

Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Spring Board Meeting
 Kampong of the National Botanical Garden, Coconut Grove, Florida
 25 March 2008
 FINAL

Attendees: Jay Exum, Dale Gawlik, Erin Myers, Blair Hayman, Steve Rockwood, Stefanie Nagid, Maria Zondervan , Rainer Shaw, Becky Bolt, see attached attendee list.

Absent:

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order	President Jay Exum called the meeting to order at 1:16 p.m.	
Reading of the Fall Board Minutes	C. Sekerak recommended <u>approving minutes with editorial revisions</u> . J. Humphrey seconded.	Motion Approved
Report of Treasurer	<p>M. Zondervan distributed report (see attached). Current working budget: \$20,570.96</p> <p>M. Zondervan discussed decrease 9K in Section I; loss at Fall mtg under Sect. II; and the money income and expenses (primarily Spring mtgs) in Sect III. Account balance figure: 2006-2008, trend increasing over time, with decreases due to the Nat'l conference. C. Sekerak reiterated that the Chapter is making sacrifices for the conference and reminded everyone that we need to bring in an extra 5K from fundraising over what we are required to make for Nat'l (>10%) J. Humphrey <u>motioned to approve budget</u>; A. Brunell seconded.</p> <p>FL TWS is now banking with Wachovia. This new bank will allow FL TWS to access credit card information quicker (downloads) and to review the endowment fund. After we are done processing credit card purchases we will close all accounts with Riverside. The Endowment fund with Morgan Stanley is now set up—all money in the endowment fund except those kept in the checking account at Wachovia</p> <p>Discussion regarding green fund availability with Morgan Stanley: there is a two month delay, and it is a % of the 23K (S. Rockwood thinks it is ~20%). Chapter is waiting to see if the green fund does actually come back online. C. Sekerak commented that we are helping “green company” more than they are helping us, because they are trying to do things “green”. FL TWS shouldn't expect to make a lot of money back on this investment.</p>	➤ Budget report approved
Report of Committees		
<i>Audit</i>	<p>The audit is complete per M. Zondervan. A. Alshouse looked through everything by himself and approved.</p> <p>M. Zondervan noted we are looking for a third party (external) audit since we have applied for the Florida Charitable campaign again.</p>	➤ J. Exum send thanks to A. Alshouse ➤ M. Zondervan obtain 3 rd party audit
<i>Awards</i>	<p>B. Bolt will present the Paul Moler Award to <u>Perran Ross, Joan Berish and Greg Holder for Gopher Tortoise conservation</u>, tonight at Kampong. All agree that this award is well deserved by these recipients.</p> <p>No nominations this year for the Herb Kale award.</p>	➤

