

KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY



34th Annual Meeting Program 3-4 November 2007 Topeka Zoo, Topeka, Kansas



KHS Honorary Host of the Meeting

GARY K. CLARKE

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The McPherson Family Trust • Topeka Holiday Inn Holiday • Image Works • Zoo Book Sales
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Saturday, 3 November 2007

8:00 am Registration: Mary Kate Baldwin (KHS Secretary) and Eric Kessler (KHS Treasurer) in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center on the Topeka Zoo grounds. Free coffee, juice, and donuts will be available.

PLEASE NOTE: Photographers competing for *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* must get their submissions set up and ready for viewing between 8:00 am and 10:00 am on this date in the *Topeka Zoo Discovering Ape Building*. Judging will be completed by 4:00 pm on same date. Submissions must be in the form of prints (color or black-and-white) no larger than 11 x 14 inches and matted to stiffboard for ease of setting up, viewing and judging. Up to five (5) submissions per photographer. Elected officers of the KHS and CNAH are not eligible to compete. Competing photographers must be present for *The Collins Award* ceremony on Saturday evening.

8:00 am to 2:00 pm *The Collins Award* Photography Competition in the Discovering Ape Building

9:00 am Welcome and Introduction by Ginny Weatherman (KHS President), Lawrence, Kansas
Welcome and Introduction by Mike Coker, Director, Topeka Zoo, Topeka, Kansas
Welcome by Gary K. Clarke, Director Emeritus, Topeka Zoo, Topeka, Kansas

Scientific Paper Session 1 in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo

Moderator: Larry L. Miller, Northern Hills Junior High School, Topeka

9:10 am Introduction of the Keynote Speaker by Joseph T. Collins.

9:15 am KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Emily M. Lemmon, University of Texas, Austin. Topic: Speciation in Chorus Frogs (*Pseudacris*) **

9:45 am Speaker: Day B. Ligon, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Brian Fillmore & Kerry Graves, Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery, Oklahoma, & J. Daren Riedle, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: *Ex Situ* Wildlife Management: The Role of Captive Propagation in Conservation of the Alligator Snapping Turtle, *Macrochelys temminckii*, in Oklahoma

10:00 am Speaker: J. Daren Riedle, West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Day B. Ligon, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, & Kerry Graves, Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery, Oklahoma. Topic: Distribution and Management of Alligator Snapping Turtles, *Macrochelys temminckii*, in Kansas and Oklahoma **

BREAK 10:15 am

Scientific Paper Session 2 in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo

Moderator: Greg Sievert, Emporia State University, Emporia, Kansas

10:30 am Speaker: George R. Pisani, Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence. Topic: Snakes in the Grass: Habitat Utilization by *Virginia valeriae* in Kansas **

10:45 am Speaker: William Ried, Atrox Animal Technologies, Cottonwood, Kansas. Topic: The Other Pollution: Wireless Technology and Its Impact on Wildlife in General and Herpetofauna in Particular

11:00 am Speaker: Aubrey M. Heupel, Joseph W. Jones Ecological Research Center, Newton, Georgia. Topic: Current Research and Recent Herpetological Observations at the Jones Ecological Research Center in southwestern Georgia

11:15 am Speaker: Mark J. Lange & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Variation in Aquatic Turtle Communities in the Texas Panhandle

11:30 am to noon KHS Group Photograph taken by Larry L. Miller (Kansas Heritage Photography)

LUNCH: 11:45 am to 1:00 pm (at the restaurant of your choice)

Scientific Paper Session 3 in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo

Moderator: Richard Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon

1:10 pm Introduction of the Keynote Speaker by Ginny Weatherman (KHS President).

