

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Letter to the Editor

A MESSAGE TO MEMBERS OF THE WILDLIFE DISEASE ASSOCIATION

The officers and council members of the WDA are elected by the members to serve the entire Association. However, communications between the general membership and their elected officials has generally been minimal. As President of the WDA, I urge each of you to express your viewpoints on matters of importance to the Association. One means of doing this is to attend the annual business meeting held in conjunction with the annual conference. Another, is to write to your elected officials and express your viewpoints regarding what is being done, whether you consider it right or wrong, and to identify activities you feel should be initiated or terminated. This is your organization and its vitality depends upon your input.

One recurring issue at the WDA Council Meetings is whether or not proceedings of the annual meeting should be published. Your input on this issue is encouraged to help guide Council in establishing a formal policy. Arguments for publishing an annual proceedings include increased service to the membership in the form of an additional publication and the opportunity for members who can't attend the annual meeting to read the papers presented there. Arguments against a proceedings are that many papers presented at meetings are good papers to stimulate discussion, but are not completed studies ready for publication; many authors would like the option of publishing their papers in specialty journals, such as Virology or the Journal of Parasitology, and would not present their research at the meeting if their papers had to be published in an annual proceedings; and due to the editorial load, papers would have to be edited by session chairmen at the meeting which would probably result in a highly variable quality of results since few of these individuals would be expected to be skilled editors. Authors of papers presented at the annual meetings have always been encouraged to submit their papers for review and publication in the Journal of Wildlife Diseases. This policy continues. What are your views on this issue?

Milt Friend

Announcement

The American Association of Zoo Veterinarians will hold its annual meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on November 3-7, 1974.

Special sessions dealing with primates, marine mammals, waterfowl, reproductive problems and behavioral abnormalities have been arranged.

Anyone interested in the medical problems of captive wild birds, mammals and reptiles is invited to attend.

For further information contact:

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