Board of Directors for the Horned Lizard Conservation Society decided to amend its Bylaws in 1996 as well as formalize rules under which the National and Chapter Structure shall work. Over the last two years, active participants in the organization have learned what does and does not work with regards to current rules in the Bylaws.

In light of these changes, it was agreed that both National Board of Director Elections and the HLCS Conference should be postponed for one year in order for the membership to have time to vote on amendments. We still need people to volunteer to help with a conference, so NOW would be a good time to start planning a meeting for next summer (1997). Please contact Lester Milroy or any other BOD if you are interested.

On January 19th and 20th, Lester G. Milroy, HLCS President, and Clare Freeman, HLCS Treasurer, met to discuss the changes which will be described herein. Also in attendance during these sessions were members Wendy L. Hodges and Melia and Adrian Monieray.

We welcome any comments or suggestions about these changes, and all amendments shall be put before the membership for a vote in the following newsletter. Your input is needed and welcome at anytime. These changes are primarily a response to membership requests and concern about the HLCS and its solvency. We hope they will help clarify the structure which currently exists and works.

**Article III: Membership**

New categories are being added to the membership and one existing category is being further clarified. The new wording for this article is as follows:

Section 1. The Corporation shall have eight (changed from 4) classes of membership: Student/Senior 65+ (was just student), Subscribing, Regular, Family, Contributing, Patron, Lifetime, and Honorary.

a. Student/Senior 65+ members shall be enrollees of any school, college, university, or any person 65 and over who are interested in supporting HLCS. Each Student/Senior 65+ member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members.

b. Subscribing members-No Change

c. Regular members-No Change

d. Family memberships will be granted for two or more people residing at the same address. Family membership dues will be (1) Regular member dues plus the equivalent of student membership dues for each additional family member. Each family member will receive a vote on Corporation matters, but only one set of publications will be received except for certain circumstances as deemed necessary by the National Board of Directors.
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Please Send all Membership Applications to and For Information on starting a Chapter in Your Area Write:
HLCS
PO Box 122
Austin, TX 78767
e. Contributing members-No Change

f. Patron members are individuals, private organizations, foundations, corporations or benefactors interested in supporting the purpose of the HLCS. Each Patron member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members, and may be entitled to special membership privileges as the National Board of Directors (NBOD) may determine from time to time, except that such privileges may not conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, Law or these Bylaws.

g. Lifetime members are individuals who wish to support the purpose of the HLCS for the duration of their lifetime but will only be required to submit dues once. Lifetime members shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members, and may be entitled to special membership privileges as the National Board of Directors may determine from time to time, except that such privileges may not conflict with the Articles of Incorporation, Law or these Bylaws.

h. Honorary members are individuals making a significant service contribution to the HLCS who are nominated by any dues paying member to a member of the NBOD. Honorary membership will be conferred upon by majority vote of the NBOD for a term not to exceed one year. Honorary membership can be conferred for additional years, only if the individual is renominated to and approved by the NBOD. An honorary member has all rights granted to a Regular member.

Sections 2-6: These are amended to accommodate the above changes. The formal language will not be given at this time.

Formal Policy regarding Memberships: This policy is not part of the Bylaws, but shall be considered formal policy as set by the NBOD. Existing membership dues are unchanged, but new memberships were added. The following is a list of the dues for each membership category: a. Student/Senior 65+: $10.00, b. Subscribing: $10.00, c. Regular: $25.00, d. Family: $25.00 +$10.00 for each additional family member, e. Contributing: $50.00, f. Patron: $100.00, g. Lifetime: $250.00, h. Honorary: No Charge.

All memberships should be mailed to the National Headquarters in Austin. Individuals who wish to belong to a specific Chapter should indicate it on the membership application, otherwise addresses will be used to determine Chapter affiliation. All membership dues for students/seniors 65+ and subscribing members are given to the National Organization. Sixty percent of the other membership (c-g) dues are given to the Chapter in which the member belongs. Forty percent goes to the National Organization. Dues given to the National Organization are used to cover the costs of the newsletter and other educational publications.

Patron Memberships are designed primarily for Corporations who wish to be considered “Corporate Sponsors”. However, we recognize that individuals may also wish to contribute above the normal Regular or Contributing Membership level, so Patron includes Individuals as well as Corporations.

Ideally, a corporation will choose to sponsor a particular HLCS project, but in lieu of that, we have provided the Patron membership category. Current projects which HLCS wishes to seek sponsorship include the educational Curriculum Guide for K-3, Research Grants, and HLCS Conference. Also needed is donated office space to store the large amount of materials being accumulated and spread out among the NBOD.

Bylaw amendments Continued:

Article VIII: National Board of Directors
The NBOD is being changed considerably. Currently, the Bylaws require the NBOD to consist of seven officers; President, VP for Research and Recovery, VP for Education/Programs, VP for Member Services, VP for Marketing and Publicity, Secretary, Treasurer.
The changes will be the following: The only generally elected Directors will be the President, Treasurer and VP for Membership Services. The NBOD will also include the Presidents of each Chapter Organization. The past presidents of each chapter will also be asked to sit on the board, but in a non-voting position. The position of Secretary will be filled by an existing Director, approved by members of the NBOD.
The primary reason for these changes is a consensus between the Southern California Chapter and the Texas Chapter that the roles of education, research, and marketing can vary for different regions, and that Chapters have the best ability to decide what is needed in their area.

Another reason for the changes is that over the last two years, the HLCS Chapters and active NBOD have been frustrated by the lack of interest and involvement shown by some elected NBOD members. The lack of involvement has hindered the Chapters’ abilities to do what they need and feel is important.

The above amendments will be written into the existing Bylaws. Voting to accept them will occur in the next newsletter unless members have reasons to believe the proposed amendments are not justified. Please send any correspondence regarding the amendments to the HLCS address in Austin.