

# KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY



*36th Annual Meeting Program*  
*7–8 November 2009*  
*MidAmerica Nazarene University*  
*Olathe, Kansas*



## *Sponsors*

The McPherson Family Trust • Zoo Book Sales • JTC Enterprises

## **Saturday, 7 November 2009**

8:00 am Registration: Mary Kate Baldwin (KHS Secretary) and Eric Kessler (KHS Treasurer) in the foyer of Smith Hall on the MidAmerica Nazarene University campus. You can also pay your 2010 KHS dues at this time. 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 *Room 118 of Smith Hall*. 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 Board members are not eligible to compete. Competing photographers must be present for the KHS Awards Ceremony on Saturday evening at the Hampton Inn.

8:00 am to 4:00 pm *Art Exhibit*: A retrospective exhibit of herpetological artwork by the esteemed and well-known artist and former KHS president, Eva A. Horne, will be on display in Room 205, Smith Hall. Come and view the artistic achievements of one of our own.

8:00 am to 4:00 pm *Live Exhibit*: A live exhibit of native Kansas herpetofauna has been assembled and will be available in Room 208, Smith Hall, for viewing and photography.

8:00 am to 4:00 pm *Books for Sale*: The well-known and highly esteemed book seller, Eric Thiss, will display his tremendous diversity of herpetological titles in Room 205, Smith Hall. Buy your favorite books, new and old.

10:00 am to 2:00 pm *The Collins Award Photography Competition* on display in Room 118, Smith Hall

9:00 am Welcome and Introduction by *Dan Johnson* (KHS President), Overland Park

9:05 am Welcome by *Dr. Ed Robinson*, President, MidAmerica Nazarene University, Olathe

## Scientific Paper Session 1 in Room 123, Smith Hall, MidAmerica Nazarene University

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

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

9:15 am Keynote Speaker: *R. Alexander Pyron*, Stony Brook University, New York. Topic: Systematics and Historical Biogeography of the North American Kingsnakes (*Lampropeltis getula* complex)\*\*

9:45 am Speaker: *Jeff Witters*, Science Department, Olathe South High School, Olathe, Kansas. Topic: Radio-tracking Turtles of the Genus *Terrapene* in Northeastern Kansas: the First Summer\*\*

10:00 am Speaker: *George R. Pisani*, Kansas Biological Survey, University of Kansas, Lawrence. Topic: Use of Visual Cues by Snakes as both Predator and Prey\*\*

BREAK 10:15 am

## Scientific Paper Session 2 in Room 123, Smith Hall, MidAmerica Nazarene University

Moderator: *George R. Pisani*, Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence (KHS Distinguished Life Member)

10:30 am Speaker: *Daniel Fogell*, Southeast Community College, Lincoln, Nebraska. Topic: Re-discovery of Some Rare Nebraska Herpetofauna

10:45 am Speaker: *Eva A. Horne*, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: Herpetological Research at Kansas State University

11:00 am Speaker: *Walter E. Meshaka, Jr.*, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, & Pablo Delis, Shippensburg University, Pennsylvania. Topic: Summer Racers, Some Are Not: Seasonal Activity Patterns of Snakes at Letterkenny Army Depot in South-Central Pennsylvania

11:15 am Speaker: *Raul E. Diaz, Jr.*, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City. Topic: How to Make a Snake: Evolution of Limb Loss, Elongation, and Craniofacial Adjustment

11:30 am to noon 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 123, Smith Hall, MidAmerica Nazarene University

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

1:15 pm Speaker: *Ashley Inslee* & William Stark, Fort Hays State University, Hays, Kansas. Topic: Macrohabitat and Microhabitat Associations of the Texas Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*) on Matagorda Island, Texas\*\*\*

1:30 pm Speaker: *Bruce Rothschild* & Hans-Peter Schultze, University of Kansas, Lawrence, and Rod Peligrini, New Jersey State Museum. Topic: Turtle Pathology Through Time

1:45 pm Speaker: *Rebecca Christoffel*, Iowa State University, Ames, and Daria Hyde & Yu Man Lee, Michigan State University, East Lansing. Topic: Eastern Massasauga Outreach Initiative in Michigan: The First Five Years

2:00 am Speaker: *Richard Kazmaier* & Mark Lange, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Variation in Demography of Yellow Mud Turtles in the Texas Panhandle

2:15 pm Speaker: *Emilie Blevins*, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Topic: Eastern Collared Lizards in the Flint Hills of Kansas\*\* \*\*\*

2:30 pm Speaker: *Robert Powell*, Avila University, Kansas City, Missouri, Seth M. Rudman, University of Rochester, New York, and John S. Parmerlee, Jr., Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, Kansas. Topic: *Ameiva fuscata* on Dominica, Lesser Antilles: Natural History and Interactions with *Anolis oculatus*

