



“Musings by Melissa”

From the Desk of the NCD President

December 2015

Greetings, NCD! Hope this blog finds you with full stomachs and hearts after Thanksgiving!

December is always bustling – preparing for the holidays, shipping, the kids’ winter concerts, wrapping up those year-end reports, grading final projects and exams, and preparing for the New Year. Phew! It’s enough to make you want to lay down and take a nap (or maybe that’s just me)!

I hope in all of the chaos and excitement you are able to pause for a moment and reflect on all you’ve accomplished this year. You may even be surprised at how much you achieved and think;

*“How did I do this all? Wow! I’m pretty darn proud of myself! Go me!”*

You may also think about how to make next year even better than this one. What do you want to do differently? What’s something you’ve always wanted to try doing? What do you want to stop doing?

The NCD, with the strong support and help from its members, has accomplished much in 2015 and we’re working on ways to make our Division even better. One of our major initiatives has been to improve communication within the division, and this blog is just one example. We’re also conducting quarterly calls with our committee, Chapter, and Subunit leaders. Something new we’ll be trying in 2016 is “virtual attendance” by NCD ExCom leaders at Chapter and Subunit meetings. More to follow on this in future listserv announcements and blogs, so stay tuned!

Of course, we, as a Division, can always do better. Revising bylaws and procedures, and updating the Strategic Plan is going to help us in some ways. These changes are the result of a long process, and our volunteers are going to keep plugging away until we have solid drafts to share with you all!

The NCD can only improve with your feedback and active participation. Let us know what you want from your NCD experience. What should the Division try doing, keep doing, or stop doing for the benefit of its members. We’d love to hear from you!

Enjoy your holiday season and savor the excitement that this time of year brings! Hope to see as many of you as possible in January at the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference in Grand Rapids!

Happy Holidays!

*Melissa*