	C. Sekerak commented that we have an internet failure and, therefore the committee is not reaching all members (discuss later).	
<i>Budget</i>	See Treasurer's Report	➤
<i>Certification</i>	No report.	➤
<i>Conservation</i>	<p>B. Bolt developed a support letter for Florida Forever (FF) that was sent to Florida legislator and Governor Crist. There has been limited return info from the recipients. FF will be discussed in this current legislative session.</p> <p>A. Brunell discussed the possibility of using our contacts with FWF to weigh in and keep us informed on the proceedings.</p> <p>S. Nagid attended a FF listening session. She commented that the funds that were allocated through 2010 have been obligated; therefore, if the state wants more than those allocated, then the "successor program" needs a higher % of state funds. J. Exum commented that the amount of annual money allocation has stayed the same since 1994 when first implemented, and this amount does not cover as much as it did 10 years ago. There needs to be an increase in the % amount. FWF is providing comments but wants us to continue offering our support</p> <p>J. Exum started a discussion about the new rocket sites at Merritt NWR. B. Bolt responded that NASA owns Merritt NWR and may need to lease the NWR to a company who can build a vertical launch pad. NASA is looking at other sites as well.</p> <p>DYNAMAC wrote an Environmental Assessment (EA) that will become an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). FL TWS should review and comment the EIS, once it is released. B. Bolt and/or S. Rockwood will let FL TWS know when EIS is ready for comments.</p> <p>One Alternate site is Kennedy AFB. S. Rockwood commented that this is only a five year lease, but if it can be extended then this may be a feasible alternative for the private companies.</p> <p>A. Brunell questioned whether or not a precedence was already out there about using NWR for commercial uses? C. Sekerak replied that there is no precedence, and that the nation currently uses refuges for oil and gas. B. Bolt commented that NASA owns NWR, and they have only used specific sections for launching and or other operations and left the refuge management to USWFS. Due to new circumstances they may now need to use the land for space development.</p> <p>C. Sekerak commented that a lot of the refuges and parks may have other "mission uses" they are not all there for the primary "pristine habitats"; and the general public is not aware of this.</p>	<p>➤</p> <p>➤</p>
<i>Education</i>	L. Ferry will send out request for newsletter in May. She is looking for news releases form each agency or projects that could help members. Nat'l has requested input/articles from FL TWS for the "Wildlifer". C. Sekerak commented that the Chapter should be in the next Wildlifer as a promotion for the Nat'l conference; R. Shaw is currently writing an article for the next one (see student update below).	➤ Send agency news releases to L. Ferry
<i>Information</i>	D. Gawlik still unhappy with the website; C. Sekerak does not want to attach to Nat'l website. Working group discussion: see "Website" below	➤
<i>Membership</i>	J. Exum commented on the status of the membership list. M. Zondervan said B. Scheick has developed a good historical list, but it becomes fragmented once it reaches R. Vanderhoof —who doesn't know why. There also seems to be an email gap.	➤

<p><i>Nominating and elections</i></p>	<p>S. Rockwood announced that the new president elect is A. Brunell. Nominations for VP, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 members at large and the representative candidates will be Fall 2008.</p> <p>J. Exum discussed the issues between pres-elect vs VP going into president. We should review other TWS Chapters processes; S. Nagid discussed how the TWS working groups are outlined: 1 year chair elect, 1 year president, 1 year past president.</p> <p>M. Zondervan asked: what is the pres elect job? Could you combine 2nd year VP with pres elect year—too many duties? J. Exum stated that the few duties are outlined in Strategic Plan</p> <p>>>> Want to avoid the one year of gap (pres elect, when you are not as involved); don't want to have an eight year commitment.</p>	<p>➤ S. Rockwood to chair a committee with S. Nagid to look into VP vs. president elect duties and make a recommendation.</p>
<p><i>Program</i></p>	<p>D. Gawlik discussed the Spring 2009 Conference plans. It will not be in S. FL. Time to start focusing on where, topics and what type of workshops. A. Brunell suggested Fernandina Bch. as a location; he also suggested looking to past committee chairs to help in putting it together</p> <p>Working group discussion, see “Workshops” below</p>	<p>➤ Gawlik to determine where and possible topics of Spring 2009 conference</p>
<p><i>Scholarship</i></p>	<p>M. Zondervan announced the winner of the 10th annual \$1000 (\$250 NWTF and \$250 FWF) FL TWS scholarship: Michelle Tischler,. Michelle has already received award and sent a thank you to FL TWS (on website).</p> <p>M. Zondervan discussed the scholarship amount, not changed over past 10 yrs whereas school expenses have risen. Therefore, the committee decided to increase a single scholarship to \$1500, and the committee will ask the other sponsors to contribute more, as well. B. Bolt suggested contacting other sponsors to determine how much they could contribute, possibly the Chapter could increase the Scholarship over \$1500.</p> <p>Meeting Attendees agreed to just one recipient.</p> <p>>>> M. Zondervan motioned to <u>contribute \$1k to one scholarship and solicit other sponsors (including NWTF and FWF) to increase their contributions as well.</u></p> <p>J. Humphrey seconded. Motion approved.</p> <p>A. Brunell commented that if the sponsors contribute >\$1000 each then should discuss with membership about changing to two recipients.</p>	<p>➤ Motion approved</p> <p>➤ M. Zondervan will solicit NWTF and FWF to increase sponsorship amounts</p>
<p><i>Student Chapter Report</i></p>	<p>R. Shaw recapped beast feast: 550 people served, netted \$5,000. The student chapter is re-evaluating and determining how to get more participants, currently planning a camping trip to try and involve other students. Also planning to host a wildlife field day to get new students interested</p> <p>Student's participated in air potato roundup; partnering with SCB and office of sustainability to host the Earth day celebration. The student chapter was asked by Nat'l to write 2 chapters in the student handbook: developing and managing a list serve and ____.</p> <p>During conclave Florida did fairly well: 12th out of 20 overall; 3rd in trapping, 5th in radio telemetry and 6th in canoeing. The cost for Conclave was \$1000 for a total of 10 people this year.</p> <p>Planning an informal gathering at the beach—maybe a gator fry, during the Nat'l meeting in Miami. Kerrell Farmelant mentioned that she can help advertise if something is planned.</p> <p>Discussed the degree program at UF—the student's feel that they are not receiving what they need for getting the jobs they want. They are planning to discuss this with SCB. Can the FL TWS offer support? Students want a full semester field course and add on more labs with the current classes. B. Bolt recommended sending a draft proposal out to FL TWS for review. When final document</p>	<p>➤ R. Shaw develop draft proposal for new Wildlife curriculum at UF</p>

