

# Kansas Herpetological Society

## 27th Annual Meeting

21–22 October 2000

### Program

Theme of the Meeting



### *Conservation and Natural History of Amphibians, Turtles, and Reptiles*

The entire program for the *Kansas Herpetological Society's* 27th Annual Meeting is being held at the Adam's Mark Hotel, Blue Ridge Cut-off at I-70 (right across from the Truman Sports Complex), in Kansas City, Missouri, on 21-22 October 2000. The KHS meeting is being held jointly with the *Missouri Herpetological Association* and the *Kansas City Herpetological Society*. Registration: Students \$10.00 per person; all others \$25.00 per person. Banquet: \$23.50 per person. The banquet and annual KHS auction is being held at Quincy's, an upscale bar within the Adam's Mark Hotel. There is an after-banquet speaker followed by the KHS auction. Beer is free. A live exhibit of native Kansas and Missouri amphibians, turtles, and reptiles (venomous snakes are not permitted) has been assembled by Richard Daniel (Missouri) and Travis W. Taggart (Kansas), and is available for viewing and photography. The exhibit is housed at the Adam's Mark Hotel. Times for members to conduct herpetological photography on Saturday and Sunday are listed in

#### Saturday, 21 October 2000

8:00 am Registration & Purchase of Banquet Tickets: *Karen Toepfer* (KHS Treasurer) at Adam's Mark Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri. Free coffee will be available.

8:00 am to 4:00 pm Live Exhibit at Adam's Mark Hotel in Room 1502.

#### Scientific Paper Session 1 at Adam's Mark Hotel

Moderator: *Henry S. Fitch*, KHS Distinguished Life Member, Fitch Natural History Reservation, University of Kansas, Lawrence

8:20 am Welcome by *Robert Powell*, KHS President, *Robert Wilkinson*, MHA, and *Phil Dickens*, KCHS president).

8:30 am Keynote Speaker: *Robert Wilkinson*, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield. Topic: The Hellbender, *Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*: Then and Now.

9:00 am Speaker: *Megan Kearney* and *Lynnette Sievert*, Emporia State University, Kansas. Topic: Digestive Parameters of Great Plains Skinks (*Eumeces obsoletus*) in Kansas.\*\*

9:15 am Speaker: *Paul Frese*, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Albany, Missouri. Topic: The Natural History of the Northern Prairie Skink (*Eumeces septentrionalis*) in a Heavily Disturbed Landscape.

9:30 am Speaker: *Joe Hackler* and *J. Daren Riedle*, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. Topic: Amphibians and Reptiles of Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge.

9:45 am Speaker: *Tom R. Johnson*, Jefferson City, Missouri.

Topic: Highlights in the Career of a State Herpetologist.

#### Break 10:00 am

#### Scientific Paper Session 2 at Adam's Mark Hotel

Moderator: *David Nieves*, Kansas City Herpetological Society, Kansas City, Missouri

10:15 am Keynote Speaker: *Joseph Slowinski*, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco. Topic: Snake Phylogeny Based on a Mitochondrial Gene and a Nuclear Gene.

10:30 am Speaker: *Walter E. Meshaka*, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg. Topic: The Knight Anole (*Anolis equestris*) in Southern Florida: Life's Never Been So Good.

10:45 am Speaker: *Henry S. Fitch*, Fitch Natural History Reservation, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Aggregations of Female Copperheads (*Agkistrodon contortrix*) in Northeastern Kansas.\*\*

11:00 am Speaker: *Ben Russell*, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau. Topic: Natural History of the Mole Salamander, *Ambystoma talpoideum*, in Southeastern Missouri.

11:15 am Speaker: *Robert Aldridge*, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri. Topic: The Evolution of the Mating Season in North American Pitvipers.

11:45 am to noon KHS Group Photograph taken by *Larry L. Miller* (Kansas Heritage Photography, Wakarusa)

LUNCH: Noon to 1:00 pm

Scientific Paper Session 3 at Adam's Mark Hotel

Moderator: *Robert Wilkinson*, Missouri Herpetological Association

1:00 pm Keynote Speaker: *Ronald Goellner*, St. Louis Zoo, St. Louis. Topic: The Role of Zoos in Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles.

1:30 pm Speaker: *Kevin Zippel*, Detroit Zoo. Topic: Amphibian Conservation at the Detroit Zoo.

1:45 pm Speaker: *Karen Graham*, Sedgwick County Zoo, Wichita. Topic: Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles at the Sedgwick County Zoo.

2:00 pm Speaker: *Larry L. Miller*, Kansas Heritage Photography, Wakarusa. Topic: Amphibians, Turtles, and Reptiles of the Smoky Hill Ranch, Logan County, Kansas.\*\*

2:15 pm Speaker: *Rich Glor*, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. Topic: Diversification and Specialization in the Cybotid Anoles of Hispaniola.

2:30 pm Speaker: *Nicole Palenske* and *David Saunders*, Emporia State University, Kansas. Topic: Blood Viscosity Comparisons Between Endotherms and Ectotherms at Two Temperatures.\*\*

2:45 pm Speaker: *April White*, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield. Topic: Thermal Biology of *Ameiva plei* and *Ameiva corax*.

Break 3:00 pm

3:15 pm KHS General Business Meeting with KHS President *Robert Powell* presiding

Introduction of current KHS officers by *Robert Powell*

KHS Treasurer's Report for 2000 by *Karen Toepfer*

KHS Secretary's Report for 2000 by *Daren Riedle*

KHS Editor's Report for 2000 by *Travis W. Taggart*

Report on Plans for the 28th Annual KHS Meeting at Wakarusa, Kansas in 2001 by KHS President-Elect *Mark Ellis* (Wakarusa, Kansas).

Election of KHS Officers for 2001. The 2000 KHS Nominating Committee is composed of *Joseph T. Collins* (Kansas Biological Survey), *Lynnette Sievert* (Emporia State University) and *Karen Toepfer* (Olathe), and offers the following slate of candidates:

For President

*Mark Ellis*, Wakarusa, Kansas

Serving as president-elect during 2000, and will automatically assume the KHS presidency on 1 January 2001.

For President-Elect

*Suzanne L. Collins*, The Center for North American Amphibians and Reptiles, Lawrence

*Jill Reimer*, McCollom Elementary School, Wichita

For Treasurer (unopposed)

*Eric Kessler*, Blue Valley North High School, Overland Park.

For Secretary (unopposed)

*Mary Kate Baldwin*, Topeka Collegiate School.

Presentation of the *Howard Kay Gloyd-Edward Harrison Taylor Scholarship* for 2000 by *Robert Powell* (KHS President).

Presentation of the 2000 *Bronze Salamander Award* for distinguished service to the Kansas Herpetological Society by *Kelly J. Irwin*, former KHS President and recipient of a BSA in 1998.

4:30 pm to 5:00 pm Missouri Herpetological Association General Business Meeting with *Robert F. Wilkinson* presiding

5:15 pm to 6:30 pm Banquet at Quincy's. KHS president *Robert Powell* encourages the assembled membership to dine at Quincy's, because the KHS auction will start there at 7:45 pm.

6:30 pm to 7:15 pm Banquet Speaker: *L. Lee Grismer*, La Sierra University, Riverside, California. Topic: Herpetofauna of the Gulf Islands: From Baja to China.

Approx 7:15 pm Presentation of the Missouri Herpetological Association Distinguished Career Award to *Tom R. Johnson* by *Robert F. Wilkinson* (Missouri Herpetological Association)

Approx 7:30 pm Presentation of *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* by *Robert Powell* (KHS President) and *Travis W. Taggart* (The Center for North American Amphibians and Reptiles). The recipient of *The Collins Award* receives a commemorative plaque and a check for \$1000.00.

Approx. 7:45 pm The KHS Auction will be conducted by *Joseph T. Collins*, ably assisted by KHS Treasurer *Karen Toepfer* (Olathe), *Ann Rundquist* (Lawrence), *Suzanne L. Collins* (The Center for North American Amphibians and Reptiles, Lawrence), and *Mary Kate Baldwin* (Topeka Collegiate School), and featuring many excellent books and other items (of questionable value). KHS Treasurer *Karen Toepfer* takes cash, credit cards, and checks. Be sure and get a bidding number from her before the auction commences. Bid vigorously, and support the KHS.

Sunday, 22 October 2000

8:00 am Registration: *Karen Toepfer* (KHS Treasurer) at Adam's Mark Hotel. Free coffee will be available.

8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Live Exhibit at Adam's Mark Hotel in Room 1502.

Scientific Paper Session 4 at Adam's Mark Hotel

Moderator: *John S. Parmerlee*, Johnson County Community College & Avila College.

8:15 am Keynote Speaker: *Robert W. Henderson*, Milwaukee Public Museum. Topic: Neotropical Boas: From the Sublime to the Enormous.

8:45 am Speaker: *Dwight R. Platt*, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas. Topic: Food Habits of Snakes on a Sand Prairie in South-Central Kansas.\*\*

9:00 am Speaker: *J. Daren Riedle*, *Stanley F. Fox*, and *Paul A. Shipman*, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. Topic: Ecology of the Alligator Snapping Turtle, *Macrochelys temminckii*, at Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge.

9:15 am Speaker: *Cory Lindsay*, Wayne State College, Wayne, Nebraska, and *Saul Nava*, University of Texas, El Paso. Topic: Microhabitat, Activity, and Density of Dwarf Geckos (*Sphaerodactylus*) on the Anguilla Bank.

9:30 am Speaker: *Kelly J. Irwin*, Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, Benton. Topic: Problems in Arkansas Herpetology.

9:45 am Speaker: *Samantha Larimer*, Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana, *Katherine Howard*, University of Idaho, Moscow, and *James Eaton*, Saint Louis University, Missouri. Topic: Site Fidelity and Escape Behavior of *Anolis gingivinus*.

Break 10:00 am

Scientific Paper Session 5 at Adam's Mark Hotel

Moderator: *Dwight R. Platt*, KHS Distinguished Life Member, Bethel College, North Newton

10:20 am to noon Speaker: *Joseph T. Collins*. Topic: The Second Annual Kansas Amphibian Monitoring Program (KAMP) Conference: More Comments, Criticisms, and Discussions, plus a Summation of Progress Made.

About 11:30 am Presentation by *Linda Weir*, Coordinator, North American Amphibian Monitoring Program, Laurel, Maryland, and *Ken Brunson*, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks, Pratt, of the *KAMP Big Croaker Awards* for 2000 (two awards of \$100.00 each will be given to the most diligent KAMP volunteers during the 2000 season).

LUNCH: Noon to 1:00 pm

Scientific Paper Session 6 at Adam's Mark Hotel

Moderator: *William H. Busby*, Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence.

1:00 pm Speaker: *Eli Greenbaum*, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Some Amphibians and Reptiles of El Salvador.

1:30 pm Speaker: *James Eaton*, Saint Louis University, Missouri, *Katherine Howard*, University of Idaho, Moscow, and *Samantha Larimer*, Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana. Topic: Natural History of *Anolis gingivinus* in Anguilla, West Indies.

1:45 pm Speaker: *Angelo Bufalino*, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri. Topic: Distribution and Habitat Availability for the Plainbelly Water Snake, *Nerodia erythrogaster*, in the Lower Cumberland River Basin.

2:00 pm Speaker: *Christopher A. Sheil*, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Ossification and Development of the Skeletons of Four Species of Turtles.\*\*

2:15 pm Speaker: *Jay Kirk*, Friends University, Wichita. Topic: Reintroduction of the Pickerel Frog (*Rana palustris*) in Cherokee County, Kansas.\*\*

2:30 pm Speaker: *Sarah Bellows-Blakely*, Topeka Collegiate School, Kansas. Topic: Observations on the Snakes of the Red Hills, Kansas.\*\*

2:45 pm Speaker: *John Tollefson*, Emporia State University, Kansas. Topic: Preliminary Observations on Turtle Assemblages in the Kansas River Drainage.\*\*

Break 3:00 pm

Scientific Paper Session 7 at Adam's Mark Hotel

Moderator: *David R. Edds*, Emporia State University, Kansas.

3:15 pm Speaker: *Nicole M. Gerlanc*, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: The Kansas-Gap Project: Implications for Kansas Herpetology.\*\*

3:30 pm Speaker: *Hugo Alamillo*, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Parental Care in Squamates: A Survey of the Great Plains Skink, *Eumeces obsoletus*.\*\*

3:45 pm Speaker: *Travis W. Taggart*, Fort Hays State University. Topic: The Herpetofauna of Kisatchie, Louisiana.

4:00 pm Speaker: *Martin B. Simon*, Benedictine College, Atchison, Kansas. Topic: Amphibians, Turtles and Reptiles of the Benedictine Bottoms Floodplain Mitigation Site.\*\*

Have a safe trip home. See you in 2001 in Wakarusa, Kansas.

27th Annual Meeting Committee  
*Robert Powell*, Chairperson

*Joseph T. Collins* will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the meeting

Note: The *Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology*, to be given for the best published paper or presentation during 1998 and 1999 on a Kansas amphibian and/or reptile, will be presented at this KHS Annual Meeting. In 2001, *The Collins Award* will be given at the KHS 28th Annual Meeting in Wakarusa, Kansas, to the KHS member judged to have taken a photograph of exceptional merit of an amphibian(s) and/or reptile(s) native to Kansas. KHS members, warm up your cameras.

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\*\* indicates that the presentation listed in this program is eligible for *The Collins Award* in 2002.