

**The LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL BIOLOGIST and the
LA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
Announce Dates for the Fall Symposium and Issue Calls for Abstracts,**

Dates for the LAPB/TWS 2017 Symposium have been set for **10-11 August 2017**. The symposium will be held on the campus of McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA in Gayle Hall. Oral presentations on recent research relevant to Louisiana natural resources will be given by university students from across the state beginning on Thursday morning and continuing through the afternoon. The LAPB/LA Chapter TWS Fall Business Meeting will be held at the conclusion of the day's speakers. Following the Business Meeting is a Social and Dinner that is highlighted by the presentation of student and publication awards and photography contest winners. Friday morning begins with poster presentations from university students and from professional biologists. Following the poster presentations will be a special Focus Session on the **Chenier Plain** that should be of interest to all attendees. Registration is at the door and costs \$25.00 for regular annual membership (\$10.00 for student annual membership), \$10.00 for the Symposium, and an additional fee for the social and supper. There will be a catered meal for the evening social. For more information please contact Jeff Duguay @ 225-765-2353 or jduguay@wlf.la.gov

Conference Hotels – **Best Western Plus**, 1245 E. Prien Lake Road, Lake Charles, LA 70601; 337-477-5900; \$95/night. Tell them you are with Louisiana Association of Biologists Annual Symposium. **Comfort Inn**, 607 East Prien Lake Road, Lake Charles, LA 70601; 337-478-4650; \$89/night. Tell them you are with Louisiana Association of Biologists Annual Symposium.

Call for Abstracts

LAPB/TWS is calling for abstracts relevant to Louisiana's natural resources to be presented at the Fall Symposium. Professionals are limited to submitting poster abstracts but students may submit an abstract for either oral or poster presentation. Oral presentations will be 15 or 20 minutes in length, depending on the number of abstracts received. Authors of abstracts selected for oral presentation will be informed two weeks before the symposium whether they should plan 15 or 20 minute presentations. We encourage students as well as professionals to participate with a poster presentation. All posters should be no larger than 42" x 42". Boards for mounting will be provided. We encourage poster setup Thursday morning so that posters can be browsed during breaks and the social; the dedicated poster session and judging will take place on Friday morning. Please help increase the utility of our symposium by submitting an abstract yourself and/or forwarding this announcement to students and professional biologists who could present their research at this symposium. Remind students that there are cash awards for the best student oral presentation and best student poster presentation as well

as free meeting registration for all student presenters. Presentations will be judged on scientific merit and quality of presentation. Abstracts should be emailed to Jeff Duguay (jduguay@wlf.la.gov) before the close of business, Monday, 10 July 2017.

Field Trip

Chris Reid, LDWF, will be hosting a field trip on **09 August** to the Chenier Plain to discuss prairie restoration research at the Gray Ranch. Plant identification and prairie habitat will also be covered. This field trip is limited to 15 people and advanced registration is required. There is a \$25 fee for the field trip. Registration information will be posted on the LAPB website www.labiologists.org

Falconry Session

Rusty Scarborough, Sr. Parks Naturalist/Park Manager with Walter B. Jacobs Memorial Nature Park will be conducting a falconry session **during the evening social on Thursday (8/10)**. Mr. Scarborough will provide hands-on training as well as live birds of falconry exhibited. Participants will not be allowed to hold the birds but photos with the birds will be allowed.

Call for Scholarship

The LA Association of Professional Biologists (LAPB) Scholarship is a competitive scholarship that awards \$500.00 annually to a student(s) pursuing or planning to pursue college studies in the following curriculums: Wildlife or Fisheries Management, Forestry, Wetland Science, Marine Biology, or other closely related field. For additional information and a scholarship application go to the LAPB website at: http://www.labiologists.org/scholarship_application.php

Call for Publication Awards

The LAPB/TWS is inviting nominations for outstanding publication in the following categories: Popular, Basic Research, General Conservation, Fisheries, Wildlife. To be eligible publications are to be published during 2016 and at least one author must be a paid member of LAPB/TWS. Send entries to: Eddie Lyons at elyons@mcneese.edu.

Photography Contest

The contest is open to all registered conference attendees and winners will be announced during the **evening social**. Awards will be given.

Photography Contest Guidelines:

- ◆ Photographs must be captured with a digital or film camera
- ◆ Photographs must be in color or black-and-white prints, with a minimum size of 8" x 10" and maximum size of 8" x 12"
- ◆ Entries must be mounted on a stiff 11" x 14" black backing (see example below). Backing (mat board) can be found at craft supply stores or at Amazon.com
- ◆ Framed prints will not be accepted
- ◆ Do not place your name or caption on photo. Place your name on the back of your backing.

The contest will be open to all registered conference attendees and winners will be announced during the evening social, so make plans to attend the social for 2017. Any wildlife/biology/landscape/research, etc. type theme will be allowed. There is an entry fee of \$5 per photo with a maximum of 10 entries per individual.

You may register the day of the symposium (Thursday). Thursday entry deadline is 12 noon. OR you may send early entries (mounted on black backing) to: Jeff Duguay, LDWF, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. Mail in entry deadline is 01 August 2017.

Sample entry for photo contest. 8 x 10 picture on 11 x 14 black backing

