www.apnm.org/beavers or call 505-265-2322 x25. This workshop is free and open to the public.

Free Workshop: Wednesday, May 21st

8:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Santa Fe, New Mexico

NM Environment Dept.
Harold Runnels Building
(Off of St. Francis Drive, west on
Alta Vista Street; Runnels Building
parking lot is the first right)



ANTELOPE DEPREDATION NMWF: THANKS FOR THE RESPONSE!

★★★★★★

Kent Salazar, President of the New Mexico Wildlife Federation, thanks everyone who spoke out against the wasteful antelope depredation killings reported in last month's AWF Newsletter. "Together, we're making a difference to make it possible to get the Jennings Law repealed."

You criticized New Mexico's depredation law and took action to help prevent more abuses like the killing of 39 antelope by the Cimarron-area rancher. Here's how:

- ▶ You sent hundreds of faxes to Governor Richardson;
- ▶ You sent letters to the editors of the *Albuquerque Journal* and *Santa Fe New Mexican*;
- ▶ You posted opinions and information on blogs and your websites to counter misinformation about the incident and the current law;
- ▶ You were interviewed on television.

NMWF is beginning to work with legislators and the New Mexico Game Commission to fix these obvious problems with the law. NMWF should have specific recommendations completed soon, and will keep us posted on developments.

BEAUTIFYING THE RIO: NATIONAL RIVER CLEANUP DAY 2008

Join the **City of Albuquerque Open Space Division** and other local organizations in helping clean the Rio Grande during National River Cleanup Day, taking place on **Saturday, May 17**. There are over 2,600 acres of bosque and over 50 miles of shoreline in the Rio Grande Valley State Park, *and we want our visitors to enjoy it all!*

Many visitors to the Rio Grande Valley State Park do their part to pick up trash in the bosque, but not everyone has gotten the message that *trash has its place, and it's not in Open Space!* As our city grows, citizen stewardship of the river becomes more and more important. National River Cleanup is a great way to concentrate our efforts and beautify the Rio Grande!

EVENT DETAILS: The Cleanup takes place between **8:00 AM** and **1:00 PM**. Volunteers will meet on the west side of the river, north of the Central Avenue Bridge. Parking is available off of Central Ave., just north of Sunset Rd. Boaters are highly encouraged to attend. We will arrange shuttles for boaters to travel from Central Ave. to the launch point at Montañño Blvd. Bring work gloves, water, and sun protection. Kirtland Outdoor Recreation will have guided rafts in need of volunteers to help remove trash from the river (space is limited). We will provide refreshments, a BBQ and a prize drawing at the end of the event. The Open Space Division will supply trash bags, courtesy of America Outdoors, and will dispose of the collected trash. Call 452-5216 for more information.

Volunteers are encouraged to pre-register at REI. You can call 247-119 or stop by 11550 Mercantile Ave. to sign up. For more information please contact Jim Sattler or Kent Swanson at 452-5200 or jsattler@cabq.gov. This event is sponsored in part by the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division, Adobe Whitewater Club, West Central Alliance of Neighborhoods (WeCAN), the Rotary Club of Albuquerque, Kirtland Air Force Base Outdoor Recreation, and the Open Space Alliance.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

➔ **PLEASE ✓ ONE :** **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** ↴

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

✓ MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- Student [under 18]..... \$10 ◀ [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual..... \$25
- Family..... \$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ◀ [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____

*Second NMWF Member \$10 _____

Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____