	<p>completed, then FL TWS can support with membership approval.</p> <p>A. Brunell commented that FWC should be interested in supporting—since this is something they could assist with—field training/work. S. Nagid commented that FWC should support, since those students graduating from UF don't seem to be prepared for FWC working force, and this endeavor would help the FWC as well.</p> <p>M. Zondervan asked about this proposed change for the current curriculum? R. Shaw commented that the students either want the change to the current curriculum and/or have two tracts one for Conservation Biology and one for Wildlife Biology??? J. Exum recommended that the students talk to the advisory board.</p>	<p>➤ Student's should discuss issues with UF advisory board</p>
OLD BUSINESS		
2008 National Conference	<p>C. Sekerak and S. Rockwood will be discussing tomorrow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Let Larry know our in-kind service time—all the time spent for planning this Nat'l mtg (Tucson, Miami travel...and at the meetings) <p>J. Humphrey gave update on meals and entertainment. Working with S. Rockwood to secure Vizcaya, which would cost \$18K—working to get fee waived through Miami Dade commissioner. Unable to accomplish because fiscal year 2009 does not start until OCT—we would have to wait until then or cover and get reimbursed. The other issue was transport, \$\$\$\$. Have decided not to use Vizcaya b/c too many unknown variables.</p> <p>Now looking at Bill Baggs State Park. But we would have to bring everything in—tents, tables, food, generator, etc.... Park has four areas, and the park manager is willing to give it to us for free for a “beach party”. This can be an in-kind service from DEP.</p> <p>Ideas discussed include: starting at 3:00pm, exploring and relaxing around the park, providing Calypso- type music; Alcohol not allowed until after 5:30 (after park closes).</p> <p>Will be allowed to tour lighthouse, if we use the northern most area then can leave tent up overnight and not bother anyone.</p> <p>There are some minor issues to still discuss: They don't want us to bring glass, and even without glass, no alcohol on beach. Unsure why no alcohol on beach, trying to determine if this can be changed. The northern most area has narrow beach, which precludes use of a bonfire. We are responsible for our own waste removal.</p> <p>Transportation? Possibly use University of Miami biodiesel buses</p> <p>Chapter members agree that Bill Baggs SP is a good venue and the beach party theme is a good idea.</p> <p>C. Sekerak recommended that from 3:30-5:30, have park Rangers on hand to help with tours—show the species/habitats onsite. Possible mosquito problems? J. Humphrey mentioned that mosquitoes are only problematic in August, and no-see-ums are not out in November; the sea breeze helps keep the bugs down.</p> <p>Ask the LL alliance if they want to contribute the “Longleaf” book and maybe set up?</p>	<p>➤ Members let L. Perrin know in-kind contributions</p> <p>➤ Exum send out <u>reminder letters</u> to state agency heads who agreed to commit employees. Also ask for vehicle assistance (vans—12 passenger)</p>
Update on Funding Task Force and Investment Strategies	see Treasurer's report	➤
Spring 2009 Conference/ Workshop Focus	Refer to Programs committee report. Plan topics that theme successes in the wildlife field. What are the positive impacts? Possible workshops include:	