BREAK 2:45 pm

Scientific Paper Session 4 in Room 123, Smith Hall, MidAmerica Nazarene University

Moderator: *Dan Carpenter*, Derby, Kansas (former KHS President)

3:00 pm Speaker: *Eric Kadlec*, Jennifer Dorr, George R. Pisani & Mindy Walker, Rockhurst University, Kansas City, Missouri. Topic: Field Observations of Relocated Timber Rattlesnakes in Eastern Kansas\*\* \*\*\*

3:15 pm Speaker: *Casey M. Holliday*, University of Missouri, Columbia. Topic: Room to Wiggle: Histology and Imaging of Joints and Sutures in the Heads of Lizards to Better Understand the Evolution of Cranial Kinesis

3:30 pm Speaker: *J. Daren Riedle*, Richard Kazmaier, Trey Barron & Wes Littrell, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Turtles, Gators, and Fishes: Gradient Analysis of Aquatic Vertebrate Communities in East Texas\*\*\*

3:45 pm Speaker: *David Chiszar*, Hobart M. Smith & Bryon K. Shipley, University of Colorado, Boulder. Topic: Condition (length and mass) of Kansas Rattlesnakes, *Crotalus viridis*, in Comparison with Conspecifics from Colorado and Wyoming\*\*

4:00 pm Speaker: *Dwight R. Platt*, Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas. Topic: A Tribute to Henry Sheldon Fitch: A Legend in Our Time

KHS General Business Meeting in Room 123, Smith Hall, MidAmerica Nazarene University

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

Introduction of current KHS officers & dignitaries by *Dan Johnson*  
KHS Interim Treasurer's Report for 2009 by *Eric Kessler*

KHS Secretary's Report for 2009 by *Mary Kate Baldwin*  
KHS Editor's Report for 2009 by *Travis W. Taggart*  
KHS Historian's Report for 2009 by *Suzanne L. Collins*

Report on Plans for the 37th Annual KHS Meeting at the Topeka Zoo, Topeka, Kansas, in 2010 by  
KHS President-Elect *Kathy Ellis* (Wakarusa, Kansas)

Election of KHS Officers for 2010. The KHS Nominating Committee, composed of David Oldham (Pittsburg State University), Joseph T. Collins (Kansas Biological Survey, Lawrence), and Eva Horne (Kansas State University), offers the following slate of candidates:

For President • *Kathy Ellis*, Wakarusa, Kansas  
President-elect during 2009; automatically assumes the KHS presidency on 1 January 2010

For President-Elect (unopposed) • *Derek Schmidt*, Overbrook, Kansas

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

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

Concluding Remarks by KHS President *Dan Johnson*

KHS Business Meeting adjourns sometime between 4:30 and 5:00 pm. Dinner at the restaurant of your choice. Then gather at the Hampton Inn (913-393-1111) at 6:30 pm for the KHS Award Ceremony and Auction. Free beer for responsible adults; soft drinks and snacks for the rest.

DINNER ca. 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm

### **Saturday Evening, 7 November 2009**

6:30 pm KHS Awards Ceremony at the Hampton Inn, 12081 South Strang Line Road, Olathe, Kansas

Presentation of the *Howard Kay Gloyd-Edward Harrison Taylor Scholarship* for 2009 by Daniel Fogell (KHS Awards Committee Chairperson). The recipient receives a commemorative certificate and a check for \$300.00.

Presentation of the *Alan H. Kamb Grant for Research on Kansas Snakes* for 2009 by Daniel Fogell (KHS Awards Committee Chairperson). The recipient receives a commemorative certificate and a check for \$300.00.

Presentation of *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* for 2009 by Dan Johnson (KHS President). The recipient receives a commemorative certificate and a check for \$1000.00 for the best image of a Kansas amphibian, reptile, or turtle.

Announcement of the 10th *KHS Distinguished Life Member* by Joseph T. Collins (Kansas Biological Survey). The recipient receives a commemorative memento.

7:00 pm. The annual KHS Auction will be conducted at the Hampton Inn by Joseph T. Collins and Dan Fogell, ably assisted by *Grace Anne Johnson* and *Laura Acuff*. KHS Secretary Mary Kate Baldwin and KHS Treasurer Eric Kessler will take cash, credit cards, and checks. Be sure and get a bidding number before the auction commences. Bid vigorously, and support the KHS.

### **Sunday, 8 November 2009**

8:00 am Registration for participants that did not register or pay their 2010 dues on Saturday. See Mary Kate Baldwin (KHS Secretary) and Eric Kessler (KHS Treasurer) in the foyer of Smith Hall on the MidAmerica Nazarene University campus. Free coffee, juice, and donuts will be available.

