

OBFS

Organization of Biological Field Stations

Office of Richard W. Coles - Secretary/treasurer - P. O. Box 351, Eureka, Missouri 63025

October 14, 1983

Dr. James Griffin
Hastings Natural History Reservation
Star Route, Box 80
Carmel Valley, California 93924

Dear Jim:

Enclosed are copies of recent OBFS Newsletter and other items which you should have. Without knowing where the snafu arose, I apologize for the fact that you haven't received these sorts of materials.

We will take the necessary steps to make sure you receive the appropriate mailings in the future.

Sincerely,



Richard W. Coles

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Enc.

1977-1978 Annual Report

Executive Summary

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The following information is provided for your information...

For more information, please contact the Office of Biological Field Stations...

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CONSTITUTION

ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS

ARTICLE 1. The name of this organization shall be the "Organization of Biological Field Stations." (OBFS).

A Biological Field Station is defined as an organization engaged in field research or instructional programs of biological or related phenomena.

ARTICLE 2. The purposes of the organization shall be: The advancement of biological science through 1) the development of research and teaching programs at field stations in North America, 2) the implementation of cooperation between these Stations, and 3) the dissemination of information about these Stations.

ARTICLE 3. The management of this Organization shall be vested in a Board of Directors of four officers, to be designated as the: President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Editor. These persons shall be elected according to the Bylaws of this Organization.

ARTICLE 4. Membership: there shall be two classes of membership: (a) Institutional membership shall be open to biological field stations which will designate a single representative, normally the station director, who will cast the vote of the station and would be able to hold office in OBFS. (b) Personal membership shall be open to all individuals who subscribe to the purposes of the organization. Personal members will have all the privileges of membership, except they will neither vote nor be able to hold office in the organization.

ARTICLE 5. The Organization shall have no capital stock. No member shall be entitled to receive as dividends, profits, or otherwise, any property or money derived from the operation of said Organization, but all property earnings and income of the Organization, after the payment of necessary charges and expenses of operations, shall be used exclusively to carry out the scientific and educational purposes of the Organization as expressed in Article 2 of the Constitution.

BYLAWS

1. Election of the Board of Directors shall be by a simple majority of a mail vote on ballots submitted to the membership one month prior to the election date as set by the Board of Directors.

2. The President and Vice-President shall be elected for terms of two years starting with the beginning in January, 1980. Individuals elected to these two offices will not be permitted to serve more than two successive terms. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected for a term of two years and will also assume office in January of even numbered years. The Editor shall be elected for a term of two years and will assume office in January of odd numbered years. The Secretary-Treasurer and Editor may be re-elected for any number of terms. If, for any reason, the President shall be unable to carry out the duties of that office, he shall be succeeded by the Vice-President for the remainder of the terms. Vacancies in the other offices may be filled until the next election by appointment of a member in good standing by the Board of Directors to serve the remainder of the term. The duties of the officers shall be those usually devolving upon such offices except as may be otherwise provided by the Board of Directors.

3. The Board of Directors shall appoint a nominating committee of three members at least three months in advance of the election date and notify the membership of the Organization. The committee shall accept nominations from any three members and/or select nominees for presentation on the ballot.

4. The Board of Directors may appoint other committees to carry out the purposes of the Organization as such become desirable or necessary.

5. The Board of Directors shall make an annual report to the membership and call meetings of the membership as they become desirable or necessary.

6. Annual Dues for institutional members are set at \$50.00; annual dues for personal members are set at \$10.00. The Secretary-Treasurer shall accept dues to be placed in a special account for disbursement to carry out the purposes of the Organization subject to annual audit by the Board of Directors. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year. Members shall be dropped after one year non-payment of dues, but may be reinstated by the Board of Directors following payment of the current annual dues.

7. The Constitution and Bylaws may be revised by a 2/3 majority of the membership voting by mail ballot.

8. Notwithstanding any provision of the Constitution or Bylaws which might be susceptible to a contrary construction:

a) The Organization shall be organized exclusively for scientific and educational purposes;

b) The Organization shall be operated exclusively for scientific and educational purposes;

c) No part of the net earnings of the Organization shall or may under any circumstances inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual;

d) No substantial part of the activities of the Organization shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation;

e) The Organization shall not be organized or operated for profit;

f) The Organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office;

g) The Organization shall not:

1. Lend any part of its income or corpus, without the receipt of adequate security and reasonable rate of interest to:

2. Pay any compensation, in excess of a reasonable allowance for salaries or other compensation for personal services actually rendered to:

3. Make any part of its services available on a preferential basis to:

4. Make any purchases of securities or any other property, for more than adequate consideration in money or money's worth from:

5. Sell any securities or other property for less than adequate consideration in money or money's worth to: or

6. Engage in any other transactions which result in substantial diversions of its income or corpus to: any officer, member of the Board of Directors or substantial contributor to the Organization.

The prohibitions contained in the Section (g) do not mean to imply that the Organization may make such loans, payments sales or purchases to anyone else, unless such authority be given or implied by other provisions of the Constitution or Bylaws.

9. Upon dissolution of the Organization of Biological Field Stations, the Board of Directors shall distribute the assets and accrued income to those organizations as determined by the Board, but which organization or organizations shall meet the limitations prescribed in Sections (a) to (g) inclusive of Article 8 immediately preceding.

DESCRIPTION

of

ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS

The Organization of Biological Field Stations is a small (about 75 member) association of field stations or persons who are concerned with biological field facilities in the United States and Canada. Many members are themselves a director of a station. The organization holds its annual meeting at a member facility in late September. The program stresses informality and typically includes touring of the host station and nearby habitats and points of interest, sessions in which matters of mutual interest to members are discussed, and a meeting for business.

Recent meetings have been held at the Southwestern Research Station (Portal, AZ), the Eagle Lake Field Station (northern California), the Archbold Biological Station (Lake Placid, FL), the Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology (northwest Pennsylvania), University of Manitoba Field Station at Delta Marsh, the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory (northwest Iowa), Pacific Marine Station (Dillon Beach, CA), the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station (south central Michigan), the E.N. Huyck Preserve (near Albany New York), University of Michigan Biological Station (Douglas Lake).

Quite a diversity of facilities, programs, management practices, and institutional affiliation are represented among the membership. Consequently, discussion of matters of mutual interest is quite lively.

Benefits of membership include receipt of an occasional newsletter, and the opportunity to attend the annual meeting. Members offering summer courses may have their curriculum listed in the organization's annual course announcement poster which is distributed to over two thousand bioscience departments in the U.S. and Canada. Listing in the course announcement costs \$35.00

Annual dues are \$50. for institutional membership (a representative of the institutional member can vote and hold office) or \$10. for individual membership (individual members do not vote and are not vulnerable to the electoral process).