for 2009	<p><u>Plant identification/restoration techniques:</u> In Cedar key: Cedar Key WEA good restoration sites: scrub, mangroves, depression marshes, hydric hammock, salt marsh ; In Fernandina Bch/ Talbot Island: good invasive management success, coastal beach, dunes, maritime hammock, salt marsh In Crystal River: Withlacoochee; salt marsh, shell middens, mangroves</p> <p><u>Survey methodologies:</u> WMA vegetation monitoring, scrub jay survey, wading bird surveys</p> <p><u>GIS:</u> laptops with ARCGIS software. Need computers, software, plus instructor</p> <p>** could have two workshops running at the same time: GIS and plant identification; plant identification and restoration techniques; restoration techniques and survey methodologies</p>	
Website	<p>Refer to Information committee report Website working group (D. Gawlik, B. Hayman and R. Shaw) discussed ways to improve current site. Recommended going with professional firm to develop this website, preliminary bid \$ 1000 to design then more than that if wanting more custom input. C. Sekerak concerned with maintenance, who and how much? S. Nagid suggested that the web designer can also maintain or they can set it up for specific Chapter members to manage and maintain information. M. Zondervan discussed possible need for a specified web manager.</p> <p><u>Meeting continued on 3/26 at 9:25am</u> Continued website discussion: Website working group recommended moving website back to html, attendees agree. Recommend paying someone to set up site, initially manage and, eventually, the Chapter maintains on our own. A. Brunell agrees: although we have used our own members to set it up, it is time to spend money on a good site. S. Rockwood reiterated that FL TWS can pay to set it up, but it is only as good as the info that is on it, so we have to provide the content—Chapter must remain involved. D. Gawlik agreed that we need help with the technology, but are capable of providing layout and content; M. Zondervan and B. Hayman already have developed basic layout and have been collecting for content. A. Brunell discussed sharepoint vs. html: if sharepoint so user friendly, maybe combine html with sharpoint.? M. Zondervan disagrees, thinks access to the html will be the same as the sharepoint—still need permission. S. Rockwood we still need to involve the information committee and the chair, although L. Ferry, is present, should inform other committee members and get their feedback—their comfort level and how involved do they want to be. J. Exum proposes that the board get a recommendation from D. Gawlik and L. Ferry. J. Exum recommends spending \$2000 on website development. Within the next four weeks, the website team (B. Hayman, R. Shaw and P. Delaney) and information committee will solicit bids to develop the website and determine who should maintain the site. M. Zondervan will assist with deciding on where to house the site, since Chapter needs reliable e-commerce capabilities. >>>>J. Exum motioned the following: <u>Since the Florida TWS website is the primary source of communication for the Chapter, the Board will make the final decision on developing a new html website. This decision regarding website development, management and location, will be based on recommendations from the website team, the information committee and the Treasurer.</u> <<<< D. Gawlik seconded; motion approved.</p>	<p>➤ D. Gawlik, L. Ferry, and M. Zondervan get a recommendation to the board for website development, management and site location ➤ Motion Approved</p>

