

## President's Letter

*Dana Senge*

Dear Membership,

Happy Spring Everyone! As the months fly by during my presidency I am getting excited about our upcoming annual meeting, October 19-22, 2011 in Austin, TX. The meeting events will be held around University of Texas, Austin. The conference will begin with tours of several conservation labs on the UT Austin Campus and an opening reception at the Harry Ransom Center on the evening of October 19<sup>th</sup>. The

talks will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Thompson Conference Center, also on campus. Our banquet will be held on Thursday evening, October 21, at the Byrne-Reed House, just off campus, and will be co-hosted by Humanities Texas. Austin will be a great host for our events!

You will find our official call for papers in this *Newsletter*. We are looking to hear from presenters in all specialties about successes and failures in conservation treatment, new solutions, project planning, management, conservation science, and research. WAAC is well known for our great *Newsletter* and our comfortable and educational annual meetings—you, our membership, are the ones who make this happen. I hope to hear paper proposals from many of you. We expect to send the registration packets for the annual meeting in early August.

And speaking of the great *Newsletter* you are about to read... with the last issue Carolyn Tallent, our fearless editor, passed quite a milestone. Volume 33, No 1 was the 50<sup>th</sup> newsletter Carolyn has edited! This accomplishment included the editing of 131 feature articles and 1424 pages. Thank you, Carolyn, for your tireless efforts to make this an important publication of professional information.

The nomination period for the 2011 board election is open, and we welcome nominations for Vice President and Member-at-Large positions on the board. Please see the wrapper of this *Newsletter* for a nomination form and contact information. And please, consider running to be on the board, this is a great group of people to work with and a great organization to support. The election will be held through the month of August. Those members who selected on their renewal forms to receive their ballot online will receive information on how to vote in early August via e-mail. Those who selected to receive a paper ballot should also receive voting information in early August via regular mail.

And finally, I want to extend my gratitude to this year's board. Everyone has been working towards making the annual meeting a great event and towards innovative ideas for WAAC to pursue... such as video content associated with *Newsletter* articles. When you run into or work with these folks, please extend your thanks to them for keeping our organization moving forward and the support they give to our profession. First and foremost – my thanks to the backbone of our board, Chris Stavroudis, the Membership Secretary, Carolyn Tallent, our *Newsletter* Editor, Walter Henry, our Web Editor, and Donna Williams, our Fulfillments Officer, without whom we would not necessarily know which direction to go. I would also like to extend my gratitude Brynn Bender, Secretary, Molly Gleeson, Member-at-Large, Sean Charette, Member-at-Large, Ria German-Carter, Member-at-Large, Daniel Cull, Vice President, and Bev Perkins, Member-at-Large (not her first time round!). Your work and support of the organization is greatly appreciated. Last, but not least, I'd like to extend my thanks to Natasha Cochran, our Treasurer, for four years of service. She has expressed her wishes to move on from the post. We are very grateful for her time on the board and have begun the search for a new Treasurer.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Austin...

Dana

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