8:00 am to 10:00 am *Live Exhibit* in Room 208, Smith Hall, MidAmerica Nazarene University.

8:00 am to 10:00 am *Art Exhibit*: A retrospective exhibit of herpetological artwork by the esteemed and well-known artist and former KHS president, Eva A. Horne, will be on display in Room 205, Smith Hall.

Scientific Paper Session 5 in Room 123, Smith Hall, MidAmerica Nazarene University

Moderator: *Curtis J. Schmidt*, Sternberg Museum of Natural History (former KHS President)

9:00 am Speaker: *Kenneth L. Brunson*, Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks, Pratt. Topic: Spatial Applications in Setting Kansas Herpetofaunal Conservation Priorities

9:15 am Speaker: *Michael R. Rochford*, University of Florida, Fort Lauderdale, Kenneth L. Krysko, University of Florida, Gainesville, Joseph P. Burgess, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Ponte Vedra, Kevin M. Enge, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Gainesville, Louis A. Somma, University of Florida & Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Gainesville, Christopher R. Gillette, Florida International University, Miami, Jennifer L. Stabile, Central Florida Zoological Park, Sanford, Daniel Cueva, Florida International University, Miami, and Stuart V. Nielsen, Villanova University, Pennsylvania. Topic: Nonindigenous Amphibians and Reptiles in Florida: Outlining the Invasion Process and Identifying Continuous Pathways\*\*\*

9:30 am Speaker: *Shannon Muro*, Richard Kazmaier & James Ray, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Daily Movement Patterns of Texas Horned Lizards\*\*\*

9:45 am Speaker: *Mark S. Mills* & Teresa Ausberger, Missouri Western State University, St. Joseph, Kristen Sheehan, Benton High School, St. Joseph, and Colton Zirkle, Central High School, St. Joseph. Topic: A Preliminary Study of the Population Ecology of Turtles on Missouri Western State University's Campus\*\*\*

10:00 am Speaker: *Walter E. Meshaka, Jr.*, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, & Pablo Delis, Shippensburg University, Pennsylvania. Topic: Variability in Snake Assemblage Structure at Sites in the Letterkenny Army Depot in South-Central Pennsylvania

BREAK 10:15 am

Scientific Paper Session 6 in Room 123, Smith Hall, MidAmerica Nazarene University

Moderator: *Dan Johnson*, Overland Park, Kansas (current KHS President)

10:30 am Speaker: *Beau Vidal* & Levi Kinder, Wichita North High School, Kansas. Topic: A Preliminary Survey of the Turtles of the Little Arkansas River in Sedgwick County, Kansas\*\* \*\*\*

10:45 am Speaker: *Matthew Broxson* & Richard Kazmaier, Institutional Affiliation West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: Ecology of a Copperhead Population in Eastern Texas\*\*\*

11:00 am Speaker: *Matt Nordgren*, Francis Marion University, Florence, South Carolina. Topic: Wild Sumaco: A Preliminary Herpetofaunal Survey in Napo Province, Ecuador

11:15 am Speaker: *Steve Grant*, Richard Kazmaier, Chip Ruthven & Mike Janis, West Texas A&M University, Canyon. Topic: The Ecology of Ornate Box Turtles in a Fire-influenced Sand-sage Prairie\*\*\*

11:30 am Speaker: *Terri Toland*, Comsys, Greenwood Village, Colorado. Topic: The Life & Times of George Fredrick Toland (1915-1992)

KHS Award Ceremony: Presentation of *The George Toland Award* for 2009 by S. Ross McNearney (The McPherson Family Trust), KHS President Dan Johnson, and Terri & Rich Toland. This award will be given for the best paper presented by a student at this meeting on the ecology of North American amphibians, reptiles, and/or turtles. The KHS Awards Committee will select the winner. The recipient must be present at this KHS ceremony to receive the commemorative certificate and \$200.00

ADJOURNMENT

Have a safe trip home. See you on the first weekend in November 2010 at the Topeka Zoo for the 37th Annual Meeting of the Kansas Herpetological Society.

*36th Annual Meeting Committee*

Dan Johnson (Chairperson), Suzanne L. Collins & Joseph T. Collins

Note: *The Suzanne L. & Joseph T. Collins Award for Excellence in Kansas Herpetology* will be given in 2010 at the KHS Annual Meeting at the Topeka Zoo, to the KHS member judged to have published the best scientific paper or given the best scientific presentation on a native species of Kansas amphibian, reptile, or turtle. The KHS Awards Committee, composed of Daniel D. Fogell, Travis W. Taggart & Walter E. Meshaka, Jr., will select the recipient from papers published or presentations made during 2008 and 2009. See the KHS web site for more information.

\*\* 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 at the close of this meeting.