	<p>S. Rockwood recommended that when updating bylaws need to add in an official “website committee”</p> <p>Meeting continuation adjourned at 9:45am 3/26/2008</p>	
FL TWS Newsletter/Wildlife information	See education/information above	
“Conservation 2060” symposium as part of Florida Forever discussion.	<p>Should FL TWS hold a two-day symposium/workshop about this issue?</p> <p>Maximize biological diversity over time.</p> <p>This symposium would be separate from the spring meeting. Plan to invite an NGO, partners (FWF) and 1,000 friends to help bring the right people to the mtg.</p>	
NEW BUSINESS		
Memorial Discussions for Phil Heideman, Damion Marx, Gareth Akerman.	<p>Viewed video memorial from D. Gawlik’s lab website at FAU. Discussed how to proceed with the memorial at Nat’l conference. C. Sekerak suggested a memorial at the main conference and/or a write-up in the program? Maybe with the description of the field trips? Maybe capture the history of the sacrifices that people made for wading birds in the everglades? Dale has already done a long write-up on the memorial that can be used as needed for the program. J. Exum suggested naming the Chapter scholarship after these students?</p> <p>>>> S. Nagid motioned to <u>name the FL TWS scholarship after Phil Heideman, Damion Marx and Gareth Akerman and include a write-up about them in the scholarship application.</u></p> <p>J. Humphrey seconded; motion approved</p> <p>D. Gawlik and his lab will make recommendations for scholarship name.</p>	<p>➤ Motion approved</p> <p>➤ D. Gawlik and his lab will make recommendations for scholarship name</p>
Meeting adjourned	Meeting adjourned at 1730.	

Addendum

**THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY
FLORIDA CHAPTER
SPRING BOARD MEETING
March 25, 2008
TREASURER'S REPORT**

SECTION I. GENERAL SUMMARY (1/1/07-12/31/07)

Balance as of 12/31/2007	\$ 29,464.64
Balance as of 1/1/2007	\$ 20,570.96
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Net Change	\$ 8,893.68

SECTION II. 2007 FALL MEETING SUMMARY

Expenses:

Meeting Facilities at Hyatt & Catering	\$ 5,733.76
Credit card Processing Fees	\$ 180.51
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Total	\$ 5,914.27

Income:

Registration (27 regular; 9 students)	\$ 2,025.00
Memberships	\$ 10.00
Merchandise and Misc.	\$ 70.00
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Total	\$ 2,105.00

NET LOSS **-\$ 3,809.27**

SECTION III. DETAILED SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSES (1/1/07–12/31/07)

Expenses:

2007 Spring Conference	\$ 10,414.97
2007 Fall Meeting	\$ 5,914.27
Contributions/Student Scholarship	\$ 1,200.00
Merchandise	\$ 2,040.51
Web Services	\$ 392.35
Overhead	\$ 217.98
FWF Membership	\$ 100.00
Fire Course Expenses	\$ 5,328.15
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	<u>\$ 22.00</u>
Total	\$ 25,630.23

Income:

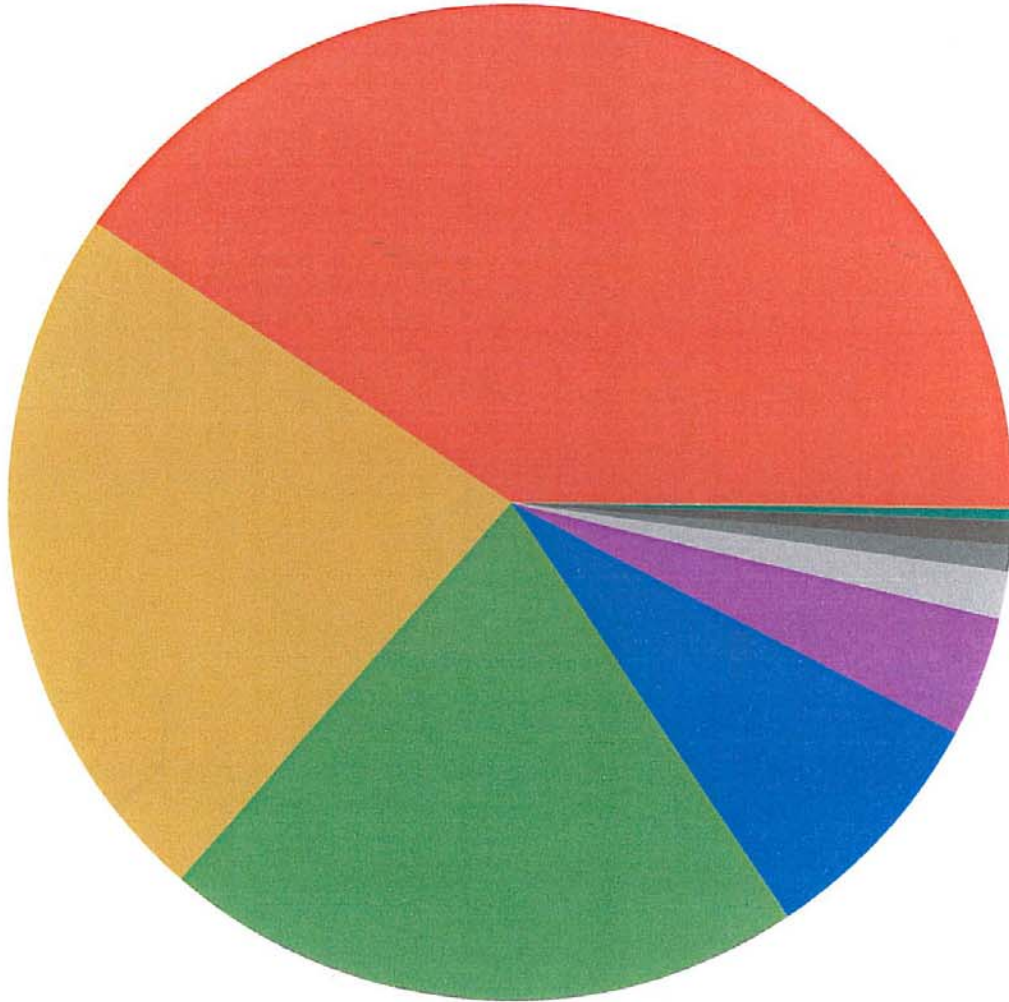
2007 Fall Meeting	\$ 1,982.91
2007 Spring Conference	\$19,771.33
Membership	\$ 1,730.00
Merchandise	\$ 73.67
<u>Fire Course</u>	<u>\$ 9,111.00</u>
Total	\$ 32,668.91

NET GAIN **\$ 7,038.68***

***This number differs from the “Net Change” in balance shown in Section I because there were \$2,355 worth of 2006 income and \$500 worth of 2006 expenses that posted to the balance after the beginning of the new year. Section III only deals with income and expenses for 2007.**

Spending by Category:3

1/1/2007 through 1/28/2008



Spring Conf 07 Expense	40.64%
Fall 07 Expenses	23.08%
Fire Course Expense	20.79%
Merchandise Exp	7.96%
Student Scholarship	3.90%
Web Services	1.53%
Overhead	0.85%
Contributions	0.78%
Org. Membership Dues	0.39%
Misc	0.09%
Total	\$25,630.23

1/28/2008

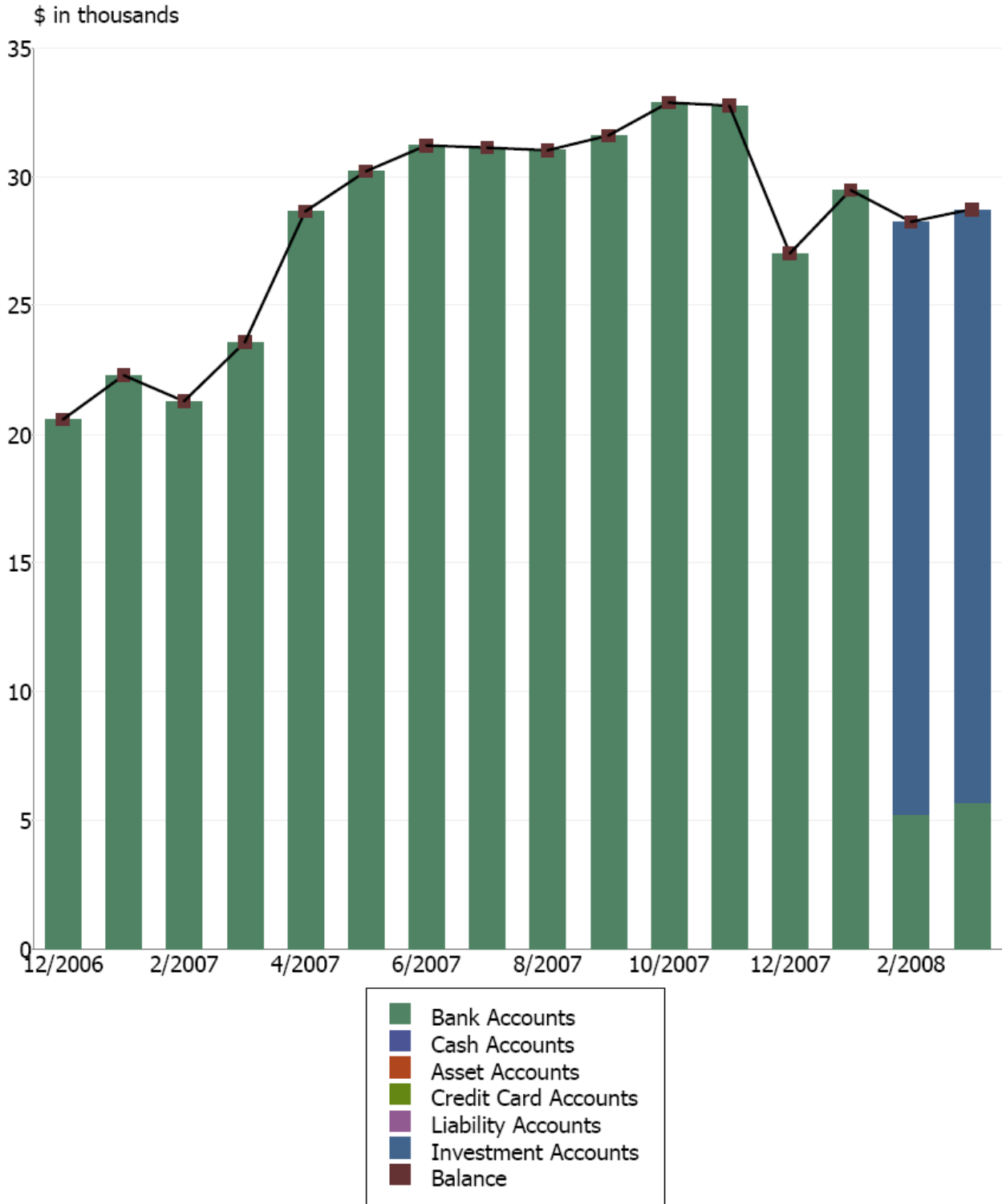
Spending by Category:2
1/1/2007 through 1/28/2008

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Category Description	1/1/2007- 1/28/2008
Contributions	200.00
Fall 07 Expenses	5,914.27
Credit Card Proc '07 Fall	180.51
Meeting Facilities 07	5,733.76
Fire Course Expense	5,328.15
Merchandise Exp	2,040.51
Misc	22.00
Org. Membership Dues	100.00
Overhead	217.98
Bank Fee	5.00
Postage	110.28
Other Overhead	102.70
Spring Conf 07 Expense	10,414.97
Awards '07	514.45
Credit Card Prossesing Fees	664.18
Facilities	6,199.22
Field Trips '07	90.00
Imprinted Bags	905.85
Petty Cash '07	150.00
Social Expenses '07	1,670.72
Other Spring Conf 07 Expense	220.55
Student Scholarship	1,000.00
Web Services	392.35
OVERALL TOTAL	25,630.23

Account Balances - As of 3/21/2008

(Includes unrealized gains)
As of 3/21/2008



Account Balances - As of 3/21/2008

(Includes unrealized gains)

As of 3/21/2008

Account	3/21/2008 Balance
Bank Accounts	
FL TWS - Riverside	1,702.41
FL TWS - Wachovia	4,030.00
TOTAL Bank Accounts	5,732.41
Investment Accounts	
Endowment Fund - Morgan Stanley	23,000.00
TOTAL Investment Accounts	23,000.00
OVERALL TOTAL	28,732.41