

# KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY



*35th Annual Meeting Program  
8–9 November 2008  
Friends University, Wichita, Kansas*



## *Sponsors*

The McPherson Family Trust • Zoo Book Sales • Sedwick County Zoo

## **Saturday, 8 November 2008**

8:00 am Registration: Mary Kate Baldwin (KHS Secretary) and Eric Kessler (KHS Treasurer) in the foyer near Room 100 of William Penn Hall, Friends University. Free coffee, juice, and donuts.

9:00 am to 4:00 pm Art Exhibit in Room 127 of William Penn Hall. A retrospective exhibit of herpetological artwork by the esteemed and well-known artist and former KHS president, John Lokke, will be on display. View the artistic achievements of one of our own.

9:00 am to 4:00 pm Live Exhibit in Room 111 of William Penn Hall, Friends University, Wichita.

9:00 am to 4:00 pm Zoo Book Sales in Room 127 of William Penn Hall. The popular and highly regarded book seller, Eric Thiss, will display his impressive diversity of herpetological titles. Buy your favorite books, new and old. Eric is a generous contributor to the KHS auction.

Special Offer. The first-ever KHS Snake Bags will be available to meeting participants at the extraordinarily low price of \$10.00 per bag. Carefully hand-crafted and double-stitched, these outstanding brilliant-orange field sacks stand out in the field; you won't lose your catch unless you lose your vision from drinking too much orange juice. Buy one. Buy a dozen. Be a KHS bag person.

KHS Auction. The annual KHS auction will be held on Saturday night (8 November) at 6:30 pm in the Education Center Auditorium at the Sedgwick County Zoo (maps to the Zoo from Friends University available at the KHS registration desk). All proceeds from the auction go to the KHS. Beer, Soft Drinks, and Snacks will be free.

### Scientific Paper Session 1 in Room 100, William Penn Hall, Friends University

Moderator: George D. Potts, Friends University, Wichita, Kansas

9:00 am Welcome by Dan Carpenter (KHS President)

9:05 am Welcome by Patrick Mathews, Department of Biology, Friends University

9:15 am KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Ronald M. Bonett, University of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Topic: Evolution via Paedomorphosis in Salamanders

9:45 am Speaker: Rachel A. Spruance & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Snakes of the Matador Wildlife Management Area: Habitat Selection and Notes on Diet \*\*\*

10:00 am Speaker: David Bender & William J. Stark, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. Topic: A Dietary Comparison of Grassland and Wetland Populations of the Massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus*) using Stomach Contents and Stable Isotope Analysis \*\* \*\*\*

BREAK 10:15 am to 10:30 am

### Scientific Paper Session 2 in Room 100, William Penn Hall, Friends University

Moderator: Mindy Walker, Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Missouri

10:30 am Speaker: Bruce Rothschild, Hans-Peter Schultze & Rod Pellegrini, Natural History Museum, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Review of Macroscopic Crocodile and Lizard Skeletal Pathology and Creation of an Annotated Herpetological Bibliography

10:45 am Speaker: David Chiszar, University of Colorado, Boulder, Bryon Shipley, Denver Zoo, Colorado, Kevin Fitzgerald, Alameda East Veterinary Hospital, Denver, Colorado & Hobart M. Smith, University of Colorado, Boulder. Topic: Straightness of Path during and after the Vernal Migration in Prairie Rattlesnakes, *Crotalus viridis viridis*, in Eastern Colorado

11:00 am Speaker: Samantha Parker, Hillary Bernhardt & Shireen Usman, Blue Valley North High School, Overland Park, Kansas. Topic: Eastern Newts near Gloyd's fabled Pigeon Lake \*\* \*\*\*

11:15 am Speaker: Dwight R. Platt, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas. Topic: Reproductive Strategies of Sympatric Populations of *Thamnophis sirtalis* and *T. radix* in Harvey County, Kansas\*\*

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

LUNCH: 11:45 am to 1:15 pm (at the restaurant of your choice)

Scientific Paper Session 3 in Room 100, William Penn Hall, Friends University

Moderator: Dwight R. Platt, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas

1:15 pm Speaker: George R. Pisani, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Utilization of an Active Ant Nest (*Formica subsericea*) as a Hibernaculum by Small Snake Species \*\*

1:30 pm Speaker: Michael Rochford, University of Florida, Gainesville. Topic: The Diet of the Indian Python (*Python molurus*) in Southern Florida \*\*\*

1:45 pm Speaker: Curtis J. Schmidt, Joseph T. Collins & Travis W. Taggart, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. Topic: The *Graptemys pseudogeographica* complex in Kansas: History, Problems, and a Request

2:00 pm Speaker: Mark J. Lange & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Variations in Aquatic Turtle Communities on Three Study Sites in the Texas Panhandle \*\*\*

2:15 pm Speaker: Page Klug, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: The Spatial Ecology of Two Predatory Snakes in the Tallgrass Prairie and the Impact on Avian Nesting \*\* \*\*\*

2:30 pm Speaker: Dan Krull, Small Scale Films, Shawnee, Kansas. Topic: Reptiles and Amphibians as Educational Tools

BREAK 2:45 pm to 3:00 pm

Scientific Paper Session 4 in Room 100, William Penn Hall, Friends University

Moderator: Eddie R. Stegall, Sedgwick County Zoo, Wichita, Kansas

3:00 pm Speaker: Dan P. Walker & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Responses of Herpetofauna to Prescribed Fire in a Mixed-grass Prairie \*\*\*

3:15 pm Speaker: Mindy L. Walker, Rebecca J. Benjamin, William Donovan, Jennifer A. Dorr, Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Missouri, & George R. Pisani, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Successful Relocation of a Threatened Suburban Kansas Population of Timber Rattlesnakes (*Crotalus horridus*) \*\*

3:30 pm Speaker: Walter E. Meshaka, Jr., State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, & Montrell L. D. Wilkerson, Shippensburg University, Pennsylvania. Topic: Seasonal Activity, Reproduction, and Growth of the Ringneck Snake (*Diadophis punctatus*) in Pennsylvania

3:45 pm Speaker: J. Daren Riedle, Richard T. Kazmaier, Trey B. Barron & Wes B. Littrell, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Assessing Habitat Associations of an Eastern Texas Aquatic Turtle Community \*\*\*

4:00 pm Speaker: Angela M. Fornell, University of Texas, Arlington. Topic: Foraging Site Selection in Prairie Kingsnakes (*Lampropeltis c. calligaster*): An Experimental Approach \*\*\*

KHS General Business Meeting in Room 100, William Penn Hall, Friends University

4:15 pm KHS General Business Meeting, KHS President Dan Carpenter presiding

Introduction of current KHS officers by Dan Carpenter

KHS Interim Treasurer's Report for 2008 by Eric Kessler

KHS Secretary's Report for 2008 by Mary Kate Baldwin

KHS Editor's Report for 2008 by Travis W. Taggart

KHS Historian's Report for 2008 by Suzanne L. Collins

Report on Plans for the 36th Annual KHS Meeting in Overland Park, Kansas, on the first weekend in November 2009 by KHS President-Elect Dan Johnson (Overland Park, Kansas)

Election of KHS Officers for 2009. The KHS Nominating Committee, composed of David Oldham (Pittsburg State University), Eva Horne (Kansas State University), and Joseph T. Collins (Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas, Lawrence), offers the following slate of candidates:

For President • Dan Johnson, Overland Park, Kansas

President-elect during 2008; automatically assumes the KHS presidency on 1 January 2009

For President-Elect (unopposed) • Kathy Ellis, Wakarusa, 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 go to the Education Center Auditorium at the Sedgwick County Zoo no later than 6:30 pm; that's where the free beer is located.

DINNER ca. 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm

**Saturday Evening, 8 November 2008**

KHS Awards Ceremony in the Education Center Auditorium at the Sedgwick County Zoo at 6:30 pm

Presentation of the *Howard Kay Gloyd-Edward Harrison Taylor Scholarship* for 2008 by Dan Carpenter (KHS President)

Presentation of the *Alan H. Kamb Grant for Research on Kansas Snakes* for 2008 by Dan Carpenter (KHS President)

Presentation of *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* for 2008 by Dan Fogell (KHS Awards Committee Chairperson). The recipient of *The Collins Award* receives a commemorative memento and a check for \$1000.00 for the best scientific presentation or publication on Kansas herpetofauna during 2006 and 2007.

