

Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges

Teleconference February 16, 2010 – Membership Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

- David Raskin, Sharon Baur, Marvin Baur, Jason Sodergren, Christina Whiting, Elisa Russ, Tom Balland, Mary & Susie (Unalaska), Henrietta Callewaert, Tom Collopy, Mary Frische, Rebekah Jones, Rebecca (Sitka), Kristin Gilbert, Michelle Michaud, Merrill Jensen, Jerry Clawson, Michelle Stout, Poppy Benson, Don Wedll, Michael Goodwin, Rob Jess, Patricia Wood, Betty Siegel

Intro of New Members:

- Michael Goodwin - Anchorage
- Michelle Michaud (existing member) - Homer
- Don Weddel – Bethel

Board Decisions and Discussions:

- Members Elisa Russ, Mary Frische and Kris Rice will be attending the Region 6 Friends Conference in Kansa
- Attending the NWRA DC fly-in are: Betty, Sharon, Ginny, David, Patricia, Nicole
- Four of six challenge cost share agreements were approved, time to sign up for volunteer opportunities
- Board approved \$2500 Wilson Grant funds to go to the Izembek Road Awareness project with NWRA
- Board approves donation of Friends membership to the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival
- In an effort to reduce excessive e-mail communication to members, all e-mails sent to the list serve must be approved by the Board of Directors. If approved, we will include your message or a link with that month's meeting agenda. Thanks for your cooperation! Send your request to Board President David Raskin at davidcraskin@yahoo.com

Guest Refuge Manager Rob Jess:

- Yukon Flats NWR was established to conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity, including nesting

waterfowl, other migratory birds, dall sheep, bears, moose, wolves, wolverines, other furbearers, caribou, and salmon, to fulfill international treaty obligation, to provide for continued subsistence uses and to ensure necessary water quality and quantity.

- Rob suggests that the Board puts an ad out in the Daily Miner newspaper re: Friends group specifics, ie. Projects, volunteers, etc.
- Rob is interested in working with Friends to energize a regional group of FANWR in Fairbanks.

Bite Sized Science:

- Betty Siegel and Kristen Gilbert discuss 2010 refuge volunteer opportunities
- As a Friend's member, you can volunteer for education, outreach, advocacy, biology and maintenance projects happening around the State throughout the year. We match your time and talents with the needs of Alaska's refuges. Join to learn more about the 2010 opportunities.
- The application process has been updated this year.

Friends Sale South & West

- Sharon Baur and Mary Schwenzfeier share their outreach events in Arizona and Unalaska.

Next membership meeting: March