1:15 pm KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Jonathan A. Campbell, University of Texas, Arlington. Topic: Venomous Snakes of the New World

1:45 pm Speaker: Rebecca Benjamin, Sean Kimbrell, Phillip Stevenson & Mindy Walker, Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Missouri. Topic: Relative Success of Timber Rattlesnake Relocation Efforts in Eastern Kansas **

2:00 pm Speaker: Rachel A. Spruance & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Habitat Associations of Snakes at Matador Wildlife Management Area

2:15 am Speaker: Johanna Peterson & Bruce A. Young, Department of Biology, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas. Topic: Frictional Forces, Environmental Surface Features, and Locomotor Mechanics in Constrictors

2:30 pm Speaker: Matthew D. Broxson & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Habitat Selection of a Snake Community in East-central Texas

BREAK 2:45 pm

Scientific Paper Session 4 in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo

Moderator: George R. Pisani, Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence

3:00 pm Speaker: Mark M. Peyton, Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District, Gothenburg. Topic: Size, Structure and Habitat of a Population of Ornate Box Turtles in Fragmented Grasslands in Nebraska

3:15 pm Speaker: Trey Barron & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Ecology of an Inland Population of Alligators in Eastern Texas

3:30 pm Speaker: Daniel D. Fogell, Southeast Community College, Lincoln. Topic: Management Effects on Seasonal Activity in Massasaugas

3:45 pm Speaker: Dan P. Walker & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Comparison of Diet Between Two Sympatric Species of *Phrynosoma*

4:00 pm Speaker: Bruce A. Young & Melissa Boetig, Department of Biology, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas, and Guido Westhoff & Arne Reuter, Institute for Zoology, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany. Topic: Evoked Auditory Potentials in the Yellow Anaconda (*Eunectes notaeus*)

KHS General Business Meeting in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo

4:15 pm KHS General Business Meeting, KHS President Ginny Weatherman presiding

Introduction of current KHS officers by Ginny Weatherman

KHS Interim Treasurer's Report for 2007 by Eric Kessler

KHS Secretary's Report for 2007 by Mary Kate Baldwin

KHS Editor's Report for 2007 by Travis W. Taggart

KHS Historian's Report for 2007 by Suzanne L. Collins

Report on Plans for the 35th Annual KHS Meeting at Friends University, Wichita, Kansas, in 2008 by KHS President-Elect Dan Carpenter (Friends University, Wichita)

Election of KHS Officers for 2008. The KHS Nominating Committee, composed of Joseph T. Collins (Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence), and David Oldham (Pittsburg State University), and Eva Horne (Kansas State University), offers the following slate of candidates:

For President • Dan Carpenter, Friends University, Wichita
President-elect during 2007; automatically assumes the KHS presidency on 1 January 2008

For President-Elect (unopposed) • Dan Johnson, Overland Park, Kansas

For Treasurer (unopposed) • Eric Kessler, Blue Valley North High School, Overland Park

For Secretary (unopposed) • Mary Kate Baldwin, Topeka Collegiate School

Announcement of the results of the KHS election by the Elector, Mary Kate Baldwin

KHS Business Meeting adjourns sometime between 4:30 and 5:00 pm. Dinner at the restaurant of your choice. Then return to the Gary K. Clarke Education Center in the Topeka Zoo no later than 6:30 pm; that's where the free beer is located.

DINNER 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

Saturday Evening, 3 November 2007

KHS Awards Ceremony in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo at 6:30 pm

Presentation of the *Howard Kay Gloyd-Edward Harrison Taylor Scholarship* for 2007 by Ginny Weatherman (KHS President)

Presentation of the *Alan H. Kamb Grant for Research on Kansas Snakes* for 2007 by Ginny Weatherman (KHS President)

Presentation of the second and third place recipients of the *KHS Photography Competition* for 2007 by S. Ross McNearney (McPherson Family Trust)

Presentation of *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* for 2007 by Daniel D. Fogell (KHS Awards Committee). The recipient of *The Collins Award* receives a commemorative certificate and a check for \$1000.00 for the best image of a Kansas amphibian, turtle, and/or reptile

Announcement of a new *KHS Distinguished Life Member* by Joseph T. Collins (Kansas Biological Survey)

7:00 pm. The annual KHS Auction will be conducted at the Gary K. Clarke Education Center in the Topeka Zoo by Joseph T. Collins, ably assisted by KHS Secretary Mary Kate Baldwin and KHS Treasurer Eric Kessler. The KHS takes cash, credit cards, and checks. Be sure and get a bidding number before the auction commences. Bid vigorously, and support the KHS

Sunday, 4 November 2007

8:00 am Registration for participants that did not register on Saturday: Mary Kate Baldwin (KHS Secretary) and Eric Kessler (KHS Treasurer) in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo, Topeka, Kansas. Free coffee, juice, and donuts will be available.

Scientific Paper Session 5 in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo

Moderator: Chad L. Whitney, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas

9:00 am Speaker: Ian M. Nall & R. Brent Thomas, Emporia State University, Kansas. Topic: Linkage between Foreclaw Growth Rate and Stage of Melanism in Male Sliders (*Trachemys scripta*): Comparisons Within and Among Populations **

9:15 am Speaker: Walter E. Meshaka, Jr., State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg. Topic: Ecology of the Allegheny Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus ochrophaeus*) at the Powdermill Nature Reserve in Western Pennsylvania

9:30 am Speaker: William J. House, Ian M. Nall & R. Brent Thomas, Emporia State University, Kansas. Topic: Effectiveness of Selected Baits for Trapping Pond-Dwelling Turtles in East-Central Kansas **

9:45 am Speaker: Michael Rochford, University of Florida, Gainesville. Topic: Pythons in Paradise: A Floridian Saga

10:00 am Speaker: Page Klug, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: Evaluation of Habitat Overlap by Nesting Grassland Birds and their Snake Predators **

BREAK 10:15 am

Scientific Paper Session 6 in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo

Moderator: Mark Ellis, Topeka, Kansas

10:30 am Speaker: Kirk Setser, Universidad de Granada. Topic: Reproductive Traits of Female *Crotalus polystictus*

10:45 am Speaker: Michael F. Westphal, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: Comparison of Color Variation in *Thamnophis sirtalis* between Kansas and Manitoba **

11:00 am Speaker: David Bender & William J. Stark, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. Topic: Variation in the Diet of the Massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*) in Grasslands and Wetlands of Kansas **

11:15 am Speaker: Matthew D. Stone, Bahram Arjmandi & Matt Lovern, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. Topic: The Use of Dual-Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry (DXA) to Determine Density and Body Composition of Turtles

11:30 am Speaker: Matthew W. Nordgren, Francis Marion University, Florence, South Carolina. Topic: The Herpetofauna of a Unique Park in the Coastal Plain of South Carolina

11:45 am Speaker: Paul Rodriguez & James Fawcett, University of Nebraska, Omaha. Topic: Translocation of the Copperhead in Nebraska

12:00 pm Speaker: Elí García Padilla, Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, México. Topic: Rattlesnakes of Northeast Mexico: Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, and Coahuila

12:15 pm Speaker: Robert Powell, Avila University, Kansas City, Missouri. Topic: Lesser Antillean Snakes

ADJOURNMENT

Have a safe trip home. See you on 8-9 November 2008 at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas, for the 35th Annual KHS Meeting.

34th Annual Meeting Committee

Ginny Weatherman, Chairperson

Suzanne L. Collins, Joseph T. Collins, Chad L. Whitney, S. Ross McNearney & Jordan Johnson

Note: *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* will be given at this KHS 34th Annual Meeting at the Topeka Zoo in Topeka, Kansas, to the KHS member judged to have taken the best photograph of a native species of the Kansas herpetofauna. The KHS Awards Committee, composed of Daniel D. Fogell, Travis W. Taggart & Walter E. Meshaka, Jr., will select the recipient from photographic prints on display in the Gary K. Clarke Education Center, Topeka Zoo, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturday, 3 November 2007, at the KHS meeting. During odd-numbered years (photography competition), only KHS members are eligible. During even-numbered years (scientific presentations or publications), candidates are strongly encouraged to join the KHS, because preference will be given to KHS members. ** after a title indicates it is a candidate for *The Collins Award* in 2008.