7:00 pm. The annual KHS Auction will be conducted in the Education Center Auditorium at the Sedgwick County 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, 9 November 2008**

8:00 am Registration for participants that did not register on Saturday: Mary Kate Baldwin (KHS Secretary) and Eric Kessler (KHS Treasurer) in the foyer near Room 100 of William Penn Hall, Friends University, Wichita, Kansas. Free coffee, juice, and donuts.

Scientific Paper Session 5 in Room 100, William Penn Hall, Friends University

Moderator: David Oldham, Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg, Kansas

9:00 am Speaker: Steve D. Grant, Richard T. Kazmaier, Mike W. Janis & Abby Lubbers, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Spatial Ecology of Ornate Box Turtles in a Sand-sage Prairie Ecosystem \*\*\*

9:15 am Speaker: Emilie Throop, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: Habitat Occupancy of Eastern Collared Lizards in the Flint Hills of Kansas \*\* \*\*\*

9:30 am Speaker: Trey B. Barron, Richard T. Kazmaier & Wes B. Littrell, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Diet and Habitat Use by an Inland American Alligator Population \*\*\*

9:45 am Speaker: Jacobo Reyes Velasco, Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico. Topic: New State Herpetofaunal Records for Colima, Mexico

10:00 am Speaker: Matthew D. Broxson & Richard T. Kazmaier, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Assessing Diet in an Eastern Texas Snake Community \*\*\*

BREAK 10:15 am

Scientific Paper Session 6 in Room 100, William Penn Hall, Friends University

Moderator: Dan Johnson, Overland Park, Kansas

10:30 am Speaker: Ginny Weatherman, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Museum Field Collecting Techniques for Herpetofauna, with Comments on Recent Work in Mexico

10:45 am Speaker: Kanishka Ukuwela, Manhattan, Kansas. Topic: The Diversity of Herpetofauna of Sri Lanka

11:00 am Speaker: Mark S. Mills, Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Teffany N. Sample, Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Jennifer L. Godfrey, University of Missouri, St. Louis, Sandra Mosquera, Mariah L. Carter, Matthew C. Klein, & Kathleen M. Novicky, Missouri Valley College, Marshall. Topic: Reproductive Ecology of a Suburban Population of Smallmouth Salamanders (*Ambystoma texanum*): An Seven-Year Study

11:15 am Speaker: Ashley A. Inslee & Chad Stinson, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. Topic: Recovery Program for the Kemp's Ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*) on Matagorda Island, Texas \*\*\*

11:30 am Speaker: Ashley A. Inslee & William J. Stark, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. Topic: Habitat Preference of the Texas Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*) on Matagorda Island, Texas \*\*\*

11:45 am: Presentation of the first George Toland Award by S. Ross McNearney. This award is given for the best paper presented at this meeting by a KHS student member on the ecology of North American amphibians, reptiles, and/or turtles. The KHS Awards Committee will select the winner. The recipient must be present to receive the commemorative certificate and a check for \$100.00, co-sponsored by the KHS and *The Center for North American Herpetology*.

ADJOURNMENT

Have a safe trip home. See you on the first weekend in November 2009 in Overland Park, Kansas, for the 36th Annual KHS Meeting.

*35th Annual Meeting Committee*

*Dan Carpenter (Chairperson)*

*James H. Marlett, Patrick Mathews, Suzanne L. Collins, Joseph T. Collins*

*Notes: The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology will be given at this KHS 35th Annual Meeting in Wichita, Kansas, to the KHS member judged to have published the best paper on a native species of Kansas herpetofauna. The KHS Awards Committee (Daniel D. Fogell, Travis W. Taggart & Walter E. Meshaka, Jr.) selected the recipient from presentations made and papers published during 2006 and 2007.*

*\*\* after a title indicates it is a candidate for The Collins Award in 2010.*

*\*\*\* after a title indicates it is a candidate for The Toland Award, to be presented on Sunday (9 November 2008) at the close of